

NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTE 386

The 386th meeting was held in the Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 17th September 2025

Miss Daniels stood in as Chair as Mr Flockhart is on holiday. She welcomed all present

1 -PRESENT – Miss Daniels (Chair), Mrs Stephen, Mr Ewing, Mr Torrance, Mr Jones, Mr Armes, Mr Morgan, Mrs Davidson, Mr Slessor (NVA).

2 – APOLOGIES – Cllrs Sullivan and Victor, Mr Flockhart

3 – POLICE REPORT – Written Report received for July. – Anti-social 10; Youth disorder 6; Thefts 5 under investigation; Shoplifting 1 detected, 2 under investigation; House breakings 1 detected, 5 under investigation; Careless driving 2 detected; Drink/drug driving 1 detected;

Report also received for August. Youth disorder 2; Anti-social 19; Thefts 1 under investigation; Shoplifting 1 detected, 2 under investigation; Theft of motor vehicle 1 under investigation;

4 – MINUTE 385 – Amendments

(18.31) Email for Landscape Services – landscape.services@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

(19.16) Lorry advertising Chapelton – Transport Scotland can do nothing – Over to Planning Enforcement

Accepted

5 – MATTERS ARISING

(1)(4) Paul Macari – No update on fire break at the Barratts Development.

(2)(6.4) Men's Shed – Councillors voted to approve the purchase of the old social work building, Portlethen, via CAT to be used as the new Portlethen and Area Men's Shed for £100. It will now go forward to the next meeting.

(3)(6.5) Plants – There is an area at Portlethen allotments that NEAT could use but have decided against it. The current proposal for plants in communities is to change from annuals to perennials.

(4)(19.4) Newtonhill Library – Library Service has requested costings for new signage. However, due to financial constraints it is not currently possible to purchase new signs. NVA is to put signs in the old library to point people in the direction of new library provision in the Bettridge Centre.

(5)(19.5) Grit bins - Removal of grit bins on hold at the moment.

(6)(19.7) Newtonhill noticeboard – The noticeboard has been erected but no map – problems with printing. There have been several comments that where it has been positioned is a danger to children on bikes and scooters. Mr Jones to contact Aberdeenshire Council.

(7)(19.14) Rubble at Crollshillock – This arose after work was being carried out on the replacing of gas pipes. This has been tidied up and it would appear tidying up goes on as work is being carried out.

At this point Mr Jones pointed out there could be chaos with no parking on roads being worked on. Not sure what can be done esp as buses need to get through.

(8)(19.16) Chapelton lorry. – There has been a site visit and the matter is being investigated

6 – PLANNING – (1) Planning application for Wester Chapelton has now been withdrawn, 025-2035, (2) Have your say on AHSCP Draft Strategic Plan 2 . Consultation open 8th September to 26th October 2025. If anyone has any comments, can they send them to Mr Morgan for discussion at the next meeting, (3) Aspen Wind Farm – application deals more with the actual wind farm than where it will come to land, (4) No update on solar panels.

7 – CHAPELTON – Healthcare facilities - NKRCC has contacted Cllr Alison Evison re healthcare or perhaps lack of healthcare at Chapelton.

Mr Morgan has sent a detailed email to Cllr Alison Evison regarding the proposed closure of the X-Ray department at Stonehaven Community Hospital. Reply from Cllr Evison explains X-Ray was installed in 1998 and now has an end-of-life notification (February 2026) As it is only used part-time, it will not be replaced. This means that patients will now have to travel to Aberdeen. A mobile X-Ray unit could be a possibility.

Mr Morgan is to follow this up. Concerns were raised regarding the future of Stonehaven Community Hospital esp as there is a renal unit based there.

8 – ROADS and POTHOLES – (1) Cammachmore pavements and potholes – Aberdeenshire Council will liaise with Amey re potholes as they are close to the A92. 2 different complaints re footpath vegetation. One should be rectified by 1/5/2026, the other has a competition date of 25/10/2025. Although the owner may be required to cut back the vegetation.

9 – FINANCE REPORT – Cash in bank £4,491.

Still waiting for audited accounts.

Community Council Grants – Usually receive a grant on the basis of a set amount per person in the Area. Going forward Community Councils will have to justify the amount received. We will discuss again at the next meeting but we ask that members suggest what we claim for. Are we really expected to note every mile travelled, every phone call and how long it lasts?

10 – FEATURE WALLS– Grant from Meikle Carewe has been handed back. Mr Connolly has also informed Glenrock and Mark McDonald that the project is on hold at the moment. Mr Flockhart has arranged for our meeting on March 18th 2026 to be held in Cammies. This will give

Cammachmore residents time to discuss what they would like for Cammachmore in place of the Stone at the south entrance.

11 – TENNIS COURTS – It would appear both Community Council and NVA have been working on repairs/upgrade of tennis courts. Report from NVA meeting attended by Mr Flockhart – Tennis courts can be made good but a pickle ball court would replace a tennis court. Aberdeenshire Council should repair the fence on the grounds of safety. Basketball hoops and netball posts will not be replaced NVA are trying for grants to upgrade the tennis courts.

12 – NHS – See under Chapelton

13 – UNDERPASS - Aberdeenshire Council has appointed a new Active Travel Infrastructure Co-ordinator who will now lead this with a further study before handing a full brief to Transport Scotland next year,

Engineer in charge of design maintains further technical study is needed as it is situated close to trunk road. Reports should be finished by March 2026 and then they will be forwarded to Transport Scotland.

15 – JUBILEE COASTAL PATH – (1) The final clearance of the gorse and undergrowth around Cranhill has been completed, (2) Update on the Jubilee path has been received.

The AGM of the Jubilee Path will be held at Tangleha , 3-4pm, 11th October 2025

16 – CORRESPONDENCE

1 – Prohibition of waiting – Thursday 18 September 2025 for 5 days Old Mill Road, Elsie Place, Skateraw Road. This will lead to more traffic problems. There was a suggestion double yellow lines could be requested in some areas of Newtonhill. Discussion followed re no parking problems at the Skateraw Fair.

Mr Morgan is to contact Stagecoach to get their views on any problems buses may have in Newtonhill.

2 – Get Set September – To help the public respond to a local challenge or emergency – <https://publicatiions.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/winter-weather-advice>

3 – North East Convention of Community Councils – 11th October 2025, 11.30am, Stonehaven Town Hall. Mr Flockhart happy to attend.

4 – Important Community Meeting – SEEN Pylon/Substation update

5 – Consultation survey on draft Aberdeenshire Adult Care Strategy 2025 to 2030.

6 – Aberdeenshire 20mph speed limit – Comes in to force as from Monday 22nd September 2025. Apparently only legal if signs have been erected.

7 – Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults Round 5 – Open now.

8 – Climate Week North East 2025 – Kincardine and Mearns. – September 20/27, 2025. – <https://climateweeknortheast.org/>

9 – Amey September 2025 newsletter

10 – DSO Autumn Series - Breakfast Sessions.

11 – Have your say AHSCP Draft Strategic Plan – 2025-2035.

12 – Aberdeen Loves Local goes digital 25.8.25 – New digital format makes it easier to purchase and use gift cards.

13 – Scotland – wide community led research funding from the RSE - community led research projects focused on climate, nature and food for a healthier planet and healthier people. Closing date 4th December 2025.

14 – Aberdeenshire Council Funding Share – Email from Westhill and Elrick Community Council re Council cuts and budget savings. Contacting all 71 Community Councils in Aberdeenshire Council Area re cuts and budget savings. Do we agree with their letter and do we wish to support them? It is hoped eventually to hold a meeting to which all CCs will be invited along with all 4 constituency MSPs, and all 7 regional MSPs to commit to support the case and try to secure a better financial settlement for Aberdeenshire Council and NHS Grampian. Meeting would be held Ideally before the end of 2025.

Mr Flockhart is hoping to attend the next Westhill Community Council meeting.

If you have any comments please pass to Mr Morgan.

We will raise this at our next Community Council meeting.

15 – Aberdeenshire Council – Turning data into collaborative climate action

16 – Ember bus services update

17 - Aberdeenshire Council – Bushes covering pavements – Not a priority – What is? It covers part of safe walking route to School. There are other defects posing a higher risk. Mr Flockhart has written to Mr Savege, CEO Aberdeenshire Council, and is awaiting a reply.

18 – Aberdeenshire town centre health checks release 11.9.25 – Stonehaven only one in our Area

19 - What Matters to You – Family Survey, Aberdeenshire, Aeptember 2025. – <https://forms.office.com/e/C12znMTMZU>

20 – Apache Tree Grant Programme 2025-2026 – Mr Torrance has forwarded to NEAT.

17 - AOCB

1 – Draft of article for the NEWSEY

2 – Household recycling centres will close 12.30-1pm from 6th October 2025

3 – North East Convention of Community Councils – Saturday 11th October 2025, Stonehaven Town Hall, 11.30am. Mr Flockhart is happy to attend.

4 – Mr Flockhart attended latest NVA meeting – Vice-Chair to step down at AGM; adverse comments made by one trustee re positioning of new walking map board in Newtonhill.

5 - Newtonhill Common Good Fund has folded and funds will be transferred to NVA but constitution will need to be amended. May take some time.

6 – Insurance for fireworks – Query as to who usually pays for insurance. Last year paid their own but it was mentioned Community Council had paid it in the past. Mr Morgan and Mr Jones to investigate.

7 – Cerulean Winds Aspen Project – Aspen Offshore Wind Farm - On 26th August 2025 an application was submitted to the Scottish Ministers to construct and operate the Aspen Offshore Wind

Comments needed 6 October 2025.

8 – Disturbance in St Michael’s Road - A gentleman parked on the dropped kerb at the School and despite children asking him to move, he refused and continued to park. Mr Torrance has reported to Sarah Chew, Chair of FON. Greater co-operation is needed between the School and some parents.

Could Community Council “adopt” a lane near the School which would provide a safer access to School. Would need to find out first who owns the lane and take it from there.

9 – Mr Torrance has spoken to Audrey Nicoll, MSP, regarding a fast link between Newtonhill and Portlethen. This would be an active travel route which would run parallel to the railway line. This will involve National Rail Scotland. Hopefully, a feasibility study will be carried out in the near future.

10 – The sub-group needs to have a meeting to discuss the way forward with what needs to be done re upgrading the path round Cranhill and possible contractors. Hopefully an update will be in place for the next meeting.

11 – Mr Slessor took issue with report in minute 385 of what allegedly happened at the NVA meeting attended by Mr Flockhart.

Hopefully this will be resolved at the next meeting.

12 - It was agreed it would make sense for a member of NVA to attend CC meetings. Craig Slessor is happy to attend. Also, anyone is welcome to attend NVA meetings.

THE 387th MEETING WILL BE HELD at 7.30pm, on WEDNESDAY 15th OCTOBER 2025 in MUCHALLS VILLAGE HALL.