

## Udny Community Council Meeting

24<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Venue – The Medan Centre, Pitmedden

### **Present:**

Gina Noble – Chair, Sue Hebenton – Vice Chair, Matt Kaye – Treasurer, Gary Bruce, Vikki Jannetta, Cllr Andrew Hassan, Derek Ritchie (online).

### **Non UCC Visitors:**

### **Apologies**

George Duncan, Phil Coventry, Cllr Paul Johnston, Cllr Jenny Nicoll.

MINUTES	ACTION	DUE/STATUS
<p><b><u>Approval of previous minutes:</u></b> Approved by: MK. Seconded by: GB.</p> <p><b><u>Apologies:</u></b> As above.</p> <p><b><u>Office Bearers roles and Co-option of member.</u></b> GN stepping down as chair, SH has come forward for position of new chair. Vote unanimous, as per our constitution SH now chairs the meeting. For the purposes of this meeting GN will continue to take minutes.</p> <p>Vote for PC to be co-opted on as a member of UCC – Unanimous. PC is now a co-opted member of UCC.</p> <p><b><u>Non UCC visitors:</u></b> As Above.</p> <p><b><u>Police Report:</u></b> None in attendance</p>		

**Treasurers Report:**

Current bank balance: £2,138 and no transactions since Dec. Of this amount, £775 is reserved for the amenity grant, £32 for the Resilience fund and £648 for Udney Green Park equipment. £250 honorarium - £200 to GN for secretary work done to date, £50 put in reserve for other spending – unanimously approved.

We need to discuss ways of getting the £648 reserved for Udney Green Park equipment spent as this is constantly being eroded by inflation whilst it sits in the bank. Match funding could be available to boost this pot for the park project. It was suggested we contact the Udney Green Hall committee to see if they would be interested in pulling a group of residents together for a team to move this forward, with the support of UCC.

MK to email PC re: contact with hall committee.

Discussion around the next amenities grant:

The £775 grant needs spending and a report of this spending in by March 2024.

- set amount split as an honorarium between Bob and Carole and the rest offered to them for planting projects in the two villages?
- Put to the community via FB for ideas?
- Local youth group do a litter pick?
- Possibly give to other local groups for community projects.

GB to put a post on FB asking the community for input on ideas.

**Declaration of members' interest:**

None.

**Urgent Business:**

None

**UCA Update:**

None currently due to Christmas break.

**UCTC Update:**

We are working on our 2024 Strategy Plan. Business Energy Scotland are in the process of doing a free energy audit, looking at how we can improve the energy efficiency of the

MK

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GB

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building. Our regular groups and activities will start up in February, keep an eye on Facebook and website for dates, times, and information. Grant fund first deadline is Monday 26 Feb for large grants and Monday 18 March for small grants, to be considered at the Board Meeting 27 March.

**URG Report:**

Non currently, PC unable to attend.

Brief discussion regarding slight change of spending for remainder of UCTC grant, as per emails from PC.

- Receipts for Radios and PPE already purchased needed.
- Accurate quote from storage facility needed – though it was discussed if it was essential that the generators be stored separately when we have free storage for both.

MK to email UCTC with accurate insurance costs and request a six-month extension on the deadline for spending.

MK

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**Planning:**

Nothing reported.

**Matters Arising:**

Developer obligations.

Nothing at present.

Planning (removal of developer obligations relating to Meldrum Academy).

It was confirmed GN has put in an objection. UCC are yet to receive a response on this matter – On going.

Donated compost.

Information shared with local schools etc – Complete, remove from Agenda.

GN

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Defib user instructions.

MK talked through progress. Ray Still has provided a de-fib monthly check list.

Pitmedden defib is now reinstalled. Andrew Wilson kindly fitted it free of charge, thank you.

<p>There was discussion around whether UCC should be reminding the community of the location of the De-fibs.</p> <p><u>Claymore Homes.</u> No update – Still not heard back from our last communication with Claymore.</p> <p><u>Udny Green Parking poster project.</u> Not heard back from planning.</p> <p><u>Meeting - Scottish National trust, re: future of the South Manes property – Feedback (GN).</u> This meeting was re-scheduled due to the organiser being unwell. New date and time booked in. MK will represent UCC and feedback following the meeting.</p> <p><u>Pitmedden Christmas lights, feedback and moving forward.</u> GN talked through update. Thank you to MK who took on the communications surround the project. Also, thanks to Brian (Chair – UCTC) who stepped in to support when comms stalled. Finally massive thanks to Paul Monahan of PTM who stepped in last minute to ensure appropriate paperwork was in place and the installation of the lights carried out.</p> <p>There was discussion over whether UCC should hand this project over to UCTC. GN read out email from our area office stating this is possible if UCC vote to do this and UCTC have all the appropriate insurance in place etc. However, this is a project that could be joint with UCTC. A collaboration? Further discussion needed.</p> <p>All present agreed it would be nice if the switching on of the Pitmedden lights could be co-ordinated with the UCT Christmas fayre – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024.</p> <p>MK to contact Paul Monahan and thank him for last years support, then enquire if he can offer his services this year.</p> <p><u>Bronie Bridge and Cairnseat repairs.</u> Repaired – Remove from agenda.</p>	<p>MK</p> <p>MK</p> <p>GN</p>	<p>Meeting - 31.01.24 Feedback- 21.01.24</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>
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<p><u>Speeding buses.</u> This should be speeding buses and Bus stop – change on agenda.</p> <p>It was reported a resident had been waiting at the bus stop opposite the Medan centre when the bus drove past and stopped further away. When the resident got to the bus, he was informed by the bus driver that the buses no longer stop at that bus stop.</p>	GN	ASAP
<p>Andrew Hassan to make enquiries.</p> <p><u>New Building at the Whisky Hammer – Update.</u> The original planning (2019) for this building was approved for ‘A Community Shed’. A 2023 update to the planning requested various alterations to the building but did not request a change to the 2019 planning for the buildings use. As this is the case it is unsure why the building is not being used as a Community Shed.</p>	AH	ASAP
<p>Cllr Andrew Hassan offered to make enquires and feed back to UCC.</p> <p><b><u>New Items:</u></b> <u>UCC Logo.</u> On Going.</p>	AH	ASAP
<p><u>Quarry building.</u> As above, 13k. – remove from Agenda.</p>	GN	ASAP
<p><u>Tidying up the website Mug shots.</u> On Going.</p>		
<p><u>Media – FB and website. Raising profile of UCC</u> Share local stories of ‘Community Champions’ on FB? All thought this was a great idea.</p> <p>On Going.</p>		
<p><u>Fund raising projects for UCC.</u> MK suggested there is no benefit in the UCC account holding large fund reserves unless we can protect them from inflationary loses. However, it was agreed some additional funds would be beneficial. Fund raising also raises the profile of UCC in the community. On going.</p>		

Discuss volunteers funding options (PC).

The funding option raised by PC was discussed. On Going.

Path between Hawthorn gardens and the Green (Message from local resident) – GN.

GN read out message received from a resident on the Hawthorn estate in Udney Green, relating to the state of a section of the path running between Hawthorn gardens and the Green.

Cllrs Andrew Hassan and Derek Ritchie will investigate this and feed back to UCC.

Condition of road - UC26C North Balnakettle – B999 Or west town North to B999 at Tillycorthie – GB.

GB read out the information he had been given by residents: The road has been progressively getting worse especially over the last 5 years, some maintenance was last done around 2018/19.

Before Christmas 2023 a resident measured over 40 potholes on the road which are at least 50cm wide and most were over 10cm deep.

The residents have been reporting the condition of the road to the council on a regular basis, with pothole reports on the Aberdeenshire council website which go back to November 2022 that are still active. Residents on the road have also noticed that pothole reported on the webpage are being taken off even though no apparent work has been carried out. This has happened on numerous reports from different residents on the road.

There is also flooding occurring on the road in two places which is not only making the road condition worse; breaking up the tar etc, but it is also blocking residents from getting to their property with some residents not able to access their houses at all meaning they must leave their cars at a neighbour's property and walk around 400m across a field to get home.

The road runs between Udney parish and Newmachar parish, the residents have brought up the problem with councillors from both parishes, but nothing has happened. Although the road is not classed as a priority road the impact it is having on business and resident's lives is high.

One of the flood areas has been made worse by the landowner removing the bank to their field allowing the water to run on to the road quicker. The landowner has

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<p>suggested the culvert under the road has collapsed and is unserviceable.</p> <p>Cllr Andrew Hassan advised he was dealing with this in December 2023 after being contacted by a local resident. He has not yet had a response from the enquiries he made, so will now chase this up and feed back to UCC.</p> <p>GB to email map details to MK. MK to forward this information to Cllr Derek Ritchie with the flood areas highlighted.</p> <p><u>Trees on council property – SH</u> SH talked through the two trees she feels are an issue. Both trees (one self-seeded) sit on council property. One of the trees has the potential to undermine the wall it is very close to. If this happens the wall poses a risk of collapsing into the burn, exacerbating an already problematic situation (flooding). The leaves of both trees cause issues when they fall and clog up the burn. The leaves also fall all over the pavement which then causes a slip hazard for anyone walking along that stretch of the pavement.</p> <p>Cllr Andrew Hassan offered to investigate this and feed back to UCC.</p> <p><u>Imagine Udny, UCC/UCTC collaborative review – Discuss.</u> UCC members present agreed this would be a good project and happy to get involved. It was seen as another good chance to work collaboratively with UCTC.</p> <p><b><u>Notable Items sent by email:</u></b> None.</p> <p><b><u>Points for discussion at next meeting:</u></b> GN mentioned a message that was received from Jeannie Price re: UCC update for the Pitmedden News. Deadline for this is February 9<sup>th</sup>, which is before the next UCC meeting.</p> <p>VJ to create a short update, email it to all members for approval, then send to Jeannie for publication in the Pitmedden News before the Feb deadline.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meeting Closed 10pm</b> <b>Next Meeting – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024.</b></p>	<p>AH</p> <p>GB</p> <p>AH</p> <p>VJ</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>Before Feb deadline.</p>
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