

Minutes 3rd Feb 2025 Clatt Village Hall.

Present - Andrew Beckley, Robin Baird, James Grant, Peter Johnston, Tryphaena Jordon, Janice Smith, Tony Smith, Sharon Stoneman, Cllr Goodhall, Cllr Petrie - online, 7 community members online, 3 in person.

Apologies -David Grant, Paul Manning

Welcome

Approval of minutes Jan 2025 - Proposed AB. Seconded RB

Matters Arising

Kennethmont Footpath - Cllr G, No update.

Correen Hills Windfarm - RB Letter written by Dr Mary Watson, Donside CC, to Forestry and Land Scotland has been sent under the signature of Donside, Bennachie and Tap O Noth CC's. Letter has been circulated to all.

Log Bank - TS, 85 bags in stock. No idea if the program will continue after March. We should stock up if this is the case.

Following on from this discussion- Richmond Terrace, Rhynie complaining of cold homes due to inefficient radiators and lack of insulation. SS has had referrals from GRA regarding this. Cllr G to contact housing team and SSEN re: grants available to assist with these types of issues.

Defibs - PM informed that all checked and working.

Mains of Rhynie - Kate Beverley (Rhynie) contacted SS to say there was no update. TS -Question about what is the actual status of the application. It was suggested that a letter to Forestry Scotland would be appropriate at this time to ascertain the true status, as the application online shows completed 2023- Status under consideration. The application names David Hay and a generic email address. Check the website to verify. TJ and SS to follow up with the letter to Forestry Scotland. Cllr G explained that Forestry Scotland is undergoing change presently which may impact things in the future.

Ness Bogie - TS, contacted Forestry Scotland and agreement was had to share their reports this week. There is interest from Forestry Scotland to receive feedback from community regarding some issues such as footpaths, but it is unclear as to how this feedback will be obtained. TS indicated there had been little concern expressed by the community so far. TS and SS met with Lynn Rutter, Gartly Community Assoc to discuss. TS to contact Forestry Scotland if they do not come back to him.

Cllr G noted here that there is another development being planned for the Lumsden area that may encroach into the TONCC area.

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Moss Wood - SS contacted by local resident. PM phoned to update Sharon. PM indicated that he felt RCT were handling this. JS clarified that RCT is not handling this issue. PM was to contact near neighbours to discuss possibility of allotments. Depending on outcome of this, there would be further community engagement. If Community Asset Transfer were to be needed in the future, then TONCC could not be responsible for this. SS to speak to PM.

Planning applications - No objection to 2 dwelling and vehicle access at Craighall Kennethmont.

Updates from Cllr G. and Cllr Petrie - Depressing budgets some of which had been ring fenced are now being used to pay NI increases. Cllr G spoke about the Health and Social Care Partnership and the decisions that will need to be made surrounding this due to lack of funding. Ideas re: residential units in Huntly being turned into a social care partnership arrangement - nothing firm. Discussion about Inch and Huntly hospitals doing more for social care but not now likely to happen due to cuts.

Correspondence - All correspondence had been circulated.

SS - A flyer was presented to her from a community member regarding the rental of rural properties. This flyer had been received by a few community members who are unsure as to its validity. Concern was expressed that this may be a scam. No one had seen this before. Be aware.

Police - Not currently in agenda, but correspondence received re Cybercrime and AI crime. Attempts to chase police updates have been made without success. Cllr G noted that there is a new inspector in Huntly who may assist and visit the CC. JS - last update came to her email. Email address has not been changed though this has been requested numerous times. SS to follow up by contacting again. Police will be added again to the agenda as a separate item.

TJ and SS reported that there had been concern from village shop that they had a visit from someone about Community Service work. They had been rather insistent, but no information was known about this. Cllr G asked if this may have to do with rehabilitation of offender? Cllr Petrie stated that Community Justice is done

through the Integrated Joint Board rather than the police and organised through Adult Social Work. Cllr Petrie will get contacts for them.

Agreed Police will be added again to the agenda as a separate item.

Treasurer's report - £13052.94 Funding from Foundation Scotland received. A deposit of £5179 made. Paid ICO /GDPR yearly fee. All the micro grants that we approved have been dispersed.

Area Reports

Gartly - JG updated about pop up bob. Waiting for spring when the light is better. They are available if there is interest in putting them up now. Permission has been granted to site them.

Water on the roads. Cllr G stated that Roads can look at this as a section 85 order if needed. Ideally this could be resolved with farmer concerned before resorting to Section 85. It was felt that some of the issue is the ditches and drains have not been cleared by the council. Cllr G asked for a note/email be directed to him. He will follow up. PJ to follow up with Cllr G.

Rhynie and Kennethmont - nothing.

Clatt - Concern over speeding on bend between Little Towie and Clatt village. Little that can be done as up to 60mph limit. Speed calming measures on a 60 MPH road are difficult Cllr G will ask.

AOCB

RB - request permission to call another meeting of the three Councils working group regarding the Correen Hills Windfarm. The formal application is due to be submitted in March - we should be in lock step with the other Councils about how to respond to the application. In general, agreed better to be prepared than wait as there will be limited time to respond to the application once it is lodged.

Sharing of the survey results should also be progressed and issued be all three CC's. Robin to keep CC updated.

Questions and clarification from the floor- A member of the public in attendance enquired-

1. Is the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan being reviewed?

Historically every 5 years it is reviewed. In the next 3 years it will be renewed, and it will then last for 10 years.

2. Will TONCC be able to comment on this?

Cllr G - Yes, there are many ways the CC can input into the Local Development Plan i.e. emailing what you want for your area or a full-blown Community/Local Development Plan for yourselves. Aberdeenshire Council is looking for comments from local councils now. TONCC has had in person explanation about the process from Aberdeenshire Council about this in the past. New Councillors may be interested to re-visit this.

JS- Community Action Plan - TONCC looked at the LPP previously and decided it was not something that they wanted to pursue as a CC. Rhynie Community took up the project (SS and another ex-councillor were involved)- led by community member David Denoon.

It was agreed that it would be progressed separately from the CC. Circumstances changed, and progress stalled.

Agreed to have someone come to meeting to discuss further. SS to ask Janelle.

Cllr G - There are many ways the CC can input into the Local Development Plan i.e. emailing what you want for your area or a full-blown Community/Local Development Plan for the area or each village. Aberdeenshire Council is looking for comments from local councils now.

TONCC has had in person explanation from Aberdeenshire Council in the past about the process for developing an LPP. New Councillors may be interested to re-visit this.

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Date of next meeting - March 3rd Rannes Hall, Kennethmont

Micro grants -

Kennethmont School - Awarded £500 for school potting shed

Books Abroad - Awarded £250 towards their costs.

Promotion of Clatt - Further clarification needed. Ask them to send in quotes for photography and professional fees.

Lottie Grant - Awarded £500 for gymnastics kit and travel.