

Tap O’Noth Community Council Minutes

Monday 7th September 2026, Clatt Village Hall

Present	Sharon Stoneman (SS), Robin Baird (RB), David Grant (DG), James Grant (JG), Carol Bristow (CB), Chris Thornley (CT), Tryphaena Jordan (TJ), Cllr Goodhall. 1 public online, 13 public in attendance. Apologies Janice Smith, Paul Manning and John Humphries.
Welcome	Welcome by chair and introductions
Declaration	Recording allowed. JG re Kennethmont bus shelter/Microgrant
Minutes	Previous minutes approved. Proposed CT, seconded CB.
Treasurers Report	Bank Balance - Sept 6, 2026, £10,427.31 Wetland legacy - £1023.47 (Payment to B. Beverly/topping of field) Defibrillator - £1763.03 (Payment to PM, reimburse for pedi-pads for Kennethmont) Micro-grant - £3684.17 Unrestricted - £3956.64 Chair- reimbursement for new speaker purchased by CT has been approved. All purchases will go through the CC and be approved before purchase. Purchases will go through the treasurer -defib as well.
Debi Weir, Community Planning Officer for Aberdeenshire Council for the Marr Area	She is tasked by the council to develop a district place plan- Huntly and District Place Plan. Referenced ‘Room to Thrive’. Looking at the academy catchment area. Live survey online, will be sent to Sharon. The plan will be centred on the rural areas not the town. Face to face engagement is desired. Her role is to speak to the communities and feedback to services and council. Q. from public- How does this tie in with Local Development Plan? A. LDP sits above this plan. Cllr G- LDP will be used for housing/planning. Huntly Town Team mentioned with request for conversation with Debbie. Email Debbie Weir with any local events she might be able to attend for engagement. debi.weir2@aberdeenshire.gov.uk LCPG will be take data and act upon it. Concerns about additional level of bureaucracy expressed. Statutory requirement to engage with communities.

Duncroft Wind Farm (Low Carbon)	Patricia (Tricia) Carr, Snr Stakeholder, Project Manager Angus Thompson, for -Low Carbon- Developer. Questions from the public and answers from Mr Thompson ensued. Transcript of this portion of the meeting is attached for reference. Discussion about the Scoping report, water, programme, decommissioning, turbine size and power generated, connection to grid, and wildlife ensued.
--	--

Matters Arising

Co-option vote for Nicola Hellyer- unanimous vote to co-opt Nicola Hellyer, Gartly.

Nicola made a short introduction of herself to the CC. Chair will confirm to Marr.

Kennethmont Footpath- Cllr G- Spoke of presentation to Marr Area (available via recording) Request that speed limit to be dropped from 60 to 40 MPH to mitigate against higher footpath. Signage and crossing at end of road were also discussed. Officers are considering. Money is there for the footpath. It is taking a long time.

JG- why 40MPH and not 30MPH? Cllr G- 60 to 30 is a huge leap for planning officers. If desire from community to decrease to 30MPH, this can be suggested and considered.

Q. from public- Will the path be lit? Extra expense for the lighting of the pathway. Online feedback did not mention lighting of path. What was the outcome of the online survey?

Cllr G- the survey results were the topic at Marr Area.

Available online. Cllr G will ask about lighting of the path.

Defibrillator - All in order from PM

Pop Up Bob- Passed on to Gartly

MOU Foundation Scotland - Agreed not to sign at this time as there were concerns regarding the fund being changed from RPI to Index linked. This could result in 2% less money available to communities. Explained the rate of growth thru RPI and the lack of increase for the microgrants related to inflation. CT to write to them for an explanation. Chair asked JG if he knew anything about this.

RB asked for clarity on the change online at FS from 4 years to 6 years for service on the Community Benefit Fund Panel. Term of service for the two representatives from Clatt runs from December 2025, ending December 2029.

JG offered clarification - term of service is still 4 years, but at the end of this time, if there was no one else willing to serve, the appointment could continue for an additional 2 years.

However, 6 years is the maximum term of service. Likewise, should the current holder leave the CC after their three-year term the position would again be vacant and a new person elected. In theory it would be possible to have no representation.

Planning - None

Updates from Aberdeenshire Councillors	Cllr Petrie- The future of Gartly school will be coming up soon. She has had no reply to her letter to Foundation Scotland. Cllr Goodhall- Gartly School playing fields will be retained by the Council. Landscape Services, (Council) will be responsible for mowing etc. There will be election for new councillors in May if anyone wants to stand.
Correspondence	None
Area Reports	Rhynie- TJ-What are the new poles erected on the footpath on road by the school? Cllr G will ask. Barr Flat Road is adopted. Mark Cockburn has asked for consideration to be given for him to clear Barr flat Road as he is planning to make sheep handling pens. He also asked for the public to pick up their dog poo bags and not hang them on the fence or leave it on the ground. Cllr G -Adopted roads are to be kept in good repair by the council. Kennethmont- DG has checked the notice board, and all is fine. Clatt- CB- Notice for the auction of Clatt School is still up. How long will auction sign remain? Cllr G- Until a realistic price is received, a case-by-case basis. Cllr P- Aberdeenshire is responsible for holding cost and the situation will be reviewed regularly. RB noted that an offer had been made to the council out with the auction process. Gartly-Nothing
AOCB	JG reported that there was no additional information regarding Clash II/Roland & Jamie. He will serve on working group representing Kennethmont School Partnership and Rannes hall. SS will be representing the CC. RB- Jamie/Roland spoke to Clatt Village Hall committee and further community engagement is planned by them. They have been in touch with R.C.T.
Questions	The roadside between Grampian Caravans and Little Towie is obscured by Boome and again on the bend at Clatt (hedge near Clatt School) opposite the Kirk. Cllr G to investigate this. RB, JH to investigate and report back. The road from Clatt to Rhynie at the Rennie's farm is still not fixed despite being told it would be done in May. Several follow up reports online and complaints have been ignored. The holes are dangerous and unavoidable. Cllr G to investigate.

Next Meeting	October 5 th Kennethmont 7.30pm
Micro-grants	JG absented. The application to repaint the bus shelter rejected as the property is not eligible due to being owned by Aberdeenshire Council.