

Catterline, Kinneff & Dunnottar Community Council

Minutes for Monthly Public Meeting

Catterline School, 26th February 2013

Attendees and Apologies

Present: Andrew Chedburn (chair), Billy Dargie, Karen Hales, John Carr, Phil Murray, Aileen Swarbrick, Eeva-Kaisa Arter (secretary)

Attending: Cllr George Carr

PC Irvine

Baron Stephen of Lower Deeside in Aberdeen City

Members of the Public: Debbie Murray

Apologies: Tim Crabb and Ann Masson

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and the motion that they be approved moved by Phil Murray and seconded by Billy Dargie

Matters Arising

Cllr Carr pointed out that the 2006 Local Development Plan remained current only in relation to wind turbines.

The four community councils that were eligible for community funds from the wind farm at Auquhirie were Arbutnot CC, CKDCC, Mearns CC and Stonehaven CC.

CKDCC supported the nomination of Katrina Carr as a candidate for one of the Aberdeenshire Sports awards.

Police Report

PC Irvine from Stonehaven informed the CC that since 26th January there had been over 200 reported incidents in the Stonehaven beat area, but none of these had occurred in the CKDCC area until two break-ins at Roadside of Catterline and at Mill of Barras earlier in the day. In the latter break-in access had been gained through a kitchen window in broad daylight. Most of these crimes were opportunistic; gangs from Aberdeen coming to smaller communities and hoping to find unlocked doors.

There had been a considerable number of road traffic accidents in and around Stonehaven, the majority the result of winter weather and driver error.

PC Irvine emphasised the importance of securing houses and cars, and utilising crime prevention techniques, which can be found at www.grampian.police.uk . It is possible to have an officer from the crime prevention unit visit one's house and carry out a survey on the property. This can be arranged by contacting the Service Centre on 0845 6005700.

PC Ian Edwards, community liaison officer, continued his work with local communities and partner agencies to deliver an effective and relevant local policing service.

The house break-in that took place in Barras around Christmas was still under investigation and the resident had been informed about the progress of the investigation.

In response to Billy Dargie's concern about the travellers and their seven caravans in the Catterline Kinneff lay-by, PC Irvine assured the CC that there was increased police presence on that stretch of the A92.

John Carr inquired if anything could be done about a person who travelled on a three-wheel bicycle with poor lights, not using a helmet, on the A92 with sightings of him even on the A90. The lights on the bike were too low and dim to make him sufficiently visible from a distance. Could he possibly be made to fly a flag on his bike?

PC reminded everyone that the new non-emergency Police number was 101.

Financial Matters

The current account remained at £727.46 and the savings account £241.24

Landslip at Catterline

A meeting took place at the Creel Inn on 31st January, attended by 10-11 residents. Plans of action were discussed and participants went away with various suggestions. Another meeting was to take place the day after the CC meeting, on 27th February, with 10-15 people expected to attend. Karen Hales had forwarded the group information on funding. Coastal erosion was deemed catastrophic now.

Planning Applications

Ref.	Date	Address	Proposal
APP/2012/4191	2013-01-31	West Mains of Barras Barras Stonehaven AB39 2UE	Conversion of Steadings to 6 Dwellinghouses and Garages, Erection of 1 Dwellinghouse and Garage and Formation of Access Roads and Suds Basin
APP/2013/0285	2013-02-01	Swinewaird Stonehaven AB39 2TU	Change of Use of Land to Domestic Garden Ground and Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse
APP/2012/3976	2013-02-05	Spring Cottage Kinneff Montrose DD10 0TJ	Erection of Dwellinghouse and Garage (change of house type) (Retrospective)
APP/2013/0528	2013-02-21	Boggartyhead Stonehaven AB39 2TJ	Erection of Agricultural Building and Alterations to Existing Access
APP/2013/0401	2013-02-22	Lumgair Farm Barras Stonhaven AB39 2TS	Erection of Agricultural Building

Matters Arising from Planning Applications

The CC discussed the applications. It was pointed out that local residents were concerned about the considerable number of new buildings cropping up in the countryside. The minor roads were already sub-standard. A change in policies had facilitated increased building work.

With regard to Spring Cottage the CC agreed with Phil Murray's sentiments that the original planning specification had not been adhered to and as point of principle all developments should comply with the terms of the planning consent.

The CC had received a number of complaints about the property not meeting the approved terms - one such came from Kinneff Old Kirk Preservation Trust and another from Mr Beattie, both of whom were writing to the planners.

Cllr George Carr mentioned that the planners were trying to have the housing market boundary moved so that more residents would have to pay extra tax to City and Shire roads and transport funds.

Community Fund - St John's Wind Farm

Lord Nicol Stephen presented a brief history of St John's wind farm. The original application for the development was made by FM, a local company, which went into receivership before the farm was started. The administrators sold the enterprise to Scottish and Southern, which in turn sold it to the preferred bidder REV, which had done the necessary checks, e.g. titles of the land. Since time was running out, the new owners went ahead with the project, which should be completed in a few weeks' time. Their output would be 0.85 MW per turbine. Out of the income they would contribute the going rate, the same as Blue Energy for example, to a community fund. Lord Stephen would like to see the money go to community projects so that the community would benefit rather than the council.

The chair suggested that the contact person for the fund should be cllr George Carr.

Lord Stephen informed the CC that REV would be looking for 3-4 more turbines in theory in the future, higher ones if possible.

The CC agreed with John Carr's proposal that the following projects should benefit from the fund: Kinneff Old Kirk Preservation Trust, Kinneff Village Hall and Catterline landslip.

Cllr George Carr stated that transparency and fairness should be observed in the distribution of the money.

Correspondence

- Aberdeenshire Council – Proposed Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan
- Scottish and Southern Energy – Second Consultation Paper

Roads

To Aileen Swarbrick's concern that council workers were shovelling loose chipping in potholes instead of repairing them properly, Cllr Carr responded that road damage was considerable and the finances limited.

Billy Dargie's concern was that the developer of St John's Wind Farm should clear the stones off the road to Chapel of Barras.

Dunnottar Woods

Andrew Chedburn and Aileen Swarbrick attended the Woodlands committee meeting on 31 January. Clearing work at the area near Green Den was due to start in February. Large tree trunks would be left in situ, which would only rot and add debris to the already blocked culverts, which were a considerable cause for flooding.

A litter pick would take place in the Woods on 23 April.

Aileen Swarbrick expressed her interest in attending future DW meetings.

Any Other Business

Karen Hales asked members to register any interest in superfast broadband on <http://www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/where-and-when>.

It was noted that the MRI in Stonehaven was closing after having been badly hit in the storms around Christmas time. It would need half a million pounds to continue its operation.

It was not yet clear which farmer's trees had caused the blockage in Catterline burn.

John Carr reported that residents at Mill of Uras had been put into contact with Patrick Keogh of Blue Energy with a view to some funding for flood damages.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 26th March 2013