

# Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council

## Draft minute AGM 48.

The 48<sup>th</sup> AGM of Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council was held in the Skateraw Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025

PRESENT – Mr Flockhart (Chair), Mrs Stephen, Miss Daniels, Mr Morgan, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mr Armes, Mrs Davidson, Mr Jones, Cllrs Sullivan and Victor and one member of the public.

Mr Flockhart welcomed all present.

1 - MINUTE of 37<sup>th</sup> AGM read and approved.

2 - MATTERS ARISING – None.

3 - CHAIR'S REPORT – Good news first – replacement of the bridge over the Elsie Burn and turning of kerbs in the area of the Courts.

Donations were given to several organisations.

Still trying to get the A92 underpass up and running and roads continue to give us problems.

Newtonhill School still having to deal with traffic issues due to increased traffic from Chapelton. Portlethen Health Centre is also having to deal with extra patients.

Mr Flockhart thanked all committee members for their hard work, esp Mrs Stephen, Miss Daniels, Mr Ewing. Oh, and his wife for letting him out to play.

Miss Daniels proposed a vote of thanks to the Chair and Mr Morgan our excellent Planning Officer who goes above and beyond.

Thanks also go to two of our Local Councillors (Sullivan and Victor) who regularly attend our meetings and offer as much help as they can.

4 - TREASURER'S REPORT – Mr Ewing went over the Financial Report. No queries. We still have a reasonably healthy bank balance.

There being no other business the meeting finished at 7.10pm.

## Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council

The 384<sup>th</sup> Meeting was held in the Skateraw Hall immediately after the AGM which was held at 7pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025 (7.10pm).

### DRAFT MINUTE

1 – PRESENT – Mr Flockhart (Chair), Miss Daniels, Mrs Stephen, Mr Connolly, Mr Jones, Mr Torrance, Mr Ewing, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Chew, Mr Morgan, Mr Armes, Mrs Davidson, Cllrs Sullivan and Victor and one member of the public.

2 – APOLOGIES – Punya Samarakoon

Office Bearers confirmed they are happy to stay as they are.

3 – POLICE REPORT – Written Report received for May 2025. Youth disorder 16; Anti-social 18; Shoplifting 6 detected, 2 under investigation; Careless driving 3 detected; Drink/drug driving 1 detected. Once again, we are included in the Stonehaven area.

More complaints re children riding electric bikes recklessly causing problems for residents as well as putting themselves at risk.

4 – MINUTE 383 – Approved.

### 5 – MATTERS ARISING

(1)(7) Paul Macari cannot attend June meeting and not sure about August. Mr Chew has submitted a list of questions to forward to Paul Macari for answers when he attends a CC meeting. Mr Flockhart has once again contacted Mr Macari re possible visit. Also, raised a query re Developer Obligations. Reply from Rob McIntosh (Principal Developer Obligations Officer). (a) Community Halls - £164,246.20. All to go to the Bettridge Centre to create a multi-purpose room in the former basement/garage, (b) Healthcare £62,278.41. Discussions going on with NHS Grampian on how to spend, (c) Sports/recreation £47,301.30 (£10,000 to extend football pitch in Newtonhill. Some of remainder to go to create a pickleball court and restore existing tennis courts to increase their use – still working on costing.) Expiry dates for funds 1-2-2031. No funds have been returned to the Developer.

(2)(8.3) Joint meeting – Still waiting.

(3)(8.3) Pedestrian Walkway – No progress.

(4)(14.1) Councillor Conduct - Appears not much we can do.

(5)(14.3) Public Right of Way in the vicinity of Newtonhill – Awaiting information on Public Right of Way.

(6)(14.3) Newtonhill Library – The transfer of Newtonhill Library out of LLA's portfolio refers to the portacabin, not the current library.

(7)(14.14) White lines at St Crispin's Road/Elsick Place - Ian Peacock will get back to Mr Flockhart once he has consulted with the Maintenance Team. Hopefully work will be carried out by end of June.

6 – PLANNING – (1) CC to write in support of development at Bettridge Centre but queries to be raised re drainage, new soak away, (2) Advertising sign for Chapelton Development has appeared at the Park and Choose. Can anything be done? (3) Garage at Oran, Newtonhill – Is this a private garage or commercial garage?

7 – CHAPELTON - Several parents are sending their children to Lairhillock School. Lairhillock School is not in the catchment area for Chapelton. It is, however, a feeder for Mackie Academy. Pupils from Chapelton will feed to Mackie Academy as Portlethen academy will soon be over capacity.

Mr Flockhart commented on a change to relaying information at Chapelton Liaison meeting. Not so much information coming forward.

Several queries – How many houses have been sold? Why only one road in and out of Chapelton? What has happened to proposed hall for residents? Education – what is happening re new school? Why no connection to Cookney Road (because Aberdeenshire Roads Department says no) .

Chapelton is within the NKRCC area. NKRCC has been updated with any information we receive.

Negotiations still ongoing re planned primary school and road access through and around Chapelton during the next stage of development.

Face to face meeting with NHS Grampian – Mr Flockhart still trying. Response from Scottish Government the place to register complaints against NHS Grampian is NHS Grampian. Mr Flockhart has now contacted Audrey Nicoll for advice.

#### 8 – ROADS and POTHOLE-

(1) No update on car dumped on Walker Drive. Aberdeenshire Council have acknowledged resident's complaint as 28 days have now passed.

(2) Mr Flockhart trying to ascertain when works promised in September 2024 will be carried out. Should be carried out by end of July but this will depend on severity of other defects elsewhere.

9 – FEATURE WALLS – Cammachmore – All residents to receive a leaflet setting out suggestions for proposed feature wall. All comments welcome. Miss Daniels and Mr Torrance have been working hard on this and notes will soon be ready for delivery.

Mr Connolly has already delivered notes to some parts of Cammachmore and half way round Durris.

Portlethen Golf Club has donated a round of golf for four people. Two donations received (£50 and £95).

Muchalls on hold at the moment due to some problems with design and massive increase in costs.

10 – FINANCIAL REPORT - £6,583

11 – TENNIS COURTS – Mr Morgan has contacted NVA who are hoping to redevelop the courts, etc. LLA are happy to lend support but no funding. Tennis nets are ok at the moment for a knock about.

Aberdeenshire Council is to be asked to trim back the trees to stop leaves etc damaging the surface of the tennis courts.

Mr Jones and Mr Morgan to attend the next NVA meeting and Mr Jones to enquire re possible funding from the Common Good Fund for upgrading of tennis courts. Do Christmas lights get any funding from Common Good Fund? Who does one approach for information?

Is there any update on when the information board will eventually be put in place at the field? Mr Jones once again to try his best with Aberdeenshire Council.

12 – COASTAL PARK – Aberdeenshire Council received a request for cricket pitch. There used to be a cricket pitch some time ago and a group would now like to see it resurrected.

Appears there is no problem as enough room for cricket and football practices if needed. All football matches are now played in the park. Could developer obligations go towards this?

13 – CERULEAN WINDS' ASPEN OFFSHORE FLOATING WINDFARMS – Consultation event on 11<sup>th</sup> June focussed mainly on the offshore elements. A further consultation will deal with onshore aspects.

Windfarm will be offshore at Peterhead and will possibly not be seen from here. Not sure where it will come on shore but will eventually link up to substation at Fetteresso. Possibly most will be underground but there will be further consultation. Should be operational by 2029/2030. Once route is published, we will make enquiries re possible benefits. Should funding application be made to the Office of the Crown Estates? A rep from Cerulean to be invited to a future meeting.

14 – NHS GRAMPIAN – Have had to borrow money from Scottish Government. Stonehaven Hospital losing X-ray facilities in 2026. Mr Morgan to contact NHS Grampian raising our concerns on what effects proposed cuts will have on patients esp those living near Stonehaven.

## 15 – CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Planning Aid Scotland (EPAS) Energy Consents Training Report – Did anyone attend?
- (2) Muir Mhor 2025 newsletter
- (3) Equipment, resources and ongoing maintenance costs
- (4) Citizens Advice Bureau newsletter
- (5) Changeworks Energy Advice sessions in rural area throughout Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council
- (6) ECS Facilities Hire Applications for 2025/2026
- (7) Kincardine and Mearns Research – Research Project funded by Aberdeenshire Rural -Poverty Fund – <https://forms.gle/NFULOn3bwas2a1Sv9>
- (8) Agenda for Community Council Forum on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Mr Torrance would like to attend. He would also like to submit a question for discussion - Community Council co-operation for active travel links esp Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council and PDCC to provide an active link between communities.
- (9) Portlethen Men's Shed - Portlethen's Men's Shed is held a viewing event at the Social Work Offices, Rowanbank Road, Portlethen Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 5-7pm. Representatives from several organisations attended. Discussions still ongoing re possible transfer of ownership.
- (10) Community Planning E-bulletin Summer 2025
- (11) Aberdeenshire Council Delivery Programme Release
- (12) Aberdeenshire Rural Communities Challenge Fund 2025-2026. Deadline 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025. Check out Rural Communities Challenge Fund-Aberdeenshire Council website.
- (13) Aberdeenshire Integration Joint Board met to discuss changes to social services to save money.
- (14) Aberdeenshire Local Action Group funding outcomes report 2024/2025. Mr Torrance made enquiries on behalf of CC re possible funding for (a) active travel path from Portlethen to Newtonhill and (b) A92 underpass to connect Newtonhill to Cammachmore and Chapelton. Still waiting for a response
- (15) Aberdeenshire Council Delivery Programme release 11/6/25. Pilot project to generate interest in undeveloped housing and commercial sites across Aberdeenshire.
- (16) 2025 SURF Awards – open till 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025.
- (17) Louis Symington – Aberdeen City Councils – Assistance required to communicate RTS Switch-off information within communities. There are no engineers available in this area.
- (18) Press release re Coastal Communities Challenge Fund 2025
- (19) SEPA consultation on a proposed Environmental Performance Assessment Scheme ends 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

## 16 – AOCB

- (1) Active Travel – Mr Torrance has contacted Paul Finch, NESTRANS re active travel connecting communities round Newtonhill. The ABZ – Laurencekirk project report should be released mid-June. He has also contacted Sustrans asking for help.
- (2) Mr Armes has registered a Note of Interest regarding surveying when Cerulean comes onshore. His details have been added to their list.
- (3) A teenager recently fell down the cliffs at Newtonhill. Can anything be done to prevent this happening? Perhaps this could be mentioned at schools in the area.
- (4) No plants from Aberdeenshire Council this year. Could the Newtonhill Allotments Group get involved in bringing on plants for next year? Mr Jones to contact Colin Pike to see if Portlethen Allotments Group can help.
- (5) Graffiti at football field has been cleaned. One end of portacabin has been painted. Donation of £100 is to be made towards purchase of paint. Discussion followed re possible solutions to graffiti.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE SKATERAW HALL AT 7.30pm ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2025.