

Catterline, Kinneff & Dunnottar Community Council

Minutes of the Monthly Public Meeting

Catterline School, 29 September, 2009

Attendees and Apologies

Present: John Carr, Andrew Chedburn Billy Dargie (chair), Ian Duncan, Karen Hales, Anne Massom, Jim Marshall, Phil Murray, Andrew Watt, Eric Wyness, Eeva-Kaisa Arter (secretary)

Attending: Councillors George Carr, Graeme Clark, Paul Melling

Apologies: Stephen Hall

Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and they were approved by Andrew Watt, seconded by Eric Wyness

Matters Arising

Cllr George Carr reported that the gullies at Kinneff were cleared at the end of July. It was noted that a caravan and a car had been dumped in the Kinneff Catterline layby and Cllr George Carr undertook to notify the authorities of the matter.

Local Development Plan

John Carr wanted to know when there would be feedback from Piers Blaxter on the CC's response to the Local Development Plan. According to Cllr George Carr it should be in December; it had taken a long time to process all individual responses. It would be possible to view a topographical map (of the structure plan) on the Council website in October.

Karen Hales confirmed that the CKDCC report was posted before the deadline, and that every effort had been made to produce a balanced response that reflected local views.

There ensued discussion on the Structure Plan that had been accepted by the Scottish Executive and the following points were made:

- With hindsight the Structure Plan and LDP had created a very emotional response
- People focused mainly on sites, rather than issues
- The Main Issues Report and the accompanying questionnaire as well as the electronic posting were found most confusing and frustrating
- The response form came out too late, and it was not user friendly
- Cllr Graeme Clark emphasised that the consultation process was totally new to

- councillors too, and that there was an altogether new planning system in place
- It was hoped that there would be feedback about the process from the authorities
 - Councillors wanted people to focus more on policies, as these would form the basis for future developments

The importance of the consultation process was emphasised and the accompanying events organised by CKDCC were praised by Cllr George Carr.

The CC offered their generous thanks to Phil Murray for organising the consultation materials and displays, and to Karen Hales who had (been?) volunteered to write the CKDCC response to the MIR and LDP.

Financial Matters

The current account stands at £2.78, and the savings account at £844.72

Planning Applications

REF	Date Valid	Site Address	Decision	Proposal
KM/APP/2009/0493	06/08/09	Land South of Braehead, Stonehaven	Pending	Construction of Distributor Rd
APP/2009/2097	06/07/09	2 Trelong Row, Catterline	Pending	Erection of Summerhouse
APP/2009/2225	13/07/09	Land South of Brig-Stanes, Catterline	Pending	Erection of Pig Shed
APP/2009/2384	03/08/09	Birdiesknap, Roadside of Catterline	Pending	Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse Erection of Wind Turbine
APP/2009/2999	14/09/09	Druisdale Farm, Barras	Pending	Erection of agricultural Building
App/2009/3012	14/09/09	Trollochy, Crawton	Pending	Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse
APP/2009/3017	15/09/09	Ravenswood, 5 Muirton Barras		Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse

Building Warrants

REF	Date Valid	Site Address	Status	Proposal
KM/WL/2009/2541		Bellfield, Catterline	Pending	To put in Septic Tank
KM/BW/2009/3283		St Phillips Church Catterline	Pending	Install Disabled Toilet Form Internal Vesti- bule, Put in Septic Tank
KM/BW/2009/3622		5 Muirton of Barras	Pending	Alterations and Extension
KM/BW/2009/2786		Lorach, Mill of Uras	Pending	Alterations and Extension
KM/BW/2009/3701		Land opposite Glenlorna, Braeview, Roadside of Catterline	Pending	Erection of Double Garage

Matters Arising from Planning Applications

It was decided to oppose Bancon's application for a spine road for the same reasons as before (traffic hazards, loss of agricultural land, pollution and environmental reasons, right of ways in the recreational area between Dunnottar and Stonehaven). A Representative from Bancon would be invited to CKDCC to talk about their plans for Stonehaven South.

It was lamented that there were no maps or visual presentation of planning applications. A great effort would be made to try to rectify the matter.

Concerns were raised about agricultural ties with new houses in the countryside, and about any checks that they would indeed be used for the purpose they were intended. Cllr Goerge Carr undertook to raise the matter with the planning authorities.

He informed the CC that according to the 2006 planning act, now in force, any developer is required to have public pre-application consultation, and to take evidence from Councillors. The consultation period is now 14- 21 days, and community councils need to have a balanced view on applications reflecting the community's views. Councillors are go-betweens with the public and the planners. There is a change in objecting now: five households are needed to object instead of five letters (from the same address). Two councillors are still sufficient to object in order to trigger a discussion in an area committee.

Serious concerns were raised from the floor about democracy being compromised and people being disenfranchised.

Travelling People

It was brought into the CC's attention that the legislation regarding travelling people was complicated, and that the Scottish Executive, Westminster and the European Parliament were all involved. The lack of holding sites in Aberdeenshire was a problem in moving travellers on from unauthorised sites. There was a code of conduct for travelling people, but no-one enforcing it. The clean-up operation after a stay by travellers costs thousands of pounds. There was still no clarity as to the ownership of the Catterline Kinneff laybys.

Dunnottar Woods

The festivities planned for August were regrettably cancelled.
There was no other news.

Roads

It was reported that resurfacing had been carried out in Catterline.

Cllr George Carr had notified the authorities of the June fatality at Mill of Uras and other road accidents including near misses in the CKD area.

There were complaints and alarm from Kinneff villagers about children passing the school bus in any which way. Many rural roads are not safe or possible for children to walk, hence the school bus system. Unfortunately many parents prefer to take their children to school individually, thus causing congestion, safety and access hazards and pollution around the school.

The road to Slains Park was reported to be full of potholes, of which matter Cllr George Carr would write to the roads department.

It was also reported that hedges and trees had disappeared along the access road to Kinneff school.

Correspondence

- Scottish Natural Heritage re Classification of Marine Extensions to 31 Existing Seabird Special Protection Areas
- William Munro re Association of Scottish Community Councils
- Both letters electronically circulated to Cllrs

Any Other Business

Stephen McFarlan wrote that there was nothing the matter with the Gabion baskets at Catterline harbour, and that a new system for coastal defence would be introduced instead of Gabion baskets.

It was agreed to invite Neil Lindsay to come to the next CC meeting and to give a presentation on the Hillhead of Auquhirie Wind Farm.

Date of Next Meeting Tuesday 27th October 2009