

Dyke Landward Community Council

Draft Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 3 June 2015 at 7.30pm in Dyke Village Hall

1. Present

Carol Shaw (Chair) (CAS)
Steve Arkley (Treasurer) (SA)
Alistair Sutherland (Vice-Chair) (AS)
Arnold Boyle (AB)
Jane Foster (JF)
David Shaw (DS)
John Bonsall (JB)

In attendance

Christine MacLeod (Secretary) (CM), Cllr Anne Skene (The Moray Council) (Cllr AS),
Andrew Anderson (Kintessack Residents' Association) (AA), Wendy Davidson (WD).

2 Police Report

A report received from Angela McCarthy had been circulated to councillors. Between 6 and 30 May, there had been 7 incidents in the DLCC area, including 1 reported crime: a charge of drunk driving, dangerous driving and assault that occurred near to Darnaway. There was a brief discussion of the extent to which the police still regularly patrol this area. CAS: they drive through Dyke daily. AS: through Brodie occasionally. What about elsewhere? **Action:** **CM** will ask Angela McCarthy how often they patrol the whole area, in particular Conicavel and Darnaway.

3 Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of the meeting on 6 May were agreed as a correct record and signed off by the Chair.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

A96 at Brodie: CAS: Stephen Davis (Transport Scotland (TS)) had acknowledged her first email but not her second concerning the need for pedestrian crossing lights at Brodie and the danger of bin lorries and other HGVs reversing across the A96 into Burn Bank Lane. CllrAS: copy MP and MSP into future emails to TS. **Action:** CllrAS: will follow up if CAS forwards her these emails.

No action appeared to have been taken by TS, except the fast-food van had moved from the lay-by, and possibly some surveying of traffic. WD offered to provide evidence to TS of the immense problems that she and her son face in crossing A96 in a wheelchair, on condition it would not be used publicly. **Action:** SA will help WD record crossings on video. CllrAS will present letters to MP and MSP at meeting in Edinburgh on 13 June; CAS to draft.

Damage to verge at Conicavel:

AB and CM have emailed Tracey Rae (TR), and AB has been into TMC Roads Dept, which recorded his report of the damage, but no action yet taken. CllrAS: keep emailing TMC.

Action: AB will continue to email TMC.

5 Treasurer's Report

SA reported that the 2nd tranche of TMC's funding to DLCC had been received and the balance of DLCC's account stands at £1,419.57.

6 A96 Dualling Proposals

Several councillors and AA had attended TS exhibition on 12 May but found it too vague to be helpful. AA: 3 options still open; current 600 points of access will be reduced to 60; whichever route chosen, greatest impact will be on businesses along current A96 (SA: and farmers). AS: Brodie Castle and Darnaway both marked as 'no go' areas, so southern route more likely. Various other reasons given for avoiding northern route: flood defences, railway line, MoD pipeline to Lossiemouth, extended routes for school buses, damage to Kinloss Abbey site, greater environmental and ecological impact. AA: DLCC should invite a representative from consultants Jacobs UK Ltd to speak to a meeting; Kintessack RA would welcome a public meeting in Dyke village hall. **Action:** DS will draft and circulate feedback from this meeting (16 June deadline), and ask TS to keep DLCC informed of developments.

7 Correspondence

(a) 'Get Digital' flyer from Moray Library Service, advertising free digital courses. **Action:** display on noticeboards. JF will circulate around church and school.

(b) Historic Scotland building conservation seminars: noted.

(c) MHFA flyer: already on noticeboards.

(d) Dufftown Planning for Real: doubts were raised about its applicability to more rural areas such as DLCC.

8 Community Feedback none.

9 Reports (a) Local Councillors CllrAS gave apologies from the other 3 Moray councillors, who were all busy with other TMC events this evening. She too has full diary to end of June:

(a) interviewing for many deputy head posts, because of a backlog of empty permanent posts and expansion of nursery education;

(b) under Children's Act 2014, chairing the Corporate Parenting Board, concerned with the well-being of looked-after children (i.e. fostered, adopted or in care), upcoming Edinburgh conference will provide opportunities to compare best practice;

(c) Congratulations to Kinloss primary school, winners of this year's inter-school Library Quiz.

(d) Forres House has launched a new community cafe, open 6 days a week.

(e) Proposals by TMC Education committee (CllrAS chairs) to restructure the management and leadership of primary schools in Moray, from August 2016, have been

drawn up, to deal with the shortage of head teachers (25% due to retire in next 5 years) and to free up head teachers from classroom teaching to concentrate on improving their schools: primary schools with rolls under 150 will share a head teacher with a nearby school of similar size and have extra deputy-head posts; principal teacher posts will be reintroduced. It is proposed that Dyke and Logie schools will share a head teacher.

(f) Attending conference in Edinburgh tomorrow on how to bridge the growing attainment gap between affluent and less advantaged children; the Scottish government is very concerned with this, so the Sustainable Education Review may be back on table.

AS: whether the free accommodation scheme to attract new teachers to Moray is working?

CllrAS: yes, but it has only 10 places.

10 Planning Issues

DS: application to build 6 new houses at Dyke Nursery raised some concerns, of which an increased flooding risk was the most serious; also increased traffic at junction with Darklass Rd, and demand for places at Dyke school (currently 98% full). CllrAS: priority is given to Dyke village children entering in year 1, but rarely possible in subsequent years unless a spare place becomes available through somebody leaving. **Action: DS** will enter concerns (NB not objections) on TMC Planning website.

11 Joint Community Council of Moray (JCC)

CM: (see dykelandward@gmail.com) TR had replied to DLCC's proposal to meet on a more local basis, that there were constitutional and practical (e.g. Moray-wide training sessions) for the JCC's county-wide remit, but she was sympathetic to 'break-out time' for local CCs at JCC meetings, if other CCs agreed. SA: we could informally invite neighbouring CCs to attend DLCC meetings, and go along to theirs. **Action: CM** will reply to TR, asking her to propose 'break-out time' at next JCC meeting (August).

12 AOCB

JF: a local resident is complaining about the boulders on the roadside verge at Crowhall lane junction, at northern end of Dyke, as a hazard to vehicles and possibly illegal. DS: the greater problem is water running down lane onto the road at that point, which creates icy road conditions in winter and hence greater danger of skidding into the boulders, placed there to protect the verge. **Action: CM** will email TR to forward concerns to TMC Roads Dept.

AS: the orienteering world championship in early August will necessitate closures of roads, in particular around the Conicavel junction of A96 (details on website). **Action: CM** to ask Police Scotland to inform DLCC of any planned road closures, e.g. future cycle races.

JB: congratulations to Ellie Pearce of Darnaway, on her election to the Scottish Youth Parliament. CAS: we hope Ellie will report back to DLCC on SYP activities, in the autumn.

CAS: TMC is still not monitoring traffic through Dyke – it's important it happens during the school term.

13 Date and Time of Next Meeting of DLCC

Wednesday, 5 August 2015, at 7:30pm, in Dyke Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 9:15 pm.