

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft minute of the 354th meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council held in Skateraw Hall on Wednesday 15th June 2022 immediately after the 45th AGM (7.40pm)

PRESENT - Miss Daniels, Mr Flockhart, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mr Chew, Mr Connolly, Mrs Stephen, PC David Charnley, Councillors Burnett and Sullivan and 6 members of the public.

1 – APOLOGIES - Mr Jones, Councillors Aitchison and Victor.

2 - ELECTION of OFFICE BEARERS

CHAIR – Mr Flockhart (proposed Miss Daniels, seconded Mrs Stephen)

PLANNING OFFICER - No particular volunteer but Mr Morgan is prepared to lend a hand.

VICE-CHAIR – Miss Daniels (proposed Mr Flockhart, seconded Mr Cruickshank)

SECRETARY – Mrs Stephen (proposed Mr Ewing, seconded Mr Flockhart)

TREASURER – Mr Ewing (proposed Mrs Stephen, seconded Mr Chew)

Members – Mr Chew, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Jones.

Mr Connolly Associate member.

3 – MINUTE of 353rd MEETING – Accepted.

4 – POLICE REPORT –Written report received and forwarded to Community Councillors. Increase in anti-social behaviour calls, 7 assault crime reports, 15 thefts, one drink driving, 2 dangerous driving, 5 careless driving. PC David Charnley attended. (1) Portlethen Police Office is still open but is only occasionally manned. (2) Any concerns with disputes please contact the Police, (3) Problems regarding parking were raised – Park Place, beside the football pitch when matches are in progress, (4) A resident has contacted Community Council re safe walking to school/crossing. Once again there are problems with parents parking at the School – on corners, over drive ways – making it hazardous for those walking to School. Resident’s letter to be forwarded to Police. (5) No update on a problem with a dog running free in Newtonhill attacking other dogs, (6) Graffiti is appearing at several points in Newtonhill. Police to investigate. Can a resident remove any posters from lamp posts etc?

5 – MATTERS ARISING - None

6 - VILLAGE STONES – Mr Connolly gave an update. He has found another company based at Oldmeldrum which could possibly start in 6 weeks using heritage stone. At the AGM of Muchalls Village Association, the feeling was that residents would like to see what Newtonhill looks like first. Mr Morgan congratulated Mr Connolly on all the effort he has put in.

7 – PLANNING – Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2027 – Update from Piers Blaxter – forwarded to Community Councillors. Guidance should soon be coming from the Scottish Government regarding future planning. – use of land, size and distribution of people, health and educational needs. Future developments must go in the right place. The Local Development Plan 2027 will be valid for 10 years. We need to get a Local Place Plan in place.

8 – POTHoles – Repairs should, with a bit of luck, be completed by September. Nothing happening in Newtonhill. Two potholes at the top of Marine Terrace, Muchalls are causing problems – (a) The

muddy water in one is spraying over a recently white washed wall and spaying stones on the window, (b) not such a big pothole but someone recently tripped and fell. Fortunately, they were not hurt. MR FLOCKHART to have a look.

Response to formal complaint received – very non-descript. Letter of complaint was sent to Philip McKay. Some complaints were upheld or partially upheld but no answer was given as to what the solution would be.

Aberdeenshire Council are very bad at communicating with Community Council. In January, Mr Morgan and Mr Flockhart were informed of work to be carried out despite the fact that a decision had already been made that this work would not be done.

9 – PROPOSAL to BUILD NEW SCHOOL AT CHAPELTON – Mr Morgan wrote to Bruce Stewart, Aberdeenshire Council, requesting someone attend Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council to discuss school provision. Response from Council indicated there will be a period of public engagement later this year which will involve Community Council. At an appropriate time, officers from Aberdeenshire Council would be more than happy to attend a Community Council meeting. We will also be invited to public meetings and events.

10 – BARRATT'S DEVELOPMENT – Mr CHEW is keeping an eye on the situation. Condition 18 states that there should be two points of access prior to occupation of houses. It may be that the last 21 houses will not be built until next year. As it stands this would mean no link road till then and the compound would still straddle the road.

11 – UNDERPASS – There is a fund to boost sustainable travel in Scotland. The present grant is not suitable for this work. However, another grant will soon be available which hopefully will be more suitable for our needs. Rachel Kennedy will be the engineer in charge of the project. One problem could be determining who owns all the land in question. Chapelton Development has registered its support and it would appear they have list of who owns what.

12 – TENNIS COURTS – Query as to who actually owns the tennis courts – Is it the residents of Newtonhill or Aberdeenshire Council? Register of the Sassines might provide more information.

If it is an asset of Aberdeenshire Council, are they responsible for its upkeep?

Mr Jones has talked to several residents and the consensus of opinion is that it is Brian Saunders of Berryhill House owns the land the tennis courts are on. It would have been his grandfather who gifted them to the village. Mr Jones will talk to Mr Saunders when he returns from holiday.

13 – NEWTONHILL LIBRARY - If £1.8 million could be found for sport and leisure in Stonehaven, why can't money be found for a stand-alone library in Newtonhill. Discussions are ongoing about future library provision in Newtonhill. Could it go into the Bettridge Centre once it has been extended? At the moment suggestion is residents are welcome to attend Portlethen Library. Emma-Louise Lamont, Area Librarian for Kincardine and Mearns, will be happy to attend a future meeting.

14 - PLATINUM JUBILEE COASTAL PATH - Mr Jones and Mr Cruickshank attended the launch. Mr Jones submitted a written report. Presentations of work completed and being done were given. The overall path will be 137 kilometres with the work being supported by the Lord Lieutenants of Aberdeenshire, Banff and Kincardineshire. The next step is to form a steering group to which Community Councils and interested organisations may intimate interest. Mr Cruickshank agreed it was a very interesting meeting detailing past, present and future work to be carried out. The meeting was well attended.

15 - PHOENIX FUND – The plaque giving details of the Isabella shipwreck should now be in place. Hopefully, at some point, the walking paths may link up with the Coastal Pathway.

16 – CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Community Council Forum, 24th May 2022 – Only 2 members, 2 guest speakers and Emma Storey attended. Speakers postponed to a later date. Hopefully the meeting on 7th September 2022 will be face to face but might be hybrid.
- (b) Tour of Britain, 4th September 2022 – will start in Aberdeen City Centre and finish at Glenshee Ski Centre – <https://visitabdn.com/tour-of-britain>
- (c) SFRS – Strategic Plan 2022-2025 – Forwarded to Community Councillors
- (d) Local Development Place Plans – Update forwarded to Community Councillors
- (e) TrAK Minutes of 9th JUNE 2022 – (1) travelling to vaccination centres. Concerns were raised regarding the time and distance involved in travelling to vaccination centres, esp for those who do not drive. At the moment the Invercarron Resource Centre has not opened. Doubtful if the opening will actually improve problems with accessing vaccination facilities and (2) Chapelton School Bus – See later.
- (f) Passivhaus Bill Consultation launched – Mr Chew has responded with several suggestions. If more thought went into construction of new buildings, then alterations in the future would be cheaper, eg charging points for electric vehicles.
- (g) The next Community Council Forum Meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday 7th September 2022. Could be a hybrid meeting.

17 – AOCB

- (1) Data Protection Officer needed
- (2) Posting of minutes, agendas, etc. Mr Flockhart now has keys to noticeboards.
- (3) Library Portacabin/Kids' Football – Should we be showing support for children being allowed access? Junior football teams need somewhere to change. As they are not permitted to use the Bettridge Centre, a proposal was received that they be permitted to use the disused library building. After lengthy discussion it was felt that if the building has been condemned as a library, then surely no-one should be permitted to use it.
- (4) Dropped kerbs – A suggestion has been received that perhaps a walk should be taken round Newtonhill to see where dropped kerbs are needed. This is to be actioned by the Access Panel.
- (5) Withdrawal of Chapelton School Bus – The School bus is to be withdrawn as from next year. Does the 7B bus run at an appropriate time to accommodate school children.? There was a lengthy discussion although this is not in our Area. North Kincardine Rural Community Council need to lead.
- (6) Skateraw Hall Photographic Exhibition – Saturday and Sunday 18th and 19th June 2022, 10am to 12 noon and 2pm to 4pm. Entry by donation.
- (7) Newtonhill School Safe Walking and Crossing – see under Police Report.
- (8) Survey needs to be compiled for the next edition of the Newsey.
- (9) The cliff erosion at Murray Road, markings on the road by the School, lighting at the zebra crossing should be discussed by Aberdeenshire Council next week.
- (10) Update regarding What's App comments by teachers. This has been investigated and relevant parties disciplined. A final report is awaited.

(11) Thanks to Mr Morgan for his years of service as a Community Councillor esp as Planning Officer.

The 355th meeting will be held in the Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17^t August 2022