

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTE

The 368th meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council was held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15th November 2023 in the Skateraw Hall.

PRESENT – Mr Flockhart (Chair), Mrs Stephen, Mr Chew, Mr Morgan, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mr Jones, Gillian Davidson, Punya Samarakoon, Cllrs Sullivan and Victor, Caspar Lampkin and Ewan Clark (Coastal Path), Tim Stephen (Kincardine and Mearns Area Manager) and Gemma Morrison (Support Officer, Aberdeenshire Council) and 10 members of the public.

Mr Flockhart welcomed all present especially those who have never attended a Community Council Meeting and introduced Tim Stephen, Gemma Morrison, Ewan Clark (Deputy Lord Lieutenant) and Caspar Lampkin.

APOLOGIES – Miss Daniels

1 – COASTAL PATH – Ewan and Caspar gave an update on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Path which will eventually run from the River North Esk to Cullen. They are tasked with the development from the River North Esk to Cove.

It is supported by the Lords Lieutenant of Kincardineshire, Aberdeenshire and Banffshire and the Provost of the City of Aberdeen. At the moment funding comes from various private sources and Crown Estate Levies.

The first stage is a survey of the possible route including who the land owners are and if they are happy with proposals.

The next stage is to engage the Community to encourage interest and help. Information boards will be erected and hopefully residents will be able to provide information for these

Community Council is prepared to support. It was suggested articles go in the Clochandichter, the Newsey and Chapelton News.

Mr Jones is prepared to liaise with Ewan and Caspar.

2 – ELSICK BRIDGE – Mr Stephen gave an update on the demise of the Elswick Bridge. The bridge has been closed to vehicles for some time. Unfortunately, when workers started to repair the Bridge it was found to be in a worse state of repair than at first thought and the decision was taken to demolish the bridge. Community Council were not being kept up to date with what was happening receiving closure notices after the Bridge had been demolished. Mr Stephen agreed this had been handled badly and in future any correspondence will be acknowledged within 5 days and answered within 20 days.

No definite update as to what will happen can be given as several other bridges were damaged by the recent storms and all need to be surveyed before decisions can be made.

The Elswick Bridge was well used by walkers, dog walkers, children going to school.

Could a temporary bridge eg Bailey Bridge or wooden foot bridge be put in place as a temporary measure?

Are there any grants that could be accessed to help with the costs eg Paths for All – IFPF@pathsforall.org.uk or is this the Council's responsibility?

Several queries were raised – (1) Lack of safe walking route to School. Will this lead to more cars dropping children off at School? (2) Will transport have to be provided for children from Cammachmore on the grounds of safety? (3) This is the emergency entrance/exit for Newtonhill residents should there be a problem on Newtonhill Road. Do Police, Ambulance and Fire and Rescue Services know the situation? (4) Why wasn't the Bridge repaired during the summer when there would have been less water running? (5) Can anything be done to control the flow of water in the Burn?

Aberdeenshire Council need to ascertain if any Government funding is available.

Mr Stephen to keep in touch with Mr Flockhart and keep us updated.

3 – POLICE REPORT – Written Report for September 2023. Youth disorder 5; anti-social 9; thefts 5 (1D, 4UD); shop lifting 0; theft of motor vehicle 0; drink/drug driving 1 (UI) dangerous driving 2 (D); careless driving 0.

Written Report for October – Youth disorder 5; anti-social 11; thefts 1(UI) ; shop lifting 2 (1UI, 1D), theft of motor vehicles 0; drink/drug driving 1D; dangerous driving 0; careless driving 2D

Mr Flockhart has made enquiries re the possibility of setting up a Neighbourhood Watch in Newtonhill as some youths are causing problems.

He has also queried the lack of Police attendance at Community Council. This appears to be due to staffing problems.

PC Charnley is hopefully to meet with Mr Flockhart in the near future.

4 – MINUTE of MEETING 367 - Change 11.7 to read – Cllr Victor is to see what can be done re parking close to the bend on Park Place at the entry into the new Barratt development because such parking causes a blind spot with cars travelling south of Park Place unable to clearly see cars driving north, leaving the Barratt development. Accepted.

5 – MATTERS ARISING

(1)(4.2) SSEN Fund – Should be able to purchase 38/40 emergency kits. Need to decide where to store, how to deliver and collect after use.

(2)(4.3) Zig zag markings – If not done by October won't be done till Spring and considering the weather looks like it will be next year.

(3)(4.4) Hedge at St Ternan's – Representative from Aberdeenshire Council will once again speak to the owners.

(4)(4.5) Portlethen Post Office – Closed 30th October with new branch opening at Morrisons, the Green, at 7am on 2nd November 2023. Mc Colls will close 17th November 2023.

(5)(4.8) Meikle Carewe – Decision making meeting Wednesday 22nd November 2023.

(6)(4.10) Grit bins – Grit bin now in place at St Ternan's. Dropped kerbs at the Courts have been marked and hopefully all will be done.

(7)(4.11) Fire hazard at Park Place/Windyedge – No contact but it would appear resident wants nothing done. Representative from Aberdeenshire Council still hasn't contacted owner of high hedge.

(8)(4.12) Dangerous Dogs –Very slow work in progress. PC Charnley now has the contact details of the dog owner. The Dog Warden is also aware of the situation.

(9)(10.4) Local Place Plan Funding – Up to £500 available to Community Councils. Do we want to apply? Mr Morgan is to contact Emma Storey. There is funding available for engagement events. Possibly next year. Need to decide how to progress.

(11)(11.3) Village Feature Wall – If Muchalls and Cammachmore decide they want a stone wall Community Council raise the necessary funding? Yes.

(12)(11.7) Any update on parking? Mike Chew and Cllr Victor. No advance so far but there is a possibility double yellow lines will have to be put in place.

6 – PLANNING – (1) Alteration to dwelling house at 5 Dunnyfell Road, Muchalls – Withdrawn, (2) Local Place Plan - All 34 evidence reports should have been completed but so far only 5 have been completed. Council fast running out of time. Need to update LDP Scheme. Mr Morgan to speak to Mr Stephen.

7 - ROADS and POTHoles – (1) Aberdeenshire Council Pavement Parking Prohibition – Monduff Road (West Side), Muchalls over the full width of the footway on the west side from 3 metres north of the south eastern corner of the building at number 1 extending northwards for 80 metres and Stranathro Terrace (West Side) Muchalls over the full width of the footway on the west side for 10 metres north of the south eastern corner of the building at number 1 extending northwards for 75 metres.

This was discussed at the MVA committee meeting and it was felt to be totally impracticable. Firstly, you can't walk down the pavements for porches. There isn't enough space for all cars to park on one side of the road. With some cars parking on the pavement and others having to park totally on the street it is doubtful if any other cars could get down the street.

(2) Barrier and lamp post at the Lomonds – The wall ownership is very complicated and investigations are continuing. Safety barrier will be re-instated.

(3) Muchalls resident has just paid £400 to replace a tyre shredded by a pothole.

8 – UNDERPASS – Mr Chew has passed all his relevant documents to Councillor Victor. Mr Morgan has passed on the latest report and PDF of land ownership. Scott Copeland is now in charge. A survey has been carried out and a feasibility study is being carried out. Need to know who owns what pieces of land and if they are happy for work to be done to re-open the underpass. Community Council need to be kept informed of any work/progress.

9 – BINOCULARS/TELESCOPE – Telescope was delivered early October. Unfortunately, due to bad weather, no progress has been possible with foundation. Could possibly be Spring before any work can be carried out.

Someone has been dumping rubbish over the cliffs beside the binoculars. Trees in the area need to be trimmed regularly.

10 – FINANCE REPORT – £4624 - telescope £428, stones- £2,902, CC £1,294. Money from SSEN (£5,000) should soon be in our account.

11 – CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Apologies from Punya for missing the last meeting.

(2) CC Networking event on 4th November 2023 has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

- (3) Local Train Reductions – Changes will come in to effect on 10th December 2023
- (4) Message from Scottish Water – Tell us what you think. Passed to Mr Flockhart.
- (5) Message from Andrew Bowie re recent storms – Any issues we would like to report to him after recent bad weather? Demolition of Elsick Bridge?
- (6) Age Scotland Individual Emergency Resilience “Workshop on November 6th 2023.
- (7) TRAK meeting due to be held on 4th December 2023 has been cancelled. Will be contacted when new date is agreed.
- (8) Town Centre Health Checks – Survey at <https://engage.aberdeehsire.gov.uk/hub-page/town-centre-health-checks>
- (9) Bus Services to Marykirk - Problems due to closure of the A92 at Lower North Water Bridge. Latest update road is scheduled to re-open on 13th November 2023. Further update – the Lower North Water Bridge will be closed 10am to 3pm Monday to Friday until Friday 8th December 2023. Stagecoach will reroute buses X7 and 107 during this time. Check out Stagecoach social media.
- (10) New school at Chapelton – Informal Public Engagement Meeting – Tuesday 28th November 2024, 6pm, Newtonhill School. Hopefully, School will open in the 2026 academic year. Attendees were encouraged to attend the meeting to raise points such as will there be community facilities, will there be space for an Out of School Club?
- (11) Roadworks at two Stonehaven overbridges on the A90 begin Sunday 19th November 2023. Broomhill Road Overbridge and Slug Road Overbridge.
- (12) Aberdeenshire Council are reviewing their policy on siting defibrillators on Council owned properties provided they are not listed buildings.
- (13) Bus Forum – Winter 2023 – Face to Face Bus Forum Area Meetings will be replaced with online Aberdeenshire Bus Forum Meetings. The first meeting will be held on Thursday 7th December 2023, 7.30 to 9pm. Mr Flockhart to attend.
- (14) Digital Engagement Newsletter

12 – AOCB

- (1) Storm damage – Muchalls – lamp post down at top of Dunnyfell Road (controversy as to whose responsibility - Amey or Aberdeenshire Council), tree down in Ritchie Place (very impressed with Aberdeenshire Council). Newtonhill Park and Choose inspection hatch cover is missing and wires are showing. Mr Stephen has taken a note.
- (2) Non- pick up of bins in Muchalls. Leave out for five days, then put in car and take to tip. There were problems with non-pick up of orange bins at Crollshillock. This was down to a different crew and was soon remedied.
- (3) Article has been submitted to the Newsey.
- (4) Meal Out – Agreed the next meeting will be held at Cammies with Community Councillors having a meal afterwards.

The meeting finished at 9.35pm with Mr Flockhart thanking all for attending and wishing everyone a Happy Christmas.

The next meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council will be held at 7pm on WEDNESDAY 17th JANUARY 2024 at CAMMIES.