

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft minute of the 347th meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council held in Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th October 2021.

In line with COVID regulations attendees were requested to wear a mask, socially distance and sanitise hands on entering. They were also advised to make sure to wrap up well as we need to get as much ventilation as possible.

PRESENT – Miss Daniels, Mrs Stephen, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mr Flockhart, Mr Peaker, Councillors Mollison and Pike, PC Camus accompanied by a policewoman and five members of the public.

In Mr Morgan's absence Miss Daniels took the Chair.

1 – APOLOGIES – Mr Morgan, Mr Chew, Mr Jones and Councillor Evison.

2 – MINUTE of 346th MEETING

Amendments – (1) 3 Police Report – Driver of disability scooter has also been seen in Park Place and (2) 6.2 – Change OP3 to Issue 044 and add Issue 047 after 50 houses, line 5.

Accepted.

3 – POLICE REPORT – Report for Kincardine and Mearns area for 1st to 30th September has been received and forwarded to Community Councillors. Slight decrease in anti-social behaviour calls, 3 assault crime reports, 6 thefts, one drinks/drugs driving report, no dangerous driving, one careless driving, 3 drug search warrants were executed – including one positive result for cannabis in Newtonhill.

Police Scotland – After Dark Campaign – This mainly focusses on domestic security. Make sure doors and windows are locked, fit outside security lights and use timer switches to make sure houses look occupied.

Lone Police Officer Working – It is very rare that Police Officers work alone in Scotland but it does happen. Lone officers will offer verification checks to members of the public.

Flags on Bridges – PC Camus read out a three-page response from Transport Scotland and Police Scotland. This will be forwarded to Community Councillors. BEAR Scotland and the Police will act on complaints as flying of flags, banners, etc could prove to be a safety hazard.

4 – VILLAGE ENTRY SIGNPOSTS – Application has been submitted to Meikle Carewe for funding. Decision making panel will meet on Thursday 28th October via Zoom. MISS DANIELS to forward Muchalls responses to Mr Connolly – not much support but may change once Newtonhill sign has been erected.

5 – POTHOLES – Mr Morgan has contacted Bruce Stewart, Area Manager, re delay in fixing potholes. Aberdeenshire Council is still in discussions with local contractors and until a contract is in place there is no start date available. Hopefully, negotiations will be concluded in the next few weeks.

Mr Morgan contacted Mr Stewart re pothole repairs in the school playground. Councillor Mollison explained that the Education Service deals with school grounds.

Mr Flockhart raised his concerns re conflicting reports on road repairs in the Press. Surface dressing has been completed but this is different from pothole repairs.

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6 – PLANNING – (1) Local planning applications – nothing major, (2) LDP – Aberdeenshire Council has been asked for further information on the business land beside the flyover at Newtonhill, (3) Tennis courts at Newtonhill – MR MORGAN to write to Aberdeenshire Council re repair/refurbishment of the tennis courts. He will stress that Sports and Recreation contribution of the Planning Obligations for the houses on the Moor should be spent on providing local facilities.

7 – POSSIBILITIES of WORKING with PORTLETHEN ACADEMY – Mr Morgan has been in touch with Jess Copner. He made two suggestions on how they may interact with the Community Council – (1) a new logo and (2) questionnaire/consultation that can feed into the Local Plan This would be devised by pupils from Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council area, aged 12 to 18. Nothing final has been decided.

8 – NESTRANS – The online survey was accidentally closed early as the software's limit for responses had been reached. It was then re-opened. The Community Council response has been submitted. It covers many topics including the underpass from Newtonhill to Cammachmore, walking and cycling paths, the pros and cons of opening a railway station at Newtonhill.

9 – CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Check Aberdeenshire Council website – livelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk for events during tattie holidays.
- (2) Aberdeenshire Trade Waste Survey – <https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/waste-service-trade-waste-disposal-uk/CCCFsurvey>

10 – AOCB

- (1) Aberdeenshire Coastal Communities Fund 2021/2022 Targeted at groups on the Aberdeenshire coastline and is supporting the development of active travel routes along and to and from the coastline, developing the coastal economy and sustainable tourism, creating or enhancing community, leisure and recreational facilities, safeguarding, restoring or enhancing the coastal environment. Grants go from £2,500 to £25,000. Some match funding is required. Deadline for submission is Monday 15th November 2021. More information at <https://nesflag.org.uk/CCCF/>
- (2) Skateraw Hall has been awarded £8,000 from Aberdeenshire Council. This should be enough for the sale to be completed with handover scheduled to be 17th December 2021.
- (3) MISS DANIELS is to draft an article for the Newsey. All suggestions welcome. Request for new members, update on village stones, NESTRANS survey.
- (4) One attendee raised several points of concern. Details of these will be forwarded to Community Council and action will be taken – (a) the nets on the tennis courts have disappeared, (b) sign has been knocked down at TESCO roundabout and pole and stones still lying there – report this to Aberdeenshire Council using Myaberdeenshire app, (c) problems with older residents using buses to and from Aberdeen and Stonehaven in Skateraw Road, (d) problems with wet and slippery decking when alighting from Stagecoach buses in Aberdeen. Aberdeen City Council to be contacted with copies to Bruce Stewart, Aberdeenshire Council, and Ian Hunter from TRAX, (e) lack of dropped kerbs in Newtonhill esp the Courts. Copy complaint to PC Camus.
- (5) Mud on the road near Chapelton development. Apologies from Duke of Fife. This has been cleared and tar will be laid at entrance to help stop this happening again.

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- (6) A member of the public queried why four school buses have to unload pupils beside TESCO at the same time as this is quite hazardous to other drivers.
- (7) The Practice Manager at Portlethen Health Centre is to be contacted re lack of face-to-face meetings.
- (8) Mr Ewing gave a short financial report. The two cheques for £250 to Skateraw Hall and Muchalls Village Hall have been cashed. There is now approx. ££3,600 in the bank. £2,100 is Phoenix related. Proposals are underway for spending this.
- (9) Street lights in Park Place – After work on the Barratts development, why are some new LEDs and others are still the old orange ones? Could be cost related. COUNCILLOR MOLLISON will look into this.
- (10) A lamppost in Dunnyfell Roads, Muchalls, has been missing for approx. 4 years. COUNCILLOR MOLLISON. will report this.
- (11) Mr Flockhart reported that the pavements in West Cammachmore are unusable as they are covered in weeds as the Council have cut back on cutting vegetation to save money. This is extremely dangerous as people have to walk on the road esp as it is getting darker and there are no street lights. COUNCILLOR MOLLISON will look into this.
- (12) Councillor Pike congratulated Skateraw Hall on receiving £8,000 from Aberdeenshire Council and stressed there is still £40,000 in the Top Up Fund. 50% match funding is needed.
- (13) Councillor Mollison reported that the old Cammachmore Hotel is to be re-opened in the New Year, initially as a restaurant.

The next meeting will be held in Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17th November 2021.