

## NEWTONHILL.MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The 356<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council was held in the Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022.

PRESENT – Mr Flockhart (Chair), Mrs Stephen, Miss Daniels, Mr Chew, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mr Connolly, Mr Morgan, Councillors Burnett and Victor, Blair Moir from NKRCC and 3 members of the public.

Mr Flockhart welcomed all to the meeting.

It was decided as the late Queen's funeral had taken place, no minute's silence would be held.

1 – APOLOGIES - Councillor Sullivan

2 – MINUTE of 355<sup>th</sup> MEETING – Proposed Miss Daniels, seconded Mr Ewing.

3 – POLICE REPORT –No Police present.

Written Report for Kincardine and Mearns received and forwarded to Community Councillors.

Increase in anti-social behaviour calls (68), 12 assaults reported, 14 thefts, 2 drink driving, 1 dangerous driving, 3 careless driving. PC Charnley is hoping to start one to two-hour drop-in sessions in the Area (Coffee with a Copper). Newtonhill and Muchalls would be separate entities. He is hoping Village Halls etc will be provided free of charge. Unfortunately, PC Charnley did not attend so this could not be processed further.

4 – MATTERS ARISING

(1)(3) Safe walking to School at Newtonhill, removing posters from lamp posts, graffiti, problem dog at Newtonhill. Councillor Sullivan is trying to find an easy way of reporting advertising signs on street furniture.

(2) (4.1) Tennis courts – Aberdeenshire Council has been carrying out repairs to replace broken fence posts.

(3)(11.1) Community Council Forum 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – Two documents available – Living with Flooding: Delivering Property Level Flood Resilience and Road Drainage and Flood Risk Management.

Mr Flockhart attended this hybrid meeting (15 in person and 15/18 online). It proved to be quite slow with only two items on the agenda being dealt with.

There should be a more inclusive approach to Community Councils and how they operate. Community Council meetings could be recorded for viewing at a later date.

The new Local Plan was discussed. Suggested Community Councils can discuss with local managers to put forward what would be ideal for the area. A dialogue could be set up with the Council so that Community Council suggestions are acceptable and hopefully approved.

17 Academy towns are to be set up. A query arose as to what an Academy Town actually is. Does it depend on the number of residents? Does it have to have an Academy?

Much of the time was taken up with discussion on the recent flooding problems in Stonehaven.

(4)(11.7) Growing Living Green Spaces – NEAT is to plant an orchard behind the Panto Shed near to the Bettridge Centre. The Out of School Club will help to plant and maintain the trees. Greenspace

are supplying perennials for pollinators – deadline 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2022. Plants for Communities also available but no information on closing date for applications. – usually end of September.

(5) (11.19) Replacing of bins – Deeside bins are currently being replaced. Midmar being done this week and next.

(6)(12.3) Data Protection – Due to be renewed. They have been contacted but are too busy to deal with it at the moment. Fees now due - £40 but as paid by direct debit will only be £35. To be contacted again re change of Data Protection Officer.

(7) (12.8) Update on Phoenix Project and Coastal Communities Fund. Emma Storey has forwarded leaflets regarding the walking routes in Newtonhill. She is waiting for comments from a few Community Groups and then they will be able to proceed. Passed to Mr Jones who unfortunately wasn't at the meeting so couldn't update us.

(7) (12.10) Multiple Deprivation – No further update.

5 – PLANNING – At this point Mr Morgan informed members LDP should have gone before full council today. The next LDP is due in 2027. There will be “gathering evidence reports” until the end of next year – possibly 26 reports. Any comments on the first report have to be submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Mr Morgan raised several points to be considered – digital infrastructure, mobile connections. Broadband, tv reception, the retiral of copper from telephone exchanges, resilience in the case of power outages during storms.

6 – ROADS/POTHoles – Hunters have arrived in Newtonhill, hopefully for two weeks. No prior notification was received they just turned up. Yellow marks have appeared on some pavements, hopefully a sign repairs are coming. Overgrowing bushes at land 94/98 and 106 St Michaels Road have nothing to do with Aberdeenshire Council. May belong to house owners. Overgrowth at St Anne's will be dealt with in November. In the meantime, due to emergency bridge repairs, the road has been opened to provide access for residents of affected properties. Roads Maintenance are in the process of evaluating for tenders for future road upkeep.

7 – BARRATTS DEVELOPMENT – Link Road - Aberdeenshire Council has no mechanism to enforce a time schedule. Therefore, one might conclude the road will appear by the time the development is complete.

8 – UNDERPASS – Progressing slowly. There are six different owners of adjacent land who need to be contacted. Unfortunately, two are businesses that no longer exist so further investigation is needed.

9 – VILLAGE STONES – Mr Connolly has submitted our response re visibility splay to Aberdeenshire Council. Application has been advertised in the local press. Granite lintel has been removed from Robertsons to Glenrock, Oldmeldrum. MR CONNOLLY is to meet with a builder on Friday. Leiths have promised a donation of some “stones”. Now that queries regarding visibility splay have been ironed out, it looks like planning permission will be granted before our next meeting.

10 – FINANCIAL REPORT – End of year balance sheet received and forwarded to Aberdeenshire Council along with a copy of the draft minute of the AGM to claim Community Council grant. Acknowledgement has been received. £8,716 in bank including money from the Phoenix Project and Village Stones. It was agreed Mr Flockhart be added as a signatory for cheques. Letter to be drafted for the bank.

11 - CHAPELTON – WITHDRAWAL of SCHOOL BUS – Latest update from Councillor Victor - bus will now stop on 22 September 2022. Apologies for confusion over previous information that the bus would not cease in the foreseeable future. Councillor Victor has fought for retention of bus on the grounds of safety but to no avail We were joined by Blair Moir from NKCCC to see if a way forward can be worked out. Who authorised the bus in the first place? Why and what has changed? Could the Headmistress of Newtonhill School request transport be provided from tattie holidays to Easter as was done in the past (many years ago) when Muchalls pupils had to walk to Newtonhill School.? The 7B bus runs through Chapelton to Newtonhill. Does it run at a suitable time for school hours? Would Stagecoach alter the time of buses to coincide with school hours? Would parents be happy to put children on a service bus? Would parents be prepared to take part in a rota to supervise children on buses? What would it cost to hire a bus privately? The matter will be raised at the next NKRCC meeting.

## 12 – CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Love to Ride Aberdeen City and Shire – Supporting community cycling – [lovetoride.net/abz](http://lovetoride.net/abz)
- (2) Reminder Meikle Carewe Wind Farm Fund is still open
- (3) Community Council Induction Training – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, both 7pm to 8.30pm.
- (4) Newtonhill Walking Maps – Passed to Mr Jones
- (5) Cost of Living Forum – 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Mr Flockhart is happy to attend.
- (6) Kincardine and Mearns Area Bus Forum – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- (7) Community Resilience Strategy – Workshop Invitations – Register by 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

## 13 – AOCB

- (1) Muchalls cliff path - The Heras fencing has been removed. Representative from Aberdeenshire Council to meet with the landowner to discuss any further work.
- (2) U86K Burnside Cammachmore - Emergency three-week closure due to damage
- (3) Several communications have been received from a resident raising concerns re – (1) Tennis courts – querying why we are trying to ascertain ownership of courts as Landscape Services have always maintained them. It would appear Aberdeenshire Council has a lease for 99 years from the mid-1980s. Presumably that means any repair work is up to the Council. (2) Anti-social Behaviour – graffiti, vandalism (bus shelters, post boxes, buildings and fences) in and around Newtonhill. Perhaps working parties could be set up to clean smaller areas as residents in Muchalls did a few years ago? The Openreach building is a bit different although some folk think it is an improvement, (3) Aberdeen to Laurencekirk – Multi-Modal Survey by NESTRANS. Resident has registered a complaint with NESTRANS re survey of proposals to re-instate the railway station at Newtonhill. Any comments against the opening if a station appear to have disappeared.
- (4) Complaint from a resident re the state of the steps leading from TESCO on to the flyover at Newtonhill. Aberdeenshire Council are not responsible for these steps. MR FLOCKHART to contact BEAR Scotland.
- (5) Play equipment has been replaced at the small play area north of the Courts.
- (6) Landslip on Murray Road – Site visit has been agreed now waiting for availability from the Lead Engineer. Out to tender for consultations.
- (7) Request has been made for a Lollypop Person at the Bridge in Newtonhill for the safety of children going to and returning from school. Councillors will take this up the Council

- (8) Miss Daniels is looking as to how the Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council layout for our articles for the Newsey can be improved.
- (9) Invercarron Resource Centre is now up and running as a vaccination centre. Extra jag clinics will be held at Portlethen Academy during the tattie holidays.
- (10) Vandalism/graffiti – Openreach are to tackle the removal of graffiti at Newtonhill on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022.
- (11) Mr Flockhart presented Mr Morgan with a gift on his retiral from Community Council. A gift will also be passed on to Mr Peaker.

The 357<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022.