

Tap O Noth Community Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting at Clatt Village Hall

Monday 8th November 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Paul Manning (Chairman), George Beverly (Vice Chairman), Janice Smith (Secretary/Treasurer), Peter Johnston, David Grant, Tony Smith, Diane Ord, Sharon Stoneman, James Grant, Morven Muirden, Diane Mathieson (attended later)

In Attendance: N/A

Apologies: Vicky Briggs

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved: James Grant; Seconded: George Beverly.

Welcome to Jonathan Christie from the Cabrach Trust.

Jonathan Christie kindly attended the meeting. He joined the Trust seven months ago as Chief Executive and is hoping to engage with all the local communities in the area. He described some of the Trust's vision and explained that the Cabrach Distillery and Heritage Centre projects are progressing well. It is hoped that permanent skilled employment at the distillery and heritage centre will result.

Matters Arising:

Insurance

Further discussion regarding additional insurance cover for the Community Council. More information is needed before a decision can be made. Janice to contact another insurance provider and to look into the position of other Community Councils.

Finance

The Community Council bank account is now up and running. Aberdeenshire Council has transferred the funds across- £22,126.

The bank account will operate payments as before by cheque requiring 2 signatures from the office bearers. Should the occasion arise for any online transactions then this will be sanctioned by 2 office bearers or the whole council and duly recorded.

Tap O'Noth Community Council Website and Facebook/Social Media

Facebook/Social Media

It was noted that the Facebook site has not been removed although this should be happening shortly.

Tap O Noth Community Council Website

Brief discussion regarding costs, functionality and ownership of the website to be progressed with Vicky.

Football Pitch next to the Mosswood Area, Rhynie

Aberdeenshire Council plans to plant apple trees in this area. Rhynie School is keen to participate. Tony has made contact regarding the varieties of apple trees and how they will fare in the water logged environment. George and Paul will liaise with RCT about the project.

Rhynie Youth Club Startup

Sharon reported that there was a lot of interest in this both to attend and volunteer. There are 2 dates arranged at Fourteen, The Square, Rhynie- 12th November and 10th December and around 20-30 expected to attend (P4-S4). Snacks are being provided courtesy of Asda and a grant has already been awarded.

Dog attacks in Rhynie

No further reports.

Upkeep of Local Graveyards

Report back from Landscape Services of Aberdeenshire Council states that the maintenance of the graveyards has been reinstated back to its original standards.

Clatt Kirkyard Wall

Morven to provide photos and Janice to contact Aberdeenshire Council once these have been received.

Kennethmont Distillery Footpath Update

No further update.

Kennethmont School Benches

Paul, George, David and James to liaise and arrange positioning of the benches. Slabs to be purchased and will be paid for by the Community Council.

Village Noticeboards

Discussion regarding 4 possible new noticeboards for the villages. George will make contact with area Community Councillors and see if the existing noticeboards should be refurbished or if new ones are needed. Grants for this to be looked into.

Community Council Connectivity and Communication Pilot

Tony is in touch with Kirsty at Aberdeenshire Council. At this stage nothing concrete has been suggested, but he will keep in contact and pass on anything that may be of interest to the CC.

Rhynie Community Hall

No further report.

Gartly School Future Plans

No further update.

Kennethmont speed flashing lights

Reported as faulty and a site visit scheduled. The repair is to be included in the sign repair schedule. Janice is expecting to receive an email giving a more specific idea of when the repairs will take place.

Correspondence:

Police Report (noted)

Planning Applications:**Planning Application APP/2021/2259 Application under Section 42 for Formation of Quarry for Extraction and Processing of Hard Rock Including Formation of Bund and Access Without Compliance with Conditions 3 (Noise) and 8 (Blasting) of Planning Permission Reference APP/2018/2678**

Several emails have been received regarding concerns by residents about this planning application. The time for public comment has ended but after discussion it was decided to forward all emails to the Planning Department and Ward 14 Councillors for due consideration.

Individual Area Reports:

Clatt: Nothing to report

Kennethmont: Nothing to report

Rhynie: Several residents have asked if the church bells could be stopped from ringing during the night. George reported that this was not a possibility and that the bells had been ringing for 140 years in Rhynie.

Discarded syringes have been reported in areas of Rhynie. George to forward a phone number/email of who to contact at Aberdeenshire Council to arrange for safe disposal.

The hedge at 17, The Square, Rhynie (South Manse) is in need of trimming.

The provision of the Queen's Jubilee medals for school children in the area was discussed. The Community Council to supply funds. Kate Beverly to report back about this.

Gartly: The road between the Rhynie road and the bridge is in very poor repair. Paul to contact Angela Funk about this and hopefully reinstate regular meetings with the Roads Department.

AOCB:

Diane Mathieson tendered her resignation from the Community Council with immediate effect (duly noted)

Next Meeting
Monday 20th December 7.30pm
The Rannes Hall, Kennethmont.