

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The 373rd meeting of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council took place in the Skateraw Hall, Newtonhill at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15th May 2024.

PRESENT – Mr Flockhart (Chair), Mrs Stephen, Miss Daniels, Mr Morgan, Mr Chew, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mr Jones, Mr Torrance, one member of the public.

Mr Flockhart welcomed all and thanked them for attending.

1 – APOLOGIES – Gillian Davidson, Punya Samarakoon, Cllrs Sullivan and Victor.

2 – POLICE REPORT – Written report received. We are included in the Stonehaven Area. Youth disorder 6; anti-social 23; thefts one under investigation; shopliftings 2 under investigation, one detected; drink/drug driving one detected; dangerous driving 2 detected; careless driving one detected. Container fire at Newtonhill – A group of youths has been traced and charged BUT why no mention in Police Report? Damage at Park and Choose Bus Shelter – reported to Police Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council. Apparently, there was also trouble at the Bowling Club on Saturday night caused by a group of youths.

3 – MINUTE 372 – Accepted.

4 – MATTERS ARISING

(1)(4.1) SSEN – Mr Flockhart has made some purchases – wind up radios, torches, chargers, blankets, flasks. Storage containers to be purchased. £1,300 still left.

(2)(4.5) Dropped kerbs – Mr Flockhart has contacted Aberdeenshire Council again. This will, hopefully, be discussed at a Council meeting on 21st May 2024.

(3)(4.6) Cut down bushes at East Cammachmore. This appears to have been done by residents. Suggested they be asked to shift cuttings to the side.

(4)(4.7) Tennis Courts – No update.

(5)(4.8) Portlethen Medical Centre – Mr Flockhart has an update meeting on Monday; The new online booking system starts on Monday.

(6)(4.16) Conservation Status for Muchalls – This will be raised at AGM at the end of May. Miss Daniels indicated most people she had spoken to were in favour of retaining Conservation Status.

(8)(13.4) School Rolls – Mr Morgan fears there will be a crisis with secondary education in the very near future as Banchory, Portlethen and Mackie Academies are all reaching maximum numbers.

Mr Morgan has received a response from Kelly Tennant.

(1) No budget available for capital works. Some minor changes made which support capacity,

(2) S1 admittance levels have been set for 2024/2025.

All out of zone's admittance to Portlethen Academy have been refused,

(3) The new housing at Chapelton is one of the main causes of increase in pupil numbers. Academy catchment areas will be reviewed in line with new school at Chapelton.

Mr Jones has concerns re pupils attending the Mackie Academy as he feels it is in need of upgrading or replaced.

5 – PLANNING – LDP – Evidence Report Topic papers. There are approx. 30 Evidence Reports with maps for each one.

6 – LOCAL PLACE PLAN – A work in progress Will need to be completed by September.

7– ROADS and POTHoles – (1) When will white lines be repainted at Newtonhill zebra crossings? (2) Water on the A92 northbound opposite Nethermains Farm, (3) Potholes on the service road to the Bettridge Centre., (4) Zig Zag lines at TESCO – No information on current timing but on the to do list., (5) With regards to the road from Old Mill Road towards the Bettridge Centre, bowling green and old library, according to the R I Comms Team, they suspect that Property Services maintain this area and we are awaiting a response from them.

8 – UNDERPASS – Still waiting for it to be put to public consultation.

9 – ELSICK BRIDGE – Meeting on Thursday 16th May 2024. It was felt a meeting is needed with Aberdeenshire Council to discuss the way forward. Tim Stephens to be invited to attend a Community Council meeting.

10 – FEATURE WALLS – Mr Flockhart has been making enquiries re possible solar lighting for Newtonhill Wall.

Report from Mr Connolly re Cammachmore Wall – The School has been approached for designs. Aberdeenshire Estates has been approached to see who owns the land at the south entrance to Cammachmore where it is proposed to site the Wall. No price from Mark McDonald. Need to consider the proposed re-opening of the underpass when deciding where to place the Wall.

Punya has spoken to 28 residents and they are all in favour of a Wall.

She also once again raised the problems of potholes in Cammachmore

Muchalls has a design. It would be on a single stone to be situated at the top of Dunnyfell Road. One verbal estimate has been received. Now need to go for planning permission.

11 – COMMUNITY COUNCIL INSURANCE – Zurich have confirmed receipt of payment (£157.50)

12 – FINANCE REPORT - £6.400 in total in the bank. Muchalls and Cammachmore each have £1,450 to go towards purchase of feature wall.

It was agreed to give a donation of £100 to the Newsey.

13 – AGM/ELECTIONS – Update on elections - open for nomination Monday 18th August 2024.close of nominations Sunday 8th September 2024; current Community Councillors step down 18th September 2024; count takes place 20th September; inaugural meeting September/October by the 11th October 2024.

Aberdeenshire Council to be contacted for information on AGM.

14 – CORRESPONDENCE

(1) Aberdeenshire Urban Gulls Release – Aberdeenshire Council is to trial solar powered sonar devices to prevent gulls nesting. Trials to take place at Westhill School, Fishermoss School and West Shore Industrial Estate Fraserburgh. Residents are also reminded not to drop litter or to feed gulls.

- (2) Changes to Kincardine and Mearns A2B dial-a-bus. Our Area bus will operate on a Monday – Muchalls 10.15; Cammachmore 10.25; Portlethen 10.35; Portlethen 12.00; Cammachmore 12.10; Muchalls 12.20.
- (3) Halls Networking Meeting – Monday 13th May 2024, St Cyrus
- (4) Vattenfall Funding
- (5) Aberdeenshire Council News Release – Customer Services Changes – Moving to online or phone services. Payments can now be made at Post Offices or Paypoints. Not much notice as change came into force on 26th April 2024.
- (6) Updated website – Mr Morgan has updated the website to include questions for the Local Place Plan – <https://nmccc.org.uk>
- (7) Oakley ASN - Provides comprehensive support for children and families with disabilities. Hoping to develop the site at Coneyhatch. However, problems have arisen due to the Forties pipeline nearby. Looking for letters of support from Community Councils.
- (8) Macduff Aquarium – Meet the Buyer Event, May 16 2024 – Encourage local trades and businesses to tender for contracts for development.
- (9) Request for Information – Kincardine and Mearns Area Team would like to know of any businesses in our area who allow members of the public to use their toilets. Don't really think this is part of our remit.
- (10) Regional Active Travel Network Consultation - <https://www.nestrans.org.uk/projects/cycling-walking-safety/regional-active-travel-network>.

15- AOCB

- (1) Article for Newsey submitted. Agreed to a donation of £100 to the Newsey.
- (2) Fire raising on cliffs – A group of 7/10 youths were seen setting fire to the cliffs at the far side of the Coastal Park. Reported to Police and Fire Service.
- (3) Road Safety Concerns – (1) Convex blind spot mirrors at the Bettridge Centre (No) (2) Zebra crossing signs round TESCO (NO), (3) Questionable access to the dual carriageway
- (4) Bettridge Centre Green Waste - Saturdays until 2nd November 2024, 8 – 11.40am.
- (5) Community Council get togethers – Proposal to restart these. Mr Flockhart to liaise with NKRCC. Possibly Cookney Hall. No dates as yet.
- (6) Platinum Path update – The entire Kincardineshire section has now been visited and surveyed. Volunteers needed for various things. There is to be a volunteer day in June
- (7) Newtonhill Christmas Lights – Cllr Sullivan has set up a petition on whether Newtonhill Road should have more Christmas lights. Proposed meeting has been delayed by a week.
- (8) Stonehaven Library – It would appear hours of opening and staffing at Stonehaven Library are being cut back. Mr Flockhart to contact Tim Stephen.
- (9) Lengthening of Newtonhill football pitch – Aberdeenshire Amateur Football Association say the pitch is too short for Cammachmore FC to play matches there despite the fact it has been used for years. Council cannot afford to do it but are quite happy for it to be done. Do we have any Developer Contributions available? How short? Is there enough room? Cost? There are a few sports grants available. The pitch is 3 metres short. Could the markings not be shifted?
- (10) KDP AGM will be held next month (Thursday 20th June 2024, 2 - 4pm, Bettridge Centre)

The 374th meeting will be held in the Skateraw Hall on Wednesday 19th June 2024 immediately after the AGM which starts at 7pm.