

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft minute of the 339th meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council held via email (due to the restrictions imposed by COVID-19) during January 2021.

1 – MINUTE OF MEETING 338 (NOVEMBER 2020) – Accepted.

2 – MATTERS ARISING

None

3 – POLICE REPORTS for 1st to 30th November and 1st to 31st December have been received and forwarded to Community Councillors. In December there was a decrease in antisocial behaviour calls mostly related to youth annoyance predominantly related to COVID compliance and generally in relation to group size.

4 – AGM

The accounts have been independently verified and have now been forwarded to Aberdeenshire Council along with a copy of the draft minute of the AGM. The annual grant from Aberdeenshire Council of £799 was received on 28th May 2020.

5 – WATER SEEPING IN STRANATHRO TERRACE

Scottish Water left a message to say they had pinpointed a leak to the supply pipe of 1 Dunnyfell Road. They had trouble with it a few years ago and a section of metal pipe was replaced with plastic. Scottish Water suspected that it is this joint that is causing the problem. A large hole was dug, and the water stopped running. The hole was filled in again and the water started running again.

MR MORGAN has been in contact with Scottish Water regarding the progress being made with fixing this leak and also enquiring if there is a long-term plan to replace the water main in Newtonhill Road.

Update on Stranathro Terrace - It would appear water filling the hole is from a different source, but they are not sure where. A job number has been raised to dig up the road outside the side gate to number 1 Dunnyfell Road and outside the garden of number 2. Scottish Water plan to use cameras to see if they can source the leak.

Update on Newtonhill Road – A project is being prepared to renew the water main in Newtonhill Road which should make bursts less likely to occur in the future. The project was handed over to Caledonia Water Alliance (one of their delivery partners) before Christmas. Some further design work is needed. They will have to engage with the Council's Roads Department and any other affected landowners, etc which may take some time. We will be updated when work is due to begin.

6 – PLANNING

- (1) 2020/0946 Second application (first was withdrawn) for Sales and Information cabin for the houses on the moor. The Community Council made a detailed submission objecting to the planning application. Approved by Area Committee.
- (2) 2020/1872 Erection of Advertisement Signs for Barratt North Scotland at Existing Commercial Unit Adjacent to A92 near Newtonhill. The large rectangular sign adjacent to the A92 having been removed, the application has now been approved.
- (3) 2020/1898 Erection of Shed - Land at Cran Hill Newtonhill. This is situated in the Coastal Zone as defined by the Local Development Plan. Planning Policy R1.3 would not support this application. The Community Council made a submission objecting to the planning application. Approved by Area Committee.
- (4) TRE/2020/0085 - Permission has been granted to fell the three elm trees at Stranathro Terrace, Muchalls. Mr Morgan and Mrs Stephen were contacted by Calum Davidson,

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Aberdeenshire Council, to explain the trees are in a bad state. The occupier has promised to replace the trees.

- (5) APP/2021/0126 – Erection of Double Garage – Nethermains of Muchalls – MR MORGAN to write to Aberdeenshire Council with our comments.

7 – HOUSES ON THE MOOR

Work is now progressing at pace on several aspects of the project. The basic structures for the houses are being erected at the rate of 2 or 3 each week with the work progressing inwards from Park Place and Cairnhill Way site access points.

Work has begun joining the new site road access to Park Place and is scheduled to be completed by early March. Barratt expect to have completed the first houses at either side of the site by the end of March, with first occupation following in mid-April.

Work is also scheduled to start soon connecting the new foul sewer pipe to the existing sewer on Cairnhill Drive, followed shortly afterwards with the new road link to Cairnhill Way. The main road through the site linking park Place to Cairnhill Way will however not be completed until approx. 100 of the 121 houses have been completed.

Work has also begun alongside the railway track laying the first of two new storm drains which will discharge into the Pheppie Burn.

Excavation requiring rock breaking still continues with the long overdue muffler finally fitted to the hydraulic breaker which has made a small reduction to the noise.

Discussions are ongoing with Barratt concerning landscaping at the Park Place/Wildlife Park areas with the goal that these areas will be restored to be as natural as possible.

8 – ROCKS AT VILLAGE ENTRANCES

Verbal confirmation has been received from Aberdeenshire Council who are happy with proposal to have stone feature signposts at entrances to Cammachmore, Newtonhill and Muchalls. Contractors will be invited to provide costs for inscriptions/images. Design still needed. Aberdeenshire Council will need to be informed of proposed locations.

9 – PHOENIX PROJECT (Isabella Initiative)

Planning permission for erection of sculpture at Braehead east of 32 Skateraw Road has been granted. Payment has been made for the sculpture which is now being stored in Newtonhill. The new website can be found at <https://www.newtonhillandbeyond.co.uk/>. This will be populated by businesses and organisations in the local community. Launch Day will depend on COVID and lockdown. Aberdeenshire Council have been updated and then remaining funds (£2,500) should be released on 28th January 2021. A story board still needs to be created and the five local walks with signage finalised. It is proposed to hold a Zoom meeting sometime in February to pull things together.

10 – LOCALITY PLAN

The Locality Plan is in the process of being updated to include items that we may want to be covered by Developer Obligation.

11 – CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) New phone number for Portlethen Health Centre – 0345 013 0720
- (2) Dae Yen Ken? 5-week programme to tackle various problems in these trying times.
- (3) Talking Halls Event – Thursday 28th January 2021, -1pm – 3pm
- (4) Neighbourhood Watch – Home security
- (5) Reminder Pay and Display car parking returned on 4th January 2021.

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

- (6) Temporary Restriction of Traffic on Cairnhill Drive – closed for 21 days from Monday 25th January 2021.
- (7) Meikle Carewe nomination for member for judging panel – Edith Stephen with Michael Morgan as substitute.
- (8) Planning application for West Blackbutts – Not in our Area.
- (9) Query re Website Accessibility from Aberdeenshire Council – Mr Morgan has responded.
- (10) Kincardine and Mearns Community Planning E-bulletin Edition#19.
- (11) Stagecoach Service Changes 25th January 2021 –
<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/service-updates/serviceupdatesarticle?SituationId=ID-24/4/06/2020-17:13:966>
- (12) Aberdeenshire Discretionary Fund will allow Aberdeenshire Council to direct additional financial support to specific groups, sectors or businesses –
discretionaryfund@aberdeenshire.gov.uk
- (13) New phone number for KDP – 07903 156864

12 – AOCB

- (1) Future meetings will continue to be in the current email format for the time being.
- (2) Mr Morgan has resigned as a member of the Local Community Planning Group.
- (3) Aberdeenshire Vaccination team phone number – 0330 128 9919
- (4) Transportation to Vaccination Centres – Kincardine and Mearns – Volunteer drivers needed - no takers.
- (5) At the Infrastructure Services Committee, Councillor George Carr enquired re grants for Village Halls, Scout Huts etc. So far, no funding as they “don’t need to close”.
- (6) Are there any plans to resurface the road between the railway bridge and Newtonhill Pharmacy? Not at the moment.
- (7) Potential change of date for next Community Council Forum – Due to be held on Wednesday 24th February 2021, at 7pm but Planning Training is being held on the Monday. Should Forum be changed to Wednesday 3rd March at 7pm?