

North Kincardine Rural Community Council

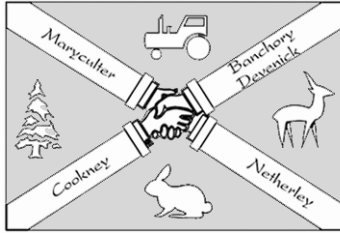
Secretary: Toby Lenehan, Millbank Lodge, Maryculter, Aberdeen, AB12 5FS
Tel: 01224 739843 email: secretary@nrcc.org.uk

AGENDA

**for the ordinary meeting to be held on Monday June 20th 2011 at 7.00pm in Maryculter
Community Hall**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the meeting of 16th May 2011
3. Matters Arising
 - Police Report
 - Rural Schools & South Deeside Under Fives
 - Website
 - Roads (incl. AWPR)
4. Planning
 - Recent planning applications
5. Finance & 300 Club
6. Correspondence & Licence Applications
7. AOCB

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Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on Monday May 16th 2011 at 7.30pm in Maryculter Community Hall

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Present:

Mike Birch (Acting Chairman)
Robin Baxter
Robert Keeler
Robin Winmill (Vice Chairman)
Susan Astell
Toby Lenehan (Secretary)
Avril Tulloch
Hazel Witte (Treasurer)
Cllr Paul Melling
Cllr Ian Mollison
Cllr Carl Nelson
Five members of the public

Representing:

Banchory-Devenick
Banchory-Devenick
Cookney / Netherley
Cookney / Netherley
Maryculter
Maryculter
Maryculter
Maryculter
Aberdeenshire Council
Aberdeenshire Council
Aberdeenshire Council

1 Apologies:

Bob McKinney, Philip Smart

2 Police Report

No police report was available this month.

3 Minutes of the Meeting of 18th April 2011

Some corrections were suggested and agreed and the minutes of the meeting of 18th April were proposed for approval by Hazel Witte, seconded by Robert Keeler and duly approved.

4 Rural Schools and South Deeside Under Fives

South Deeside Under Fives had received a grant of £6,900 from Awards for All bringing its cash balance to c. £7,000. The group had 45 children enrolled. The Rising Fives group needed extra members and had approximately ten places available and in general there was a noticeable shortage of children attending from the immediate area.

Lairhillock and Banchory-Devenick Primary Schools and the Maryculter Youth Café had nothing to report. It was asked whether SDUF and the Youth Café had been contacted about the planning gain money potentially available to them that was discussed in the April 2011 meeting. MB would contact BM to ensure SDUF had been contacted, AT would telephone Diane Brown at the Youth Café and TL would also email her.

5 Website

In response to previous requests, the webstats were being investigated and the home page picture of Tamworth piglets has been changed to a Lesser Butterfly orchid.

6 Roads

The C12K (Bridge of Muchalls) was closed for five days from Monday May 16th.

7 Planning

7.1 Recent Planning Applications

<i>W/C 29 April 2011</i> APP/2011/1272	15 Altries Wood, Maryculter, Aberdeen, AB12 5GH	Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse
<i>W/C 6 May 2011</i> APP/2011/1184	Hillocks Steading, Muchalls, Stonehaven	Conversion of steading to form dwellinghouse. Conversion of existing dwellinghouse to office and alterations to access
APP/2011/1413	Montsnaught Steading, Netherley, Stonehaven, AB39 3RB	Erection of detached garage
<i>W/C 13 May 2011</i> APP/2011/1364	Land to the west of Burnside of Newhall, Newtonhill, Stonehaven	Erection of dwellinghouse and formation of access
APP/2011/1248	Mill O Cragiecat, Netherley, Stonehaven, AB39 3QL	Erection of detached garage

Paul & Williamson solicitors acting for the Elsie Development Company had written to highlight a boundary change to that previously published for the Elsie development site. It appeared that the change was minor but RW would investigate.

A pre-development hearing on the application for a mixed use development including 70 houses adjacent to Lairhillock School was being held on Monday 23rd May. RW would give a 10 minute presentation of the Community Council's position and also speak on behalf of a number of individual objectors from the NKRCC area who could not represent themselves. The presentation would specify objections including breaches of local and national plans and planning policy; that the development would be a dormitory town; that it would be the first phase of a larger development. A number of individuals and other objector groups also planned to speak at the hearing and the objections were co-ordinated so that all would be heard without unnecessary repetition. TL questioned why Council time and Council Tax payers' money was being 'wasted' [his quote] holding a hearing into what was acknowledged as a significant departure from both the current and proposed local plans. The Councillors' view was that it was the democratic right of the applicant to be heard. Not satisfied, TL persisted with questioning why the Community Council had spent tens of hours considering and commenting on a local plan which was supposed to guide local development policy if an applicant could submit an application which significantly departed from it and still command the attention of the full Council. The role of the Director of Planning in allowing the application to proceed was discussed although opinion differed over whether he had any discretion to act. The application would be considered by the Area Committee on 7th June before going before the full Council with a recommendation from the planners for determination.

8 Finance & 300 Club

At 16th May 2011 NKRCC had a cash balance of £2267.62 including £490 earmarked for 300 Club prizes.

The May 300 Club draw was held. The winners were:

£25 #83
£15 #118
£10 #105
£5 #14

An application for financial assistance from Portlethen and District Voluntary Ambulance Service had been received. The service provided transport for elderly citizens to day-care with approximately half the service's area within NKRCC boundaries. NKRCC had provided a £200 grant three years ago. The service had annual running costs of c. £6,000 and needed a new vehicle at c. £15,000. RB suggested an inflationary increase to £250. The matter was debated and in view of the group's financial position and gap in financial support, a donation of £400 was eventually agreed.

Before the meeting Cllr Melling had contacted NKRCC to suggest that community councils with large cash balances may face cuts in their council grants. However between then and the meeting the Council had met and agreed CC administration grants for the next year with NKRCC's showing only a minor decrease to £475 and so the matter had largely resolved itself. HW reviewed Council provided administration grants against NKRCC administration costs and showed that over the previous 9 years administration costs had generally been similar to administration grants with NKRCC's cash surplus being due to unallocated 300 Club receipts. The annual Income and Expenditure Report will clearly differentiate between 300 Club and administration monies from now onwards.

9 Correspondence & Licence Applications

No licence applications had been received.

The following correspondence was read out or summarised:

NHS Grampian had introduced a new text based service as part of its Healthpoint service offering free and confidential information to anyone with a question about their health. Members of the public with a question about any aspect of their health could text 'info' to 82727 and a healthpoint advisor would call them back to discuss their problem in confidence. Healthpoint could also be contacted by telephone on 0500 20 20 30 or by email at healthpoint@nhs.net.

The next Community Council Forum would be held on 26th May at 7pm. RK and RW would attend plus either MB or BM.

The Army Presentation Team had invited NKRCC to attend its Army for Today presentation on 7th June aimed at promoting greater awareness and understanding of the British Army.

The Community Council get-together was on Thursday 19th May at 7.30pm in Muchalls Village Hall. Four NKRCC members would attend.

The Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland had sent its quarterly newsletter and notice of AGM on 28th May.

The Northern Community Justice Authority's quarterly newsletter was made available.

A letter from Maureen Watt, new SNP MSP for Aberdeen South and North Kincardine was read out. Ms Watt was introducing herself, requesting meeting minutes and agendas and hoping to attend NKRCC meetings in the future to hear local issues. TL had added her to the distribution list for the minutes and would reply to her letter. Members were asked to think what issues they would like to discuss with Ms Watt.

10 AOCB

HW noted that the Torquil McLeod's letter of 2 February noted that the caravan on Maryculter Organic Farm was to be removed within 2 months. The caravan was still on the site. TL to contact Mr McLeod to point this out.

HW thanked all those involved in the NKRCC plant sale which had raised a record £800.

MB updated those present on Banchory-Devenick residents' progress on adopting the telephone box at Banchory-Devenick crossroads. The residents would assume responsibility for the general maintenance of the box. It was suggested that it be used as a reading room, with residents placing magazines in for general sharing and consumption.

MB also raised an issue for a Banchory-Devenick resident. A wall adjacent to Banchory-Devenick crossroads had been demolished in a collision between a council truck and a car. The owner had rebuilt his wall but had received notice from the Council that it was creating an obstruction and should be removed. As the wall was the same height and in the same position as before the accident the resident wanted to raise this matter for the Councillors' attention.

A request from Lairhillock School to place posters in the noticeboards had been received. This led to a discussion about who held the keys for the various noticeboards in the area. George Masson held keys for Corbie Hall, Maryculter East and West, Bob McKinney and Willie Angus held keys for the Cookney Hall noticeboard and Ann Townsley and Banchory-Devenick School held keys for the Banchory-Devenick noticeboard.

MB noted that the next NKRCC ordinary meeting would be on Monday 20th June May at 7.00pm followed by the AGM at 7.30pm. NKRCC positions would become vacant in Maryculter and Banchory-Devenick and anyone wishing to apply for election should contact the Secretary for application forms. There being no other business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm.

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