

Catterline, Kinneff & Dunnottar Community Council

Minutes for Monthly Public Meeting

Catterline School, 23rd February 2016

Attendees and Apologies

Present: Eeva-Kaisa Arter (secretary), Andrew Chedburn, Tim Crabb, Billy Dargie, Dave Evans, George Greiss, Peter Hales, Phil Murray (chair)
Attending: Debbie Murray, local resident; Councillors George Carr and Dave Stewart; PC Kennedy; Scott Begg of UCW Energy Ltd and Bruce Begg
Apologies: John Carr, Dave Ramsay, Linda Swan, Cllrs Raymond Christie and Graeme Clark

Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and the motion that they be approved was moved by Andrew Chedburn and seconded by Tim Crabb.

Police Report

- PC Kennedy confirmed that the crime rate had been low in the CKD area since the January meeting. He informed the CC that Phil Gormley was the new Chief Constable for Police Scotland.
- Dave Evans had reported a man trying to sell a generator from the back of his van in Catterline, which the police came to investigate.

Financial Matters

The treasurer was not present.

Community Funds

- Aileen Swarbrick has resigned from both KDP and the CC. Andrew Chedburn spoke of the sterling work Aileen had done as a community councillor and in particular how she had stepped in to represent the community council on KDP. It was decided to send her a letter of thanks.
- Scott Begg of UCW Energy Ltd briefed the CC about the company and presented its draft agreement on community benefit. UCW Energy had received preplanning application loan funding under the CARES scheme (Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme). According to the stipulations of this, the developer enters into a legally binding agreement with an appropriate community group, CKDCC in this case, and agrees to make annual payments to the group. The benefit is based on the obligation of £10000 per MW, £2250 to CKDCC, paid annually throughout the prescribed period.
- In the ensuing discussion it was decided that at a later date a CC member should be elected to administer the fund. In addition, the CC would invite people from outside onto the decision making committee with a view to distributing the fund for local purposes. Phil Murray and Peter Hales undertook to look through the draft contract before the next meeting.
- With regard to St John's Hill WFF, Phil Murray confirmed that he had received a draft agreement

on the SJHWF community fund from REV's lawyers. The document looked good (also to the developer) but certain matters needed clarification, inter alia, what would happen in the case of REV being sold on or the area partnership folding. Phil and Peter would go through the document again, seek clarification from the REV lawyers, and once clarification was received, would contact Kevin Adam of ACC before signing. Andrew Chedburn did not think ACC's interests were well looked after when there was some ACC/KDP opposition to scrutinising the document.

- Cllr George Carr suggested that perhaps KDP might ask the Council if the document could be legally scrutinised (by the Council). Phill Murray observed that if the Council were really committed to local democracy, they would help with checking the legal agreement. Cllr George Carr added that the Council had produced yet more guidelines for running windfarm funds, albeit belatedly. In addition, there was information on how funds are disbursed in the Scottish Government guidelines. To Dave Evans' query about whether there would be two panels when deciding on the distribution of the grants from the community fund, George Carr thought it would be a good idea to have two; one for ACC, the other for CKDCC. The matter needed to be discussed further though. Phil Murray saw the benefit in keeping the two community councils separate when the grants were decided.
- George Carr announced that as a goodwill gesture, Nicol Stephen had given £5000 each to Arbuthnott Village Hall and Kinneff Village Hall.
- There was a discussion about who would represent CKDCC in KDP, and George Greiss agreed to take it on.

Planning Applications

| Ref. | Date | Address | Proposal |
|--------------------------------|------------|--|--|
| APP/2016//0256 | 2016-02-16 | 2 Overton Kinneff Aberdeenshire DD10 OTQ | Erection of Dwellinghouse (Replacement), Change of House Type of Previously Approved APP/2011/1797 and APP/2014/3656 |

Matters Arising from Planning Applications

- The quarrying at Cotbank of Barras was being investigated by Council officials.
- Fiona Thomson had been asked by Piers Blaxter to contact Archie Gould about the fate of site M1 in Kinneff. She would inform the CC about any progress.
- There followed a discussion about the planning system. Peter Hales wondered if the system was fit for purpose and made the point that a new system took two and a half years to implement and during that time the general economic situation might well have changed dramatically. George Carr agreed that the time-scale had gone to the wall and that the old system was not fit for purpose, but the new one was an improvement. He also pointed out that there were strict rules about how the process was to advance, and at the final stage it had to be approved by the Scottish Government.
- Billy Dargie pointed out the stupidity in reducing the height of wind turbines, for example from 100m to 80m. In reality the shorter version would not make a visual difference to the landscape but the energy produced would drop dramatically.

Correspondence

- from Catherine Morrison of Kinneff School – Thank you letter for the Christmas tree
- from Aileen Swarbrick – letter of resignation
- from secretary CKDCC – stepping down from office 29.03.2016

Roads

- There were innumerable potholes in the area.
- Cllr George Carr urged locals to report road defects on the pothole line 03456 081205.
- Peter Hales expressed his concerns about the slip opposite the entry to the Creel Inn Catterline, and Billy Dargie about a hole opposite to the Rob Roy in Kinneff.

CBAG

- Tim Crabb reported that the brae on the northern side of Catterline harbour was still holding.
- Dave Evans informed the CC about the new coastal erosion officer, Liam Rochford's visit to Catterline harbour on 12.02.16, where measurements and photographs of the devastated sea defences were taken. Liam had not been aware of the line of gabions missing. Frances Carr provided more photos of the same spot during high tide on the same day, when it was visible how the high tide was washing away soil from the bottom of the brae, which coloured the water at the shoreline muddy brown. Liam Rochford would send his report to Council Officials.

Date of Next MeetingTuesday 29th March 2016