

Udny Community Council Meeting

21 February 2024

Venue – The Medan Centre, Pitmedden

**Present:**

Sue Hebenton – Chair, Matt Kaye – Treasurer, Gary Bruce, Vikki Jannetta (Minutes), Cllr Paul Johnston, Cllr Jenny Nicoll, Cllr Andrew Hassen

**Non UCC Visitors:**

Alexina Clark

**Apologies**

George Duncan, Phil Coventry

MINUTES	ACTION
<p><b>1. <u>Approval of previous minutes</u></b> Approved by: MK. Seconded by: GB.</p>	
<p><b>2. <u>Apologies</u></b> As above.</p>	
<p><b>3. <u>Non UCC Visitors</u></b> As Above.</p>	
<p><b>4. <u>Police Report</u></b> None in attendance</p>	
<p><b>5. <u>Treasurers Report</u></b> Current bank account balance: £1,538. Recent expenditure - Honorariums. Non committed funds remaining: £483.</p>	
<p>Amenities grant £375 to be spent in March. UCC agreed £250 to be donated to Formartine Youth Group in return for doing a community litter pick on 23 March. Young people who attend the Youth Café will do the litter pick. UCC agreed £125 from the amenities grant to be gifted to Udny Green to support Carol Oram for the upkeep of the plants and planters in Udny Green Village.</p>	MK
<p>£648 is also available and had been previously reserved for Udny Green. MK approached the hall committee who suggested the money is donated towards the maintaining of the plants and planters within the Udny Green village. It was suggested that the money could be used to purchase a water bowser for Udny Green, the approximate cost is £500. UCC</p>	MK

members were happy with this suggestion and agreed the £648 go towards improving the out-door space in Udney Green including purchasing a water bowser.

The UCC can apply for another amenities grant £775. Everyone think about how the money can be spent, criteria is:

- Improvements to towns and villages to benefit of all
- Assist communities in maintaining their appearance
- support ongoing initiatives not one-off capital projects.
- Encourage team working
- On going maintenance work
- Offer honorarium to dedicated individual in village
- Materials for workers and volunteers

Grant application to be submitted by June.

Do a poster, share on Facebook, ask community / local community groups for ideas, perhaps they have a community project in mind.

Future expenditure will include honorarium payment to a new Secretary.

**6. Declaration of members' interest**

MK re: Little Woodlands application.

Cllr Johnston re: Trustee Village Hall and member of Social Juice.

**7. Urgent Business**

None. Urgent Business to be moved to point 4 on the Agenda going forward.

**8. Udney Climate Action Update**

UCA are engaging with Climate Week North East 2024, 15<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> March, 10 days of events focussing on climate change. UCA are hosting 15/03 Create from Waste – Kids Reuse Competition and 23/03, 1pm - 'Plant and Check Trees' meet in Pitmedden car park. UCA are also involved in running the next Swap Shop on 24/03. UCA are investigating the possibility of doing a community project 'Home Retrofit'.

**9. UCTC Update**

Our regular groups and activities have all started up, see 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. Works have started on the new accessible ramp and works to remove trees from the property (due to H&S) should commence w/c 26/02.

**10. URG Report (PC)**

PC unable to attend and provided an update to SH.

Organising commission switches. Looking for a date to suit volunteers – NMEC will train.

All

MK

VJ/GB

PC

First draft of 2024 Must Wins issued to subgroup awaiting feedback. Must Wins details the aims of the URG:

- Education and awareness
- Funding
- Partnerships
- Operations

Cllr Johnson expressed an interest to join the URG sub group.

More Volunteers to be recruited.

Grant claim has been submitted to UCTC. Remaining balance £1300 to be spent on group awareness. Quote received for fridge magnets to highlight key messages and URG details.

Re: Employee Grant application, Matt could not gain access, request for log in details. Matt to follow up.

MK

Next meeting to discuss and endorse 'Must Wins' - everyone to provide feedback for next meeting.

All

### **11. Planning**

Received on 7 Feb planning permission APP/2024/0172 for erection of 3 houses at little woodlands. Previous application had been submitted for 4 houses UCC submitted an objection re: water supply, drainage and bad flooding in area. Local objections were also lodged previously. This new application has reduced the number of houses from 4 to 3 and states the water supply will come from the mains water supply. Flooding and surface drainage remains a concern.

UCC agreed that we wish to submit an objection unless there has been a flooding impact assessment done. GB to progress.

GB

### **12. Matters Arising**

#### **a. Developer Obligations**

Consulted UCA on their thoughts awaiting feedback.

GB

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

Developer must make a contribution to mitigate the new development, but does not want to make payment. GN had submitted an objection on behalf of the UCC. UCC are yet to receive a response on this matter – On going.

#### **c. Defib user instructions**

New cabinet and battery installed by Andrew Wilson in Pitmedden – thank you. Defib is back up and running and is available.

MK

Ray Still has provided a de-fib monthly check list.

d. Claymore Homes.

No update – Still not heard back from our last communication with Claymore.

e. Udny Green Parking poster project.

Not heard back from planning.

f. Meeting - Scottish National trust, re: future of the South Manes property – Feedback

Brian McDougall from UCT and MK from UCC met with NTS. NTS are interested in developing the farmhouse at South Manes and would like community feedback. It was agreed that Imagine Udny would be a good starting point.

Cllr Johnson advised that the green space beside the Dr surgery is preserved for village hall. Good to see local opinion through Imagine Udny.

Feedback to UCT that the farmhouse and the green space beside the Dr Surgery to be potentially included in Imagine Udny. Remove item from next Agenda.

VJ

g. Pitmedden Christmas lights, feedback and moving forward.

MK thanked Paul of PTM who stepped in last minute to ensure appropriate paperwork was in place and the installation of the lights carried out. Paul is interested in keeping involved and there are lots of other keen Volunteers.

Discussion regarding insurance and UCC involvement. It was felt it was good to have UCC involvement, will help raise profile and keep UCC in people's mind. Going forward it could be a collaborative effort between UCC, UCT, PTM and other Volunteers. VJ advised that the lights could potentially be PAT Tested through FES.

Questions still needing addressed re: lights storage, insurance, sponsorship / money, PAT testing. Risk Assessment and Method Statement need submitted prior to putting up lights.

Next step GB to see Paul and Wilma Fraser.

GB

h. Speeding Buses / Bus Stops

Temporary re-location of Church bus stop – UCC sent feedback to local Councillors, not recommending the relocation of the bus stop to outside Pitmedden Hall. Temporary decision has been made by the council who concluded it was more practical to provide a temporary bus stop 35m south of the current bus stop, intention to reinstate bus stop back in current position (at the Church) when complete. Members queried this temporary decision, questioning whether there indeed needed to be a temporary bus stop erected, given the close proximity of the temporary bus stop and the next existing bus stop (located at the Tennis Courts).

A discussion also took place regarding parking on the main road outside the hall and within the village car park beside the park.

<p>i. <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. The community have been asking about the building and what it is getting used for, especially since the planning was granted for a ‘Community Shed’ VJ speak to building owner. Investigate if this ‘Community Shed’ could be something that is also considered as part of the review of Imagine Udney.</p>	VJ
<p><b>13. <u>New Items</u></b></p>	
<p>a. <u>UCC Logo</u> On Going.</p>	All
<p>b. <u>Tidying up the website Mug shots</u> On Going. Everyone to send mug shots to MK.</p>	All
<p>c. <u>Media – FB and website. Raising profile of UCC</u> VJ submitted entry to the Pitmedden News. VJ made up a UCC poster and shared on Facebook. Website MK to see Gayle Henderson, UCC currently have 2 domain names, only need udney.org.uk. GB continue to share information via facebook and share local stories of ‘Community Champions’ on FB.</p>	MK GB
<p>d. <u>Fund raising projects for UCC</u> VJ raised the possibility of hosting a car boot sale. PAT could be approached to do joint fundraising using the car park beside the hall. It was suggested that an alternative could be to use the Doctor Surgery car park on a Sunday.</p>	
<p>e. <u>Discuss volunteers funding options (PC)</u> PC was not present to discuss. On Going.</p>	PC
<p>f. <u>Path between Hawthorn gardens and the Green (Message from local resident)</u> Cllr Johnson and Cllr Hassen clarified that the path is owned jointly by the nearby house owners and is not adopted by the council, it is therefore not the council’s responsibility to maintain the path. Take off next Agenda.</p>	
<p>g. <u>Condition of road - UC26C North Balnakettle – B999 Or west town North to B999 at Tillycorthie</u> Road is now patched up and drainage has also been addressed, this was actioned very quickly by Aberdeenshire Council. UCC thanked Aberdeenshire Council. Take off next Agenda.</p>	
<p>h. <u>Trees on council property</u> SH advised issue with two trees. 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</p>	

anyone walking along that stretch of the pavement. Cllr Hassan offered to investigate this and feed back to UCC. Cllr Hassan to chase up, still awaiting reply.

AH

i. Imagine Udney, UCC/UCTC collaborative review – Discuss.

Imagine Udney – Student to potentially take forward.

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.

UCT are working with Aberdeen University with the hope of appointing a student to take on the review Imagine Udney. A Job Description, Person Specification and Impact Assessment have been completed so far.

**14. Notable Items sent by email**

None.

**15. Points for discussion at next meeting**

a. Secretary

UCC need to appoint a Secretary. VJ has approached a local person who is interested in the position and will come along to the March meeting to meet UCC members and find out some more details regarding the position. VJ clarified that she had explained the position encompasses 2 roles, one is taking the minutes and also monitoring the secretary inbox and ensuring emails are sent for action.

b. Aberdeenshire Budget Engagement 24/25

VJ queried if community councils should have input? VJ also queried how Aberdeenshire Council communicates with local community councils on this matter as nothing has previously come through the UCC relating to budget engagement for 24/25. Cllr Johnston advised there was an opportunity to respond to a survey from Aberdeenshire Council via the council website.

**Meeting Closed 9.50pm**

**Next Meeting – Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024.**