

# Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council

## DRAFT MINUTE

The 369<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council was held at 7pm on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in Cammies.

PRESENT - Mr Flockhart (Chair), Mrs Stephen, Mr Chew, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mrs Davidson, Punya Samarakoon, Mr Jones, Mr Torrance, Mr and Mrs Barclay and a representative from Portlethen and District Community Ambulance.

Mr Flockhart thanked attendees for turning out on such a wintry night.

1 – APOLOGIES – Mr Connolly, Miss Daniels, Mr Morgan, Councillors Sullivan and Victor.

2 - POLICE REPORT – November 2023 written report – Youth disorder 1; anti-social behaviour 15; thefts 3UI, 1D; shopliftings 2UI; theft of motor vehicles 1UI; drink/drug driving 1UI; dangerous driving 0; careless driving 0.

December 2023 written report - 2 youth disorder; 16 anti-social; 2 thefts UI; 1D drink driving; 1D careless driving.

3 – MINUTE 368 – Read and approved

4 – MATTERS ARISING

(1)(5.1) SEN Fund – Money now in the bank. Purchases now need to be made (Mr Ewing and Mr Flockhart) and a decision on where to store. Also how to deliver and collect emergency packs. During a recent power cut inland of Newtonhill, the service provider delivered emergency supplies to residents.

(2)(5.3) Hedge at St Ternan's – Council rep will once again speak to the owners. This is the third time.

(3)(5.5) Meikle Carewe – Most interest to us – Community Ambulance £5000, Portlethen Larder £2000, MVA £3000, Newtonhill Out of School Club £1500

(4)(5.7) Fire hazard at Park Place/Windyedge . Appears nothing can be done at the moment.

(5)(5.8) Dangerous dogs – Dog Warden Team is aware and is liaising with the Police. They have visited the dog owner. The dog is being monitored. Mr Morgan has contacted PC Charnley for an update but so far, no response. Any further concerns to be raised with the Dog Warden Team directly – [dog.warden@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:dog.warden@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

(6)(5.12) Parking near new Barratt development – Cllr Victor gave a written response. According to Aberdeenshire Council there is no problem unless someone parks on the corner which they are doing. Cllr Victor has now requested double yellow lines be painted at the corner.

(7)(7) Pavement Parking – Reminder this came into force on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Most folk in Muchalls are obeying new regulations. However, over Christmas and New Year bins were collected on the Saturday. Due to folk parking on the road and not the pavement the bin lorry had great problems getting down Nethermains Road.

(8)(11.13) Online Bus Forum – Mr Flockhart not impressed. Covered all Areas at the same time. Might be an idea to split meetings into 2/3 sections.

(9)(12.2) Bin pick- ups – Great problems in Muchalls with second half of the Village. Spoke to someone who hadn't had a bin emptied for 8 weeks.

5 – PLANNING – (1) Mr Morgan has submitted our objection to proposed development at Block 30 (Queen Elizabeth Drive/Greenheads) South of Pheppie Burn, Chapelton.

(2) Response to Climate Crisis Evidence Report – Mr Morgan has submitted comments on our behalf.

(3) Planning application for alterations to Farm House in Muchalls and erection of approx. 2-metre-high fence. Other fences this height in the Village have been refused planning permission.

6 – ROADS and POTHOLES – A92 Cammachmore filter lane – Mr Flockhart has contacted Aberdeenshire Council re water on the road and requested update on when this problem will be rectified. Mr Flockhart has once again contacted Tim Stephen re when this problem will be dealt with. He has also contacted Peter Stanworth (12/12/2023). Can't give a specific date but when AMEY are working on that stretch of road, a request will be made to include traffic management so that remedial work be carried out.

Mr Flockhart is to take the matter further.

Also need to consider water on the dual carriageway opposite Nethermains Farm which at times can be horrendous.

Mr Jones also reported on potholes at the entrance to East Cammachmore which are getting worse.

Please keep reporting potholes and we might keep some repairs done!

7 – ELSICK BRIDGE – See later

8 – UNDERPASS – Topological survey passed to Scott Copland, the Engineer on Charge. Nothing else to report. Mr Torrance reported water is running off the fields and road leading to flooding in the underpass. He mentioned there is a possibility of a French drain being put in place in the fields on the north bound carriageway which might help to alleviate the matter.

9 – BINOCULARS – Still waiting for decent weather. Looking like it could be March.

10 – NEW SCHOOL at CHAPELTON – School capacity 217 (to increase in time to 434 pupils) hopefully opening academic year 2026/2027. Cllr Victor attended this meeting. At the moment looks set for opening 26/27. Cllr Victor will monitor the progress.

11 – DEMOCRACY MATTERS – Consultation runs until late February. Documents were circulated to Community Councillors and it would appear no-one is desperate for changes.

12 – FINANCE REPORT - Money in bank £9,456. This includes £5,000 from SSEN; Muchalls and Cammachmore £1,452 each; other £1,644. At the moment approx. £1,000 surplus. However, data protection, hall rental and insurance will have to be paid out of this as next admin grant will not be until after AGM in June.

13 – CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Glasdon rubbish bins, grit boxes, etc

- (2) MET Office Prospectus 2024 – training courses for Community Resilience Groups. Mr Jones has registered an interest and has received the relevant information.  
<https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/19576/widgets/85386/documents/52194>
- (3) CYCJ's (Children and Young People's Centre for Justice) survey deadline 21<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – forwarded to Community Councillors
- (4) Kincardine and Mearns Citizen's Advice Bureau AGM, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
- (5) Community Council Forum meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023.
- (6) Seasons Greetings from Tim Stephen and the Kincardine and Mearns Area Team.
- (7) Storm Babet Recovery Grant – Damage must have occurred between 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – <https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/stormbabet-support>
- (8) Coastal Communities Charities Funding - [www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/business/business-support/funding/cccf](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/business/business-support/funding/cccf)
- (9) Second Review of Scottish Parliamentary Boundaries
- (10) My Place Awards – Celebrating placemaking efforts in Scotland – entries by 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 via My Place Scotland website.
- (11) Report on A92 closure Teams meeting – water on A92 near Newtonhill, road closures when accidents occur, lack of bus provision during road closures, alternative routes for drivers, congestion at the roundabout to AWPR at Stonehaven. Mr Flockhart attended on our behalf.
- (12) Chapelton News Winter edition now available.
- (13) Pavement Parking update
- (14) AMEY December newsletter
- (15) Aberdeenshire Council Online Forums – Update on December 2023 Bus Forum. It looks unlikely these will revert to face to face meetings.
- (16) TESCO Stronger Starts is looking for projects that benefit/support children and young people – <https://www.greenspacescotland.org.uk/grant-funding>
- (17) Community Transport Forum is back
- (18) Community Councils webinar with Open University Scotland – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- (19) Hill of Fare Windfarm – We have had a request to object to the proposed Hill of Fare Wind Farm – Consensus of opinion we make no comment.
- (20) Trak meeting – 7pm, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Stonehaven Community Centre. Scot Prentice, Business Development Manager of Scotrail will be in attendance. Any points you wish raised let Ian Hunter know by 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- (21) Request for written support for the development of the Aberdeenshire Coastal Path (Platinum Jubilee Coastal Path). – Mr Jones has offered to be our point of contact and will respond on our behalf.

7 – ELSICK BRIDGE – There was a lengthy discussion on the way forward for replacement of this bridge. Mr Flockhart welcomed Mr and Mrs Barclay and Mr Torrance. Mr Barclay explained how isolated they have become since the Elsie Bridge (the main access to their house) was demolished.

Mr Torrance (Representing the Elsie Bridge Replacement Group) stressed how inconvenient it was now there is no access for pedestrians or cyclists to cross the Burn. Reported support for replacing the bridge – 250 on Bridge Replacement Facebook page and 130 on Newtonhill Cyclists.

Mr Chew has been working on this on behalf of Community Council and is now liaising with Mr Torrance.

One possible suggestion would be for a temporary bridge to take pedestrians and cyclists. Suggested cost would be in the region of £10,000. However, would this delay the replacement of a bridge which can take motor vehicles? Suggested cost for this is in the region of £80,000. Would

Aberdeenshire Council approve? Would planning permission be needed? Cost? Where would funding come from? Would insurance for the bridge be needed and who would pay for it?

Cllr Sullivan reported the replacement of Elsick Bridge is not in the top 20 list as it is not rated as an essential link between communities. Bridges will be discussed at the Infrastructure Committee meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Members of the public may attend.

Cllr Sullivan is also to enquire if funding could be sought from the Coastal Communities Fund.

There is to be a public meeting in the Bettridge Centre at 7pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Mr Torrance agreed to be co-opted on to Community Council to deal with Bridge replacement. Unanimously agreed.

#### 14 – AOCB

- (1) A representative attended of behalf of Portlethen and District Community Ambulance. Thanks to Community Council for their support. The ambulance now does pick- ups in Chapelton also. They should be in possession of the new ambulance sometime next month.
- (2) Village Markers – Having seen the marker at Newtonhill, Muchalls residents are now quite keen to have a marker erected at the entrance to Muchalls. The feeling is that it would not have to be as big as the one at Newtonhill. Is Mr Connolly prepared to run with this project?
- (3) No update on what is happening with the library building. Mr Flockhart to follow this up.
- (4) Changes to Community Council Insurance – Aberdeenshire Council will no longer arrange Community Council insurance. We now have to find our own insurance but it would appear Zurich is the best bet. Cover needs to be in place by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. Payment to be made from Community Council funds Proof of insurance cover with independently audited accounts and the minute of the AGM showing their approval must be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council before admin grant, data protection and insurance amount can be released. Cllr Sullivan is to follow this up.
- (5) Poo bins – or rather lack of poo bins. Complaints have been made about the amount of dog poo along the path from Muchalls to Newtonhill. Apparently if you walk from Muchalls to Newtonhill and through the new Barratt development there no litter bins to be seen.
- (6) When planning applications are made, Aberdeenshire Council erect notices informing residents of applications. It used to be that you could rip those down once objection time is passed. Now, however, notices are laminated and tied up with tie wraps. And stay up forever.
- (7) GREENSPACE – PLANTS FOR POLLINATORS – Applications needed by 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 - <https://forms.gle/wdcogwGCEN88wh369>
- (8) Suggestions needed for article for the Newsey – Platinum Path, Elsick Bridge, Binoculars
- (9) CHAPELTON 200 CLUB mentioned on Community Council Facebook. NVA not happy as Newtonhill has its own with spaces. Free to mention if they want.

Mr Flockhart thanked all for attending and also thanked Cammies for allowing us to hold our meeting there.

The 370<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in the Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024