

# UDNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

**Meeting Minute of:** 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

Location: TEAMS Virtual meeting

Minute by: Colin Duncan

## **Community Council Member Attendees:**

George Duncan

Matt Kaye (Treasurer)

Colin Duncan (Secretary)

Gary Bruce

Claire Woodward

Paul Bailey (Chair)

## **Aberdeenshire Council Members:**

Cllr Sheila Powell

Cllr James Gifford

Cllr Andrew Hassan

Cllr Paul Johnston

## **Minute:**

### **1. Non UCC visit Lucy Anderson, Rachel Walker. Subject for discussion. Road Traffic Speed, Pitmedden .**

Meeting was opened with presentation of residents' concerns regarding traffic road speeds.

Areas of concern – issues covering a broad area, with mention of apparent excessive traffic speed around a. approach to Pitmedden Zebra crossing, b. approach into the village from Old Meldrum Road (B9000), c. traffic entering Old Meldrum Road from B999 close by local Nursery entrance, d. area extending to the north of the village with excessive speeds in both directions, e. entrance and exit at the southern end of Pitmedden.

Particular concern was expressed regarding southbound traffic on the approach to national speed limit and beyond on the approach to B9000/Milldale junction.

The footpath running adjacent to this section is of an open structure; due to the commonly experienced 'rapid' acceleration of vehicles heading south, (often occurring well in advance of the National Speed Limit Sign), presents cause for concern of potential serious accident.

The path is regularly used by Mothers and child / children; dog walkers, local residents moving between settlements; as such the increased risk of unintentional intrusion onto the carriageway would likely result in significant injury. It is believed that this stretch of road has become known locally as 'the suicide path'.

It was alarming to hear that some mothers are terrified when walking their children up and back from the Nursery, school etc. due to poor driving habit and simply the high speed of traffic along this stretch.

A suggestion was made that a dividing fence be constructed between the footpath and the grassed verge providing the security in that inadvertent entry to the carriageway be prevented.

A further suggestion was the creation of traffic calming features such as - build-outs, chicanes, islands or similar.

A brief explanation regarding the restrictions in traffic calming measures applicable to the B999 was then shared. Content being: as B999 is seen as a Strategic carriageway, as per Aberdeenshire Roads Policy, the application of such-as - 20MPH restriction; Speed Bumps; Raised Tables were prohibited. A request for 'Buffer Zones' at the approach from the south has not yet been formally addressed. Previous requests for a drop in the speed limit extending from the B9000 intersection at Milldale, extending through to the Village boundary with 30mph restriction commencing at village boundary. To date all requests have been denied.

A suggestion that community 'Speed Warning Signs' be created and positioned at strategic locations. Rotation schedule of the signage planned to prevent 'familiarity Blindness'. It was confirmed that there would be no official issues with the posting of such signage.

It was agreed that Lucy Anderson, Rachel Walker and Claire Woodward shall promote the speeding concerns with their local contacts and social media with mind to creating a working group seeking solution and co-operation in addressing the long-standing matter of Traffic Speed / Calming at Pitmedden village. UCC shall support this group and offer assistance as required.

**Secretary shall make a request for copies of latest Road Traffic Surveys related to Pitmedden and Udney Green.**

2. **Police Report** – Report of Ward 8. Link: [Police Scotland Formartine Ward Reports – Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership \(ouraberdeenshire.org.uk\)](#). It was noted that LOCAL SURGERIES had been conducted in Tarves and Pitmedden on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 by Stacy Morrison | Constable A0283 | Police Scotland. UCC member who attended indicated that it was a worthwhile exercise allowing face to face contact with our local officers.
3. **Apologies:**. Full attendance.
4. **Approval of previous minutes:** Proposed by Matt Kaye, seconded by Paul Bailey.
5. **Declaration of Members' Interest;** None declared.
6. **New Items....**
  - **Queens Platinum Jubilee.** Attendees were reminded of the current webpage set up with information on how communities can get involved in the Jubilee Celebrations. Community groups can register their events on following link. . [Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 - Aberdeenshire Council.](#) **UCC advised they had no plans to organise an event to mark this occasion.**

- **20MPH zoning /speed restrictions** – Update required re Aberdeen / Aberdeenshire assessment of current areas trialling 20mph / 40mph zoning. e.g. Borders Council. **Discussion deferred pending outcome of current activity within Aberdeenshire Council.**
- **PLANNING DELEGATIONS REPORT-** Document outlining proposed changes resulting from a formal review of current practice shared with members. FAC executed their first review of the proposal on the 18<sup>th</sup> January. FAC report shall be reviewed along with all other Aberdeenshire responses in due course. **Subject document under review can be found by entering below.**

<https://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/FunctionsPage.aspx?dsid=110017&action=GetFileFromDB>

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

- **UCC Membership:** Social media postings have not as yet resulted in any note of interest. 'Mail Drop' option remains as a viable action. Enquiries re Printer and costs had not been actioned at this time. **Secretary to progress prior to February meeting.**
- **Village In Bloom:** UCTC has offered a solution to the ongoing Village floral display cost management which shall enable the continuation of the displays. UCC indicated an interest to remain engaged for the foreseeable future.
- **Village Christmas Trees:** This past Christmas had a single Christmas Tree located at the Pitmedden Church. The tree was donated by Russel Grant to whom we express our sincere thanks. As no permanent solution has been found as yet the need to establish a program whereby suitable Christmas trees may be available annually. A suggestion that a 'Plant Your Own' scheme may provide a solution. This shall require a joint effort of co-operation between all village active groups. **Secretary to contact all active village groups seeking input / possible solutions.**
- **Rainnieshill / JKR Quarry Application:** Please note that application APP/2021/0546 received further statements from Johnson Poole and Bloomer on behalf of JKR. 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021. Both statements can be found in the Comments section of the application. To our knowledge the matter of determining the classification of the application is still in progress.
- **Road speed:-** Topic covered within the opening discussion. **Note: Subject to be retained on future Agenda.**

- **Dog Mess:** No discussion at this meeting regarding future potential for turning dog waste into something useful, ie. Compost and ultimately powering lighting. Acknowledged any such project would require multiple organisation support, finance and ongoing management. Potential for Aberdeenshire Council to consider / engage in such a project to be considered. **Subject to be 'Parked' pending opportunity to progress in a formal manner.**
- **Improvement Service regarding a potential project for CC's -** connectivity and communication with your community. Members agreed that the 'strand 2' would be worth pursuing. **Nothing further to report at 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

## 8. Planning Applications

To be discussed at meeting	Site Address	
<b>APP/2021/2372</b>	Steading At Woodlands Farmhouse Udny Ellon	<b>6 dwelling houses</b>
<b>APP/2021/2856</b>	Little Woodlands	4 dwellings

- **Weekly Planning List update:** (George Duncan)  
UCC objection to APP/2021/2372 acknowledged followed with a 'Response to UCC Objection' letter submitted by David Murray Associates. Application pending delegation to FAC.  
APP/2021/2856 ... Little Woodlands. Proposed application does not appear to present any issue due to the proposed size of the development which shall replace the number of derelict buildings currently on the site. **Local residents shall be advised of the application by UCC member.**

## 9. Notable Items sent by e-mail.

**Notified of Retirement:** Carol Crawford, PA to Elaine Brown Formartine Area Manager will sadly be leaving us at the end of this month (January 2022) due to retirement. Carol has worked for the council for over 27 years. May we thank Carol for all her support over the years and wish Carol a long and happy retirement.

**Invitation: herbaceous perennial project:** Aberdeenshire Council's Greenspace Project is looking to support more planting of herbaceous perennials in place of annual bedding. This could be in tubs, beds, containers, baskets, etc. They are looking for groups that are interested in seeing this change too, and for plans that can be implemented in 2022. UCTC has been in dialogue with Bob Bamlett regarding the

project. Udney Green has noted an interest in upgrading the local planting as such the project has been copied onto Udney Green.

10. **Finance report:** (Treasurer) Our thanks to UCTC for a donation of £500 which shall enable the UCC to fulfil the committed sums for current year.
11. **Climate Action Report (represented by Gary Bruce):** UCA Web site Updates and archived data can be found on <https://climate.action.udny.org/welcome>. We encourage all to access and view activities.
12. **AOCB. . (Including any Udney settlement / trust updates, issues.)**
  - **Aberdeen Roads Policy copied to all UCC members:** Aberdeenshire Council are currently inviting views on 4 roads-related draft policies on the following subjects:
    1. Street Naming and Numbering
    2. Signing of Tourist Facilities and Attractions
    3. Enforcement of Roads and Traffic Authority Powers
    4. Electric Vehicle ChargingThe draft Street Naming and Numbering Policy may be of particular interest to Community Councils however you are very welcome to comment on any or all of them.

Copies of the draft policies and accompanying manuals can be downloaded from <https://engage.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/roads-policy> and details of how to submit a response also available from the webpage. Any responses should be submitted no later than Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> February.
  - **Concerns over three ‘off lead’ Rottweilers** being let free to enter restricted / private areas within Tillycorthie castle grounds. It is believed that the owner has been approached and resolution found.
  - **Udney Green have a need to replace a number of planters** in preparation for the local planting. It was agreed that the UCC shall award the £100 Formartine in Bloom grant to Udney Green to assist in the purchase.
  - **On the 19<sup>th</sup> January a Post on the local Facebook** carried the image **of a brown coloured discharge** accompanied by an unpleasant odour from the drainpipe located at the bridge over the Bronnie below Udney Green. This matter has been reported to SEPA and Scottish Water for investigation.

The advice to all who come across such situations, they should contact SEPA and Scottish Water as soon as possible. As in this case when an inspection was carried out by a member of the UCC the following day the discharge was back to normal clear flow.

- Query from a local resident regarding Litter / Dog Poo pick while out and about in the village possibly impacting UCC arranged litter pick. Confirmation that the UCC arrangement for Litter pick was established as a twice a year event. Any local picks would not impact this schedule but would benefit the broader community. Should there be interest in formalising a local 'Pick Team' please contact. [colinuccsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:colinuccsecretary@gmail.com)

- The next meeting shall be on Wednesday 16th February 2022 at 7.30pm. *Agenda shall be posted in UDNY.ONLINE in advance.* As always meeting open to the public.