

Minute of Meeting of Dufftown & District Community Council

Date: Monday 18th January 2021

Time: 7pm

Venue: Zoom meeting

Chair- Jim Nicol

Attendees- Joan Nicol, Angus Anderson, Sarah Anderson, Chris Mutter, Anne Mutter. Cllr Derek Ross, Cllr Louise Laing

Guests-John Wallace, Jessica Antas, Alison Hood.

Apologies-Zoe Bremner,

1. **Police Update** – Nothing has been reported in the community safety report. Local reports of youths causing problems within the grounds of Tininver House. This has been reported to police. Cllr Laing said that once current rules allow, police will be doing the rounds in a pod for people to report their worries on local issues. She also mentioned that the setting up of a local neighbourhood watch may help.
2. **Guest Speakers-** DDCC welcomed John Wallace, Jessica Antas and Alison Hood from Startcraft Craig Watch windfarm project. The proposed project is for 18 200ft high turbines across the Aberdeen/Moray border. The timeline for the project was laid out, with the most recent phase including the consultation of local residents. It was discussed that all locals would be receiving letters and that if we can help with getting information across that would be really helpful. It was decided that Facebook and the Speirins would be the best route for us to help and that they provide a link for comments so people can have their say. DDCC were asked for comments and feedback and we felt that if lessons were to be learned from past projects full transparency should be the way forward. It was discussed that the previous placement of higher pylons than proposed had been an issue. Environmental impact with respect to the local residents should be a high priority. It was brought up why this area has such a high number of windfarms compared to other areas. It appears our geography and accessibility lends itself to such projects.
3. **Minutes of last meeting-** The minutes were accepted as a true representation of the meeting. Proposed Joan, Second Anne.
4. **Matters Arising-**

Cabrach/Railway bridge problems-Following on from the answer about problems at both bridges recently. The DDCC did accept the answer that Moray Council can do little with the railway bridge other than an already declined traffic light system due to the geography of the area. The answer regarding the collision damage at the Cabrach bridge only being addressed if the culprit was found was not acceptable and we would request that this be addressed as a matter of urgency. Cllr Ross will pass this onto Moray council.

Fife Street Crossing- After complaints were received by Moray Council regarding parking over the Fife Street Crossing point, they requested changes be made in the form of a build out to match the other side. DDCC discussed the matter with some local residents and come up with a compromise solution. However our suggested compromise solution would not be an acceptable one and as such we have had to concede to agree to the safest option for the site. Although this will not acceptable to all it was felt that it has little impact on car parking (unless people park incorrectly as they are doing now) but provides the safest option for the community and visitors at the crossing point.

Tree Planting- DDCC plans to re-plant the lost trees at Masters Widd as part of the Countryfile project has been hampered by the recent landslide. This is in the process of being sorted but we have no news on when the road will reopen. Cllr Laing will find out if we are correct in thinking Moray Council own the land and if they will allow us to do this.

5. Correspondence

Comments requested if wished on both forestry creation in Glenrinnnes and the erection of a mast on the Cabrach.

An invite for a guest speaker from Edintore windfarm.

Jane Martin has sent correspondence for distribution and a reminder that the consult on community councils has to be in by 24th January.

Licence request for Glenlivet Hall.

6. Treasurers Report - Account balance is £2630.94 of which £329 is pending for the Ipad donation to the Stephen Hospital. We are also waiting to hear what type of protective case they require. A previous offer on funds for our safer crossing campaign will be received shortly.

7. Community Feedback –

Request for a copy of the written policy with regards to speed signs and crossings as well as an answer from Moray Council on the subject of a quotation is sought. Cllr Ross will chase this up.

Complaints of dog fouling in Dufftown. We will post on Facebook and at the notice board and get in touch with Moray Council regarding what else we may be able to do to help.

8. Reports – None

9. Planning Issues- None

10. The Joint Community Councils of Moray – NTR

11. AOCB- Pot Holes in both Conval Street and Braehead Terrace reported. Sarah will pass this onto Cllr Wilson as he requested to be kept up to date on this issue.

12. Date, time and venue of next meeting- Monday 8th Feb 7pm Zoom meeting.