

## NEWTONHILL, MUCHALLS and CAMMACHMORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The 383<sup>rd</sup> meeting was held in the Skateraw Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2025

1 – PRESENT – Mr Flockhart (Chair), Mrs Stephen, Mr Cruickshank, Mr Ewing, Mr Chew, Mr Morgan, Mr Torrance, Mr Jones, Punya Samarakoon, Mrs Davidson, Cllr Victor and one member of the public.

2 – APOLOGIES - Cllr Sullivan, Miss Daniels, Mr Armes, Mr Connolly

3 - POLICE REPORT – Written report submitted for April 2025 – Youth disorder 9; Anti-social 10; Thefts 3 under investigation; Shoplifting 2 detected; House breaking 1 under investigation; Careless driving 4 detected, 1 under investigation; Drink/drug driving 2 detected; Dangerous driving 1 detected.

### MUCHALLS

The Lomonds – Apparently access has been gained and considerable chaos caused. Police have had the front door and downstairs front windows boarded up but that doesn't appear to be how entry has been gained.

House at Burn of Pheppie - 3 windows in new house have been smashed.

Dumped car – 3 weeks ago 3 youths dumped a car in Walker Drive. Was reported to Aberdeenshire Council. Car still there but Council can do nothing until 28 days have passed.

Railway Viaduct at Burn of Pheppie - 3 youths were spotted playing on the viaduct, next night it was 9 and still continued. Access was gained by climbing up a ladder that is permanently fixed to one of the pillars and then access can be gained to a space under the rails. Transport Police have been informed. Network Rail have made alterations to access ladder which will hopefully stop youths gaining access to the viaduct.

Fire on the Moor – Wednesday night. Assumption is this was a deliberate act of fire raising. So far, no word of anyone being questioned on this.

### NEWTONHILL

Tyre slashing – At least 3 cars tyres slashed in Newtonhill. Reported to Police but no further updates.

Youths in Newtonhill on motorised bikes causing chaos in Newtonhill. A danger to themselves and other residents.

Also, problems being caused by a resident using a mobility scooter.

Email from a Newtonhill resident re anti-social behaviour.

Not in our Area, but 6 youths aged 13 and 14 have been reported to Youth Justice Management in connection with a fire on Portlethen Moss.

4 – MINUTE 382 – Accepted.

5 – MATTERS ARISING

(1) (5.3) Portlethen Men's Shed – They have been in having another look. Aberdeenshire Council needs further information, eg how much are they going to make.

6 – PLANNING – The Evidence Reports which go to the next LDP should have been submitted to the Scottish Government. Mr Morgan is checking to see if formal disputes have been forwarded for inclusion.

7 – CHAPELTON – Still no sign of Section 75 being signed.

Paul Macari is to be invited to attend a meeting in person to discuss the proposed new school and the Cookney Road. Perhaps June or August.

SCHOOL – Nothing wrong with Newtonhill School. Still has plenty space for more pupils. Quite safe to walk. Assumed children are accompanied by a suitable adult. New school could be pushed back until 2030. Primary and secondary schools could both be built on the same site.

Some children from Chapelton now attending Lairhillock School.

Plans are in hand to provide safer walking routes to schools so less transport is needed.

MEDICAL FACILITIES – Portlethen Health Centre will continue to deal with patients from Chapelton as development hasn't gone as quickly as expected. They have also employed extra staff so this should help. NHS Grampian and Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership working on setting out priorities for all primary care premises to be submitted to the Scottish Government by January 2026.

Mr Flockhart following up on lack of response from NHS Grampian.

COOKNEY ROAD - The road is extremely busy, especially with construction traffic using it for access to further development at Chapelton.

8 – ROADS and POTHOLE

- (1) The give way lines from Muchalls will be refreshed possibly in August when Amey carries out work on the A92 although this is actually Aberdeenshire Council's responsibility.
- (2) Lights at Muchalls northbound bus stop – Amey has laid a new cable so lights should now be ok.
- (3) Unplanned closures on the A92 – Susan Watt is proposing an online meeting lasting one hour between 10am and 12 noon on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Still waiting for

all to respond. Reps from Amey and Balfour Beatty, Police Scotland, Stagecoach and Roads and Mr Flockhart. No local Councillors invited.

(4) Pedestrian Walkway A90 and A92 bus service. – Aberdeenshire Council struggling to ascertain ownership. Neither Amey nor Aberdeenshire Council are responsible for upkeep. The Unpaid Workforce don't have the necessary equipment needed.

(5) There is to be no funding for resurfacing and surface dressing this year. Funding will go to potholes and patching. There are no North Kincardine projects in the top 100.

9 – FEATURE WALLS – Muchalls - Reps have a meeting with the engraver at the of the month to take this forward. It will take approx. six weeks. At the last MVA meeting it was decided to pay this out of Village funds.

I have been approached by a Cammachmore resident, on behalf of herself and several other residents, regarding feature wall. Where exactly will it be sited? What is the inscription to be? If it down beside what used to be the garage then it has nothing to do with the Causey Mounth.

If Mr Connolly cannot attend meetings, it would be appreciated if he could provide reports on progress.

Mr Jones has enquired re funding from TESCO for Cammachmore Stone. He will also approach some local businesses.

10 – FINANCIAL REPORT - £6,970. Donations of £95 and £50 received.

11 – TENNIS COURTS – Mr Morgan to contact NVA to see how they are progressing. Developer Obligations for Newtonhill sports facilities £47, 301.30.

12 – PLATINUM JUBILEE PATH – Mr Jones and eight others walked what may be called “The Doric Way” ie south of Aberdeen. The area south of Aberdeen has now been fully walked and progress is being made with landowners regarding some difficult areas. Organisers now have charity status and are in the process of setting up a bank account.

Kincardineshire Update Spring 2025 is now available.

At this point Mr Torrance pointed out the report on Laurencekirk to Aberdeen should be out on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

### 13 – CORRESPONDENCE

- (1) New suicide prevention campaign and website for Scotland
- (2) Employment support team
- (3) Article for the Newsey
- (4) Community Council Training - Renewables and Energy Consents - Planning Aid Scotland (PAS) Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 12.00 to 13.30 and- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025, 18.00 to 19.30 – online

- (5) Kincardine and Mearns Citizens Advice Bureau Good News Bulletin 2025 – [https://issuu.com/kam\\_cab/docs//kamcab\\_good\\_news\\_bulletin\\_april\\_2025](https://issuu.com/kam_cab/docs//kamcab_good_news_bulletin_april_2025)
- (6) Latest newsletter from Citizens Rights Project
- (7) Care of War Memorials
- (8) Energy training – Social Media Graphic
- (9) Severnside Defibrillator Familiarisation Session
- (10) ECS Hire Alignments
- (11) SEPA online information for communities on EPAS – 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2025, 7pm,
- (12) SSEN 2025 funding open – (1) Physical and environmental resilience, (2) To help fund the purchase of Low-Carbon Technologies.
- (13) 20mph in Aberdeenshire Towns and Villages - Launch of Public Consultation Periods and News Release. 20 MPH in Aberdeenshire Towns and Villages /Engage Aberdeenshire. Emails have been received from several Community Councils raising their concerns.
- (14) Aberdeenshire payphone removal proposals. None in our Area.

#### 14 - AOCB

- (1) Councillor Conduct – Councillor Burnett is moving south. Do we know where to? She is to remain as a Local Councillor until 2027. How can she carry out her duties if she is not resident in the Area? Mr Flockhart is to raise this with the local Conservative office.
- (2) Cerulean Winds – Aspen Offshore Wind pre-application and public consultation event – 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025, 2-8pm, the Hub Chapelton. 84 km off the coast of Peterhead. Construction and operation of up to 4 offshore transmission cables to the landfill location in the vicinity of Newtonhill. Up to 3 offshore substations on fixed foundations connected to the turbines via intra-array cables. Cables will possibly come onshore just north of Newtonhill. Would there be any financial compensation?
- (3) Public Right of Way in the vicinity of Newtonhill – Children accessing the beach via someone's garden. This was a problem a few years ago. Aberdeenshire Council trying to ascertain where Right of Way actually is.
- (4) Portlethen Pool will be closed 28<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May for maintenance
- (5) Newtonhill Festive Lights – Permission was not granted for Newtonhill to expand/maintain their annual display on Newtonhill Road. However, there will be a comprehensive review of the Festive Lighting Policy in October. Would communities be prepared to pay a fee towards the cost of electricity for festive lighting?
- (6) Grass verges – It would appear the Council weed killed the edges of the green spaces in Muchalls. Looks awful.

- (7) KDP AGM will be held in the Dickson Hall Laurencekirk at 7pm on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025. KDP is looking for Trustees,
- (8) Liam Kerr presented a 1600 signature petition for the reopening of Newtonhill and Cove stations to the Scottish Government.
- (9) Community Partnership – A support group has been growing and supplying plants to communities in South Kincardineshire. Could this be done for North Kincardineshire? Cllr Victor to forward details to Mr Torrance.
- (10) Aboyne Academy has set up a safe space for girls to meet and chat. Could this be done at Portlethen Academy? Approaches will have to be made to the Parents Committee and Robertsons.
- (11) The Council will next week debate the closing of care homes, etc.
- (12) 20 different areas in Aberdeenshire have been notified as suffering from coastal erosion. Cllr Victor to query why Newtonhill is not included.
- (13) Volunteers are being trained to work in Newtonhill Library. Report that Newtonhill is to be transferred out of Live Life Aberdeen. Cllr Victor to make enquiries.
- (14) The white line at Elsie Place/St Crispin's Road needs repainted. Has been reported but Mr Flockhart will report again.
- (15) Mr Torrance will pass on all his information re underpass to Cllr Victor.

The AGM will be held in Skateraw Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025. The 384<sup>th</sup> meeting will follow immediately after the AGM.