

# **Catterline, Kinneff & Dunnottar Community Council**

## **Minutes of the Monthly Public Meeting**

**Catterline School, 27 October, 2009**

### **Attendees and Apologies**

Present: John Carr, Andrew Chedburn, Billy Dargie (chair), Karen Hales, Stephen Hall, Jim Marshall, Phil Murray, Andrew Watt, Eeva-Kaisa Arter (secretary)

Attending: Councillor George Carr, Neil Lindsay with Scott Waller and Lloyd Garvie of Auquhirie Land Co. Ltd

Apologies: Ian Duncan, Anne Masson, and Cllrs Wendy Agnew and Graeme Clark

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and they were approved by Andrew Watt, seconded by Karen Hales

### **Matters Arising**

Cllr George Carr reported that the Accident and Investigation Unit had confirmed they would be monitoring the traffic/road situation as a result of the fatal accident at Mill of Uras in June 2009.

As for the gabion baskets at Catterline Harbour, there was a response from Stephen McFarlan stating that a detailed inspection of coastal areas was done last summer and repairs would be undertaken next summer. The baskets at Catterline were found to have from minor defects to poor, with the central section being in bad condition. The situation should be regularly monitored. The Harbour Committee (via Brian Watt) would receive a letter regarding the matter.

Harry McNabb, Planning Director at Bancon Developments, has agreed to come to the CKDCC meeting in November, to talk about the proposed Spine Road at Braehead and their plans for Stonehaven South.

### **Local Development Plan**

Cllr George Carr informed the CC that the Planners would be looking at the responses from the consultation exercise in January, and this would be followed by discussion and another consultation period, possibly late next spring. Additional personnel had to be hired to deal with the responses.

He also stated that the Councillors inspected all the proposed sites in the new LDP during the week of 19<sup>th</sup> October to 25<sup>th</sup> October in adverse weather conditions.

**Presentation by Neil Lindsay of Auquhirie Land Co. Ltd**

The three turbine wind farm at Hillhead of Auquhirie was granted a planning permission after a lengthy process in 2005, but by the time of the approval the main manufacturers no longer produced the required 76 metre turbines in small quantities. The developers repeated the whole process: different options were considered, and it was decided to go for 92.5 metre turbines as they were the lowest available. The site was newly inspected; new impact assessments were carried out (of environment, ecology, ornithology, cultural heritage and shadow flicker). No different impacts were found from the previous assessment, apart from the visual one. There was a small change in that, the height was increased by 16.5 metres.

The higher turbines would produce 80 per cent more power, a shift from 1.3 to 2.3 megawatts but with the increased efficiency there would be savings in CO2 and sulphur oxide emissions. In addition, 1677 extra households would be provided with electricity. Further more, there would be an additional sum of £18,000 for the Council per annum. Differing from the previous application, a community fund would be set up, allowing an annual sum of some £14,000 for the community.

There were different concerns from the floor: three wind farms had already been approved but there was nothing to show, would wind farmers keep coming back for bigger turbines. It was difficult to assess the impact of turbines for a community. Would there be any guarantee that today's conversation would not take place again in two years' time. Wouldn't it be possible to trade off three smaller turbines to two larger ones?

The developers assured the CCllrs that there would be no need to approach the CC another time if the process took about three months. Cllr George Carr confirmed that it could go through in three months, as time limits were set out in statutes.

There was a question of how a community fund would be set up. The developers hadn't formulated any details yet, since they wanted to ensure that the fund worked in the best interest of the community as a whole. Cllr George Carr concurred.

It was also noted that the access road for the turbines had been approved.

There was a visual display of the proposed wind with computer generated images for the CC.

<b>Financial Matters</b>
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There were no changes from last month.
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<b>Planning Applications and Matters Arising</b>
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There were no planning applications from September 29 to October 27.

There followed general discussion on wind farms and the new response time of 14-21 days for CCs to planning applications.

A letter forwarded by David Fleming of the Stonehaven CC from Cllr Peter Bellarby was read. In it the latter suggested putting an application on hold and having an informal arrangement with the planner in question in order to process the application in the required way.

It was decided to oppose to all potentially controversial planning applications if they arrived at such time that wouldn't allow consultation within the new time limit.

Last but not least, Stephen Hall has created a new impressive system for the CC, in which all new planning applications in the CKDCC area will be automatically and immediately sent to the recipients of the [CKDCC@yahoogroups.co.uk](mailto:CKDCC@yahoogroups.co.uk) for scrutiny. This system includes, among other things, a wonderful map of the area with small markers of different colours, each indicating the site and the stage of an application. Stephen's creation was truly appreciated by all Cllrs. Mega thanks to Stephen.

<b>Travelling People</b>
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It was brought into the CC's attention that Aberdeen and Shire had commissioned a report on possible sites for travelling people, at the cost of £10,000 each. However, the consultants hadn't managed to consult all sides concerned, and did not arrive at any conclusion.
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<b>Dunnottar Woods</b>
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There was no news.
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<b>Roads</b>
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There was yet again a blocked gully on the eastern side of the road at Kinneff.
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<b>Correspondence</b>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Letter forwarded to CKDCC from Peter Bellarby to David Fleming.</li></ul> |
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<b>Any Other Business</b>
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Harry McNab of Bancon Development to give a presentation on the proposed Spine Road at Braehead and plans for Stonehaven South
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<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2009
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