

# UDNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

**Meeting Minute of:** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023. 7:30 pm.

**Location:** Quarry Room, The Medan Centre. Pitmedden. *Minute by: Colin Duncan*

**Community Council Member Attendees:**

Matt Kaye (Treasurer/Temporary Chair)

Colin Duncan (Secretary)

George Duncan.

Phil Coventry

Sue Hebenton

Gary D. Bruce

Mike MacDonald

Claire Woodward

Regina Noble-Hesdon

**Aberdeenshire Council Members:**

Cllr Andrew Hassan

**Member of Public:**

**Minute:** Matt Kaye proposed by Colin Duncan and seconded by George Duncan as Chair for this meeting due to resignation of Chairperson officer.

1. **Non UCC Visitors:** Vikki Jannetta and Tracy Gibb (Udny Community Trust Co) Planned attendees from Udny Green and Pitmedden Primary Schools unable to attend. To be re-scheduled.
2. **Police Report** - Nothing of significance noted in Ward 8 report.  
*Police Scotland contact email address for our area*  
[Midformartinecpt@scotland.police.uk](mailto:Midformartinecpt@scotland.police.uk) (or call 101)
3. **Apologies:** . Cllr Derek Ritchie; Cllr Jenny Nichol
4. **Approval of previous minutes:** Proposed by George Duncan seconded by Matt Kaye.
5. **Declaration of Members' Interest;** None presented.
6. **New Items....**
  - **Co-opt of Sue Hebenton:** Due to resignation of Chairperson, as per Constitution a position as Co-Opted member with voting rights became available. Co-opt of Sue Hebenton was Proposed by Colin Duncan and seconded by Matt Kaye.
  - **Speed Watch Update:** Claire had attended a Formartine wide online meeting to find out Community Speed Watch. A Formartine wide approach in rolling this out was preferred by the group. Materials have been provided in order to recruit volunteers within the Udny Community Council area.

- **Pedestrian crossing – Old Meldrum Road** - Further discussion confirming that issues regarding Old Meldrum Road pedestrian safety expands to areas west of the village boundary where the public footpath and recognised crossing point location to the Castle grounds presents high risk due to nonexistence of any Traffic signage indicating Pedestrian crossing. *Action: Survey of residents proposed to gauge the level of residents concerns and specific locations / cause.*
  
- **Microsoft TEAMS**: Current Teams App (Free Classic) being scheduled to retire as of 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Free App replacement has limitations as to record retention and permitted meeting duration (one hour max). Teams Essential being the best option as fit for UCC needs. Fees are associated defining 'USER' fee of £3.00p + VAT per month. Microsoft information remains unclear as to the definition of 'USER'. Should this be for each participant then the costs shall be prohibitive. *Actions: Clarification on the definition of USER, Regina & Matt shall follow this up. Should costs be unavoidable make enquiry as to the potential for Aberdeenshire Council to extend their 'license' to include Community Councils. Cllr Andrew Hassan indicated he would make enquiries. CRITICAL matter is that retiral of Free Classic on 12<sup>th</sup> April presents a level of urgency is reaching solution! The alternative new free version of Teams is a feasible option but would require file storage elsewhere, such as OneDrive, and possibly 3 invite links per meeting.*
  
- **Liability Insurance**: Insurance confirmed for 2023 - 2024. Udney Resilience Group activities require validation with insurer as to cover provision for their specific functions. This in progress by Mike MacDonald. Indication that a few specific activities have been submitted by their underwriters for consideration and validation. In progress.
  
- **Interim officer positions – Chair & Secretary**: Nominations were invited for both posts. Two nominations for Chairperson were received from, Mike MacDonald and Claire Woodward. Zero nominations for Secretary position. Due to this members were advised that the Secretary role should not be measured against that of the retiring secretary.

A summary sheet of Secretary duties by week, month, quarter and annually was distributed to members.

In consideration of the Secretary Agenda and minute requirements our member Regina Hesdon-Noble intimated she would be prepared to assume this activity in support of the Secretary, also indicating a willingness to assist in other 'clerical' activities for the council.

Considering the benefit of support, Claire Woodward, a nominee for Chairperson, intimated that with this support she would nominate herself for the Secretary position. This proposal was then put to the members to determine objection or acceptance. As no objection's tabled Claire Woodward was confirmed as Interim Secretary.

This being so the remaining nomination for Chair position, Mike MacDonald was then put to the members to determine objection or acceptance. As no objection's tabled Mike MacDonald was duly confirmed as Interim Chairperson.

The Position of Vice Chair being proposed for consideration. After brief discussion as to duties etc. Mike MacDonald proposed that Regina Hesdon-Noble for Vice Chair position. Proposal put to members, with no objections tabled therefore Regina Hesdon-Noble duly confirmed as Vice -Chair. *Action: retiring secretary to inform Area Office of change.*

Matt Kaye intimated that he shall take on the IT aspects of presenting the meetings and management of the website which shall direct these tasks away from Chair / Secretary activities.

## **7. Items discussed at Previous meeting. -**

- **Udny Resilience Group**: Report summary (further details may be found on Udny Resilience Group facebook). Confirmation of funding award which shall enable the purchase of a second Mobile generator. - Storage for URG equipment has been partially provided By Charles Black of North Mains Farm. Storage for Sand and Sand bags has been provided through a discounted procurement. Induction and training schedule in progress for the 52 volunteers.

Also seeking local business sponsorship which shall provision ongoing annual costs of maintenance etc. URG advised that iPad and speaker, kindly provided by Aberdeenshire Council, shall be available on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.

- **West Coullie Croft**: Flooding issues: Members were advised of ongoing issues of surface water runoff directed onto the access road creating serious risk for road users. Seasonal sub-zero temperatures have created an extremely hazardous situation for those adjoining the road. *It is understood that the Council have performed an Inspection of the runoff source area.* To date any report or action taken has not been available to the local community.
- As the conditions have shown no improvement it has been agreed that the UCC Chairperson shall make verbal contact with the land owner to establish an understanding of the overall situation. *Action: Mike MacDonald shall speak with Landowner and report back to the CC.*

**Note received prior to this meeting:**

*"I can advise that this will be added to our Confirm Asset Management system as a service request.*

*This will trigger an inspection and may result in a Section 99 notice being served on the landowner under the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984.*

*Your details will be added as a contact so as it progresses you will then receive updates from the system.*

*Regards, Phil Leiper I.Eng FIHE"*

- **Improvements to the Amenity of Towns and Villages for the benefit of all - 2022/23 Funding** :- Procurement of Bench pending bank details confirmation to allow transfer of fund to respective party procuring item on our behalf. Procurement through the third party provides benefit related to tax implications. *Actions: Matt Kaye*
- **UCC Domain Name**: UDN.Y.ONLINE, Meeting with DEV4 and Matt plus Colin, seeking suitable date. *Action: Agree date and meeting format (In person / Virtual)*
- **Bus stop relocation**: Brief summary of proposal revisited resulting in no change regarding issues both for and against. Consensus reached in that this matter should be presented to

the residents combined with the Survey of residents proposed to gauge the level of residents' concerns and specific locations / cause in a multiple mail drop covering both matters. *Action: Survey format template to be created and reviewed prior to presenting or printing. Colin Duncan to prepare survey Doc'*

1

- **Developer Obligations:** Details of acceptable Dev' Obl' projects available along with Imagine Udney outcome reports in our TEAMS Library. Discussions regarding what is valid or not led to brief consideration of what may be desired. It was suggested that a revisit to the Imagine Udney outcomes would be desirable, engaging the community with mind to refresh the Outcomes which may lead to potential projects suitable for Dev' Obl'. **REQUIRES COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER ACTIVE GROUPS... Who - When - What !!!**

**8. Planning Applications:** Appeal submitted re APP/2021/0546, Beauty hill JKR Quarry. Scot Gov acknowledged appeal doc on 26/Jan 23. Pending reporter decision. No change recorded as at 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**9. Notable Items sent by e-mail:**

- **SEPA 2023 Opinion Survey:** Copied out to all members 3/3/23.

**10. Finance report:**

Treasurer advised all receipts and expenditures accounted for. Amenity of Towns and Villages funding reserved awaiting purchase of bench and Pitmedden Litter Pick. Accounts in good order. Details should they be required are available from Treasurer.

**11. Udney Community Trust Update:** The Medan Centre,

Open 6 days a week. Introducing Baby and Toddler group for Mondays.

Opening from 9am through 7pm on Wednesdays being considered

Walking Group events remain well attended. ??? on Tuesday.

Advised of Co-oP community Grants, suggested that grant sum being £2000.

**12. Climate Action Report (represented by Gary Bruce):**

Climate Week North East due to commence last week of March. Further details of activity can be found on the following links. [www.facebook.com/UdnyClimateAction](https://www.facebook.com/UdnyClimateAction) or [HTTP://Climateaction.udny.org\\_](http://Climateaction.udny.org_)

**13. AOCB. . (Including any Udny settlement / trust updates, issues.)**

- Community Council Secretary, Colin Duncan, confirmed his intention to stand down as secretary and member of the UCC effective as of the April meeting (April 19<sup>th</sup> 2023), Agenda for April meeting shall be provided. In the interim period I shall be available to share knowledge with newly appointed officers.
- Query regard outstanding fees due to Dr Spencer Hall, Udny Green. Phil Coventry shall contact previous Chair, Paul Bailey to confirm situation.
- Turbine output had been significantly less than expected for month of February although income of £80,000 was achieved.

**Next meeting shall be Wednesday April 19<sup>th</sup> 2023; commencing at 7:30 am.**  
**Location: The Medan Centre. Quarry Room.**