

## Newtonhill, Muchalls and Cammachmore Community Council

The 385<sup>th</sup> meeting was held in the Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025

### MINUTE

1 – PRESENT – Mr Flockhart, (Chair) Mr Morgan, Mrs Stephen, Miss Daniels, Mr Ewing, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Connolly, Mr Jones, Mr Torrance, Punya Samarakoon, Cllrs Sullivan and Victor, Sarah Chew and two members of the public

2 – APOLOGIES – Mr Armes, Mrs Davidson, Paul Macari.

Mr Flockhart paid tribute to Mike Chew who sadly passed away suddenly on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2025. Mike was a well-liked member of the Community Council who made many valuable contributions to ongoing problems. He will be sadly missed.

3 - POLICE REPORT – Written Report submitted. Youth disorder 13; Anti-social 11; Thefts 6 under investigation; Shopliftings 6 under investigation, 2 detected; Careless driving 2 detected; Drink/drug driving 1 detected, 2 under investigation; Dangerous driving 1 detected.

4 – Unfortunately, Mr Macari was unable to attend the meeting. He has been invited to attend our October meeting which will be held in Muchalls Village Hall. In the meantime, Mr Flockhart has contacted Mr Macari regarding a query as to whether there should be a fire break on the Moor adjoining the Barratts Development. Aberdeenshire Council checking developer obligations.

Questions from Mr Torrance re travel to School from Chapelton the Underpass and active travel routes will be carried forward.

5 – MINUTE 384 – Agreed.

### 6 – MATTERS ARISING

(1)(5.5) Public Right Away in Area at Newtonhill – The route going between the Haven and Shore Cottage is a pedestrian public right of way. The route going past the Haven is a pedestrian and cycling right of way.

(2)(5.7) White lines at St Crispin's Road have been done.

(3)(15.8) CC Forum – Mr Flockhart has been given permission to raise Mr Torrance's query re active travel. Stonehaven, Newtonhill and Portlethen are all in favour.

(4)(5.9) Men's Shed – No update as yet

(5)(16.4) Plants – There is an area at Hillside that NEAT could possibly have but it is very wet and marshy. Mr Jones to attend an open meeting tomorrow to see if there is a way forward. Proposals are to move to perennials as opposed to annuals.

(6)(16.5) Graffiti at football pavilion– This has been dealt with.

7 - PLANNING - (1) Garage at Oran- Approved, (2) Installation of 6.1 MW Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Array and Associated Infrastructure – Land North West of A92 Muchalls Junction, Muchalls, Mr Morgan has submitted comments on the fact that there is no information on local and socio-economic benefits. Also, no proof there will be no negative glint and glare impact on traffic using the A92, (3) Alterations and Extension to Bettridge Centre – Mr Morgan has written giving CC's support for the application but raised concerns re drainage. Approved (4) Proposal to build a house on Land to East of Skateraw Store has been withdrawn, (5) LDP – Evidence Reports are now with the Scottish Government. All our comments have been included. There has been a call for bids. Bids for two industrial sites in Newtonhill.

Mr Torrance proposed a sub-committee (Mr Torrance, Mr Jones and Mr Morgan) be set up to concentrate on the Coastal Path. Everyone quite happy for this to happen. This would include liaising with the Jubilee Path members, raising funding. Query raised re public liability. Committee members to be kept updated.

Miss Daniels asked if there was any possibility the path to Muchalls Beach could be re-instated.

8 – CHAPELTON - Minute of Chapelton Liaison meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Building continues in several areas. Geddes Square will be twice the size of Hume Square. Potentially there will be a pub and a chemist and hopefully a hall. Boxes to be shifted. Discussions still continuing re Cookney Road and new school.

A letter has been sent from NKRCC to the Chair of NHS Grampian re health facilities in Chapelton and lack of representation at Chapelton Liaison Meetings.

A lengthy discussion followed re lack of proposed school at Chapelton. As more houses are built there will be an increase in pupils. Apparently, at the moment, there are not enough children to warrant building a new school.

Newtonhill Nursery is also growing bigger.

The opening of the Underpass would provide a safe walking route to School for children from Chapelton.

## 9 – ROADS and POTHLES

(1) Has work scheduled to be done in September 2024, then by end of July 2025 been carried out?  
(2) Ownership of path adjacent to A92 at Newtonhill. It Is Scottish Ministers' land? Area Manager to talk to Transport Scotland to agree remedial works and future cyclical maintenance. Latest update –Transport Scotland is investigating. Scottish Ministers' land is not simple. Client's approval is needed before any work can be carried out,  
(3) Abandoned car on Walker Drive now has a Police Aware sticker,  
(4) A92 unplanned road closures. Mr Flockhart attended a meeting to discuss. It would appear nothing much can be done re problems with roundabout as you enter Stonehaven on the A92 (AWPR) and A92. Also, not much can be done re sudden road closures. It would be too complicated and involve too many different agencies,

(5) Punya has registered complaints re the weeds and overgrowth on the pavements at West Cammachmore making it impossible for residents to walk on them. Also, the vegetation covering the entrance sign to Cammachmore. A request has been made to Aberdeenshire Council to have both these problems rectified as soon as possible.

10 – COASTAL PARK – No update on cricket pitch.

11 – FEATURE WALLS – £142 was raised at Skateraw Fair thanks to donation of a round of golf for four from Portlethen Golf Club.

So far, a total of £450 has been raised plus £1,500 from Meikle Carewe.

After a lengthy discussion, it was decided that as there was no possibility of extra funding being raised and work carried out before time limit on Meikle Carewe funding ended, the Committee decided the best way forward would be for Meikle Carewe funding to be returned.

Notes round Cammachmore – QR code did not work due to problems with email address. However, some comments were received - somebody knows a stone dyker, plenty diggers and JCBs in Cammachmore, time capsule, unlikely to be seen due to lack of grass cutting by Council, money would be better spent on Underpass, Cammachmore has two entrances so two walls needed,

Sometime in the new year we will hold a Community Council meeting at Cammachmore where residents will be welcome to come and give their opinions.

12 – FINANCE REPORT – Community Council grant will be £984. Will be released once Aberdeenshire Council has evidence of (1) insurance renewal, (2) independently verified accounts, (3) draft minute of AGM showing accounts were approved at AGM, (4) evidence of payment for Data Protection.

There is approx. £6,300 in the bank.

13 – TENNIS COURTS - The courts are playable. Mr Morgan is awaiting a quote for tidying up, repainting white lines and replacing tennis posts.

14 – CERULEAN WINDS – Onshore consultation will begin towards the end of the year. There will be more information to share with the community. We will be contacted when they begin planning events. Would like to attend Community Council at this point.

15 – NHS – Mr Morgan has contacted NHS re concerns over the Community Hospital in Stonehaven. Still awaiting a response

16 – UNDERPASS/LAG – Mr Torrance has contacted LAG re possible funding for interactive paths in our area. Mr Torrance with help from Mr Jones will submit application for funding from Just Transition Participatory Budgeting Fund.

Underpass - Early stages of design and feasibility and not at a point for consultation with Transport Scotland. More detailed design needed. Could possibly be funded by Active Travel Transformation Fund. Maybe also NESTRANS funding if needed. We will be contacted if our support is needed.

17 – JUBILEE COASTAL PATH – Update has been issued in the Newsey and Clochandichter detailing work completed and what else has to be done on the Newtonhill to Portlethen stretch.

Hopefully a feasibility study will be carried out in the next couple of weeks.

Mr Torrance also suggested that a path could be constructed along the edge of the railway line.

Is this an appropriate time to involve MSPS and Aberdeenshire Council.

Mr Torrance has filled in an expression of interest form for Just Transition Budgetary Fund. He has also requested assistance from Murray Swapp asking for Council approval, specifications, contractors for quotes in order to get a tender written.

## 18 – CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) Public Convenience – Public Engagement Survey –  
<https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/public-toilet-survey>
- (2) NHS Grampian Public Involvement Network
- (3) Updated Draft Sectorial Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy – Consultation sessions to be held week of 24<sup>th</sup> June in Aberdeen
- (4) Aberdeenshire Local Action Group (LAG) Committee – Looking for volunteers.
- (5) Community Council Single Election Process – Feedback.
- (6) Inverbervie Sports Centre Summer Opening Hours July 2025
- (7) Aberdeen Night Bus Services from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025
- (8) Aberdeenshire Visitor Levy Survey Release 26.6.2025
- (9) Access to healthy, nutritious and affordable food –  
<https://forms.gle/NFUL.On3bwas2a1Sv9>
- (10) AMEY June newsletter.
- (11) Aberdeenshire Rural Communities Challenge Fund 2025/2026 – Application round now open (17<sup>th</sup> August 2025).
- (12) Kincardine and Mearns Research – gathering local evidence of barriers to accessing healthy, nutritious, affordable food.
- (13) Chapelton News Autumn 2025
- (14) Meikle Carewe Wind Farm Fund now open - 1st July to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.
- (15) Gambling Act 2005 – Consultation on revised statement of Licencing Principles for 2025-2028
- (16) North East Tenants Residents and Landlords Together.
- (17) Community Benefit Conversation with 9 CC
- (18) Independent Review of the Process for Determining Electoral Boundaries in Scotland.
- (19) Aberdeenshire Council LDP call for bids, ideas and sites for the new LDP.
- (20) Draft minute of A92 (unplanned) meeting
- (21) Amey roadworks

- (22) The Encouraging and Supporting Grassroots Activity Fund –  
<https://www.agescotland.org.uk/how-we-help/dementia/grants/encouraging-and-supporting-grassroots-activity-fund>
- (23) Tesla Residential Energy Event – Aberdeen – 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025
- (24) Campion Wind Limited – Campion Wind Offshore Wind Farm Array Area – Scoping Opinion Issued
- (25) Your Views Matter – Aberdeen Rapid Transport System
- (26) Emergency road closure on Cookney Road due to burst water main.
- (27) Prohibition of waiting - Park Place to Newtonhill Road until Crollshillock (both sides) due to gas pipe upgrades starting 25<sup>th</sup> August 2025 for 12 weeks.
- (28) BT Digital Voice Changeover – National Telecare and Connected Together Campaigns. Community Council has been asked to cascade this information. Should be completed by January 2027.
- (29) Groups/activities in our Area – Any local groups, support groups and social activities to signpost unpaid carers to relevant opportunities.
- (30) Save our Mearns is hosting a meeting at Westerton Farm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2025 to update progress with pylons.
- (31) Change to contact details for Landscape Services –  
[landscape.services@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:landscape.services@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)
- (32) £1.2 million worth of improvements on the A92 at Marywell and Portlethen begins Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2025.
- (33) KDP Annual Report

#### 19 – AOCB

- 1 – Mr Flockhart has made enquiries re booking a table at the Bettridge Christmas Fare to promote Community Council. Got one. Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2025. £20 for a table.
- 2 – Get well card sent to Julia Fleming.
- 3 – Muchalls Village Hall has been booked for the October meeting.
- 4 – Newtonhill Library – Mr Flockhart has once again reminded Tim Stephen of request for updated signage to the Library at the Bettridge Centre.
- 5 – Removal of grit bins in our Area. Aberdeenshire Council is to remove 1,200 bins to save money. This decision was taken in February. Why were Community Councils not consulted? In Muchalls, and possibly Newtonhill, it is only the bus route that receives early gritting. Residents are left to find their own solution to exiting the Village. This is where grit bins are essential even if there are no steep slopes.

Mr Flockhart contacted our 4 Local Councillors asking for a response to several queries. So far, he has received responses from two Councillors. He has contacted Aberdeenshire Council asking how long it should take for Councillors to respond to queries.

Mr Flockhart has now received a response from Cllr Aitchison. SNP has warned this will have a significant impact on public safety, rural accessibility and community resilience. An alternative budget was suggested but turned down. Further discussion will continue at the next Area Meeting.

- 6 – No further update on ABZ – Laurencekirk project.
- 7 – Newtonhill noticeboard – wasn't installed last year due to a funding freeze. A new grant has been received by the Strategy Development and Active Travel Team this year so should be done by end of August. Hopefully the noticeboard will be installed soon. Aberdeenshire Council is working on it.
- 8 – Aberdeenshire Council has granted permission for Developer Obligations to be used to extend Newtonhill football pitch.
- 9 – Meikle Carewe Rep needed – Mrs Stephen with Mr Flockhart as substitute.
- 10 – Proposed Local Holidays for 2026. Accepted.

STONEHAVEN – 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 1<sup>st</sup> JUNE, 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

PORTLETHEN – check Aberdeenshire website.

- 11 – Mr Flockhart, Mr Jones and Mr Morgan attended the latest NVA meeting. Mr Flockhart was not made to feel welcome by one trustee of the Committee. He has since received an apology from the Chair.

Mr Flockhart raised various points regarding the Skateraw Fair including parking problems.

- 12 – There has been a lot of vandalism at the Lomonds, Muchalls. Workmen are now involved in clearing the house.
- 13 – Problems with buses in Aberdeen. It would appear the only way to receive information re missing buses is through Twitter.
- 14 – Workers working on gas pipes in the Crollshillock area have left a heap of rubble. Hopefully, this will be removed later.
- 15 – Mr Cruickshank has resigned from KDP. Mr Flockhart thanked him for all his efforts over the years.
- 16 – Lorry advertising Chapelton – Transport Scotland can do nothing. Over to Planning Enforcement.
- 16 – Traffic cones on the A92 at Newtonhill have eventually been removed.
- 17 – The big sign at Newtonhill will be removed when the 20s plenty signs are erected.

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