

## Udny Community Council Meeting

19<sup>th</sup> April 2023

Venue – The Medan Centre, Pitmedden

### **Present:**

Mike MacDonald - Interim Chair, Claire Woodward- Interim Secretary, Matt Kaye – Treasurer, Gina Noble – Interim Vice Chair (Scribe), Phil Coventry, George Duncan, Sue Heberton, Councillor Andrew Hassan, Councillor Paul Johnson.

### **Non UCC Visitors:**

Vikki Jannetta – UCT, Tracy Gibb – UCT, Mid Formartine Community Police Officer.

### **Apologies**

Gary Bruce, Councillor Ritchie, Emma Gibb (Head Teacher Udny Primary).

MINUTES	ACTION	DUE/STATUS
<p>MM opened, welcomed everyone to the meeting, and went through agenda.</p> <p>Note from Cllr Johnson, he hoped to attend but may be late.</p> <p><b><u>Non UCC visitors:</u></b></p> <p>Emma Gibb – Udny Primary school, and Lyn McGibbon: Pitmedden Primary School did not attend. No note for apologies.</p> <p><b><u>Police Report:</u></b></p> <p>Nothing in report for this area at present. However, there was an update on the 4 cardboard police plaques (related to speeding), which were placed across the Formartine area. Unfortunately, they did not even last 24hrs, before all 4 were vandalised and sections stolen.</p> <p>They came in two halves, and all were chained to lampposts. The cost for them (public money) was £320</p>		

each! All four were vandalised and are unusable. Police managed to recover one of the cardboard cut outs, and three young men have been charged. The three who have been charged are all over 16, so they will go to court. The hope is either full replacement costs are rewarded, or at least repair costs.

MM asked about speed watch. CW talked through what this is.

MF-CPO mentioned in the past, members of the public involved in these schemes have become special constables, so they are warranted.

Cllr Hassan mentioned school involvement in these schemes, and school children being involved. This makes them more aware of the situation and process.

**Apologies:**

See above.

**Approval of previous minutes:**

Approved – Matt Kaye

**Declaration of members' interest:**

PC – New planning for Primrose Cottage, Udney Green.

**New Items:**

**Microsoft Teams:** 12<sup>th</sup> April the old version was replaced. However, if you upgrade to 'Essentials', everyone at the meeting would have to upgrade as well. If they don't, then the UCC files on the system would be inaccessible to them. Guests cannot access these files, but members can. If we stick with the free version the files will have to go onto a new drive, and when the meeting time slot ends (approx. 1 hour), then it can be re-started within a few minutes.

UCC can join other events with current link, or as guests.

PC pointed out he doesn't have access to the UCC files via teams. MK suggested he is possibly coming onto the system as a guest. PC pointed out he has been a member for 7

<p>months now so shouldn't be a guest. MK checked the system and PC is logged as a member, so should have full access to the files. Not sure why he can't access. PC asked SH if she has access to the files? SH indicated she hasn't yet. PC suggested this matter should be re-visited so all members aware of and can access the files. MK requested we get the teams issues sorted first, then after the AGM come back and re-visit/sort. All agreed to this.</p>	<p>GN – Put on agenda for after AGM. MK deliver training for all UCC members re: files and systems.</p>	<p>On going.</p>
<p><b>Claymore Homes:</b> 20<sup>th</sup> April 2.30pm till 7.30pm, consultation at the Meadon Centre, Pitmedden. This information will be put on FB.</p>	<p>CW</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p>CW pointed out the first lot of information sent out by Claymore Homes offered little tangible information and was confusing. No dates were given for the consultation etc. Mr Jordon Walker (a local resident) sent a great response, and CW was able to use and adapt this to request an extension to the consultation period. This was granted.</p>		
<p>The proposed community Hall information was not on the original information pack sent out. However, this has now been added.</p>		
<p>MM talked through a few points which differed from information sent out by Claymore. It is concerning that the information sent out by Claymore is confusing and unclear.</p>		
<p>MM has been approached by a member of the public who said 'Saddlers Rise' area is a concern for children on their way to school in the morning. It is felt the proposed plans for this area could cause a hazard.</p>		
<p>Mark Bowie's business (CMB Autos) could be adversely affected.</p>		
<p>PC enquired what our (UCC) representation is for the consultation meeting. MM and CW confirmed they will both be there. CW advised she will be attended both meetings.</p>	<p>MM &amp; CW</p>	<p>20/04/23</p>
<p>SH stressed the importance of clarity on the point of the community hall offered in Claymore Homes plans. It is important to ensure an adequate community Hall is</p>		

planned and provided. It must be fit for purpose for the community. The information now being provided does not give clear guidance of what will be provided. Hoping to get this information during the consultation.

UCT has a hall community meeting with David Murry next Thursday (27/04/23) to discuss.

CW enquired if any comments could go in at the stage of 'pre-planning', before planning permission is granted? Cllr Hassan confirmed any comments would be noted and brought up when the planning application goes before the council planning office.

TG (UCT) suggested the meeting of the 27<sup>th</sup> could we/should we pull together a working group? It was agreed an action group should be pulled together. Anyone interested is to email CW directly. TG will liaise with UCT to gain interest, and then communicate with CW to pull group together.

An enquiry was made as to whether Cllr Hassan could be part of the working group. However, he advised that unfortunately he cannot. This is to ensure he remains impartial and can have an active involvement with planning applications.

**Items carried over from previous agenda:**

**West Coullie Croft, flooding update:** The Udney resilience Group have given the homeowners 25 sandbags to help when flooding starts again. MM has had no contact with the landowner of the farm where excess water is coming off their fields. He did speak with the owners of West Coullie Croft who advised MM they have had contact with the landowner (Phillip Simmers, of W R Simmers Ltd, Keith) but he is unwilling to do anything to help. He apparently intimidated he has plenty of money for legal battles, so take him to court! It was felt further contact by UCC would be futile.

It was advised a Section 99 Notice could be issued on the landowner.

Cllr Hassan will contact Philip Leaper and enquire if he could join our next meeting online. This would enable us to

CW/TG

On Going

AH

<p>discuss the flooding issue further and gain professional advice on what can be done.</p> <p>PC happy to contact SEPA and raise an enquiry regarding the water issue. As excess field water is running off the fields and flowing directly into road drains, this has the potential of pesticides etc getting into public water systems.</p> <p>CW will draft a letter to Philip Simmers, advising him we (UCC) have received several concerning reports from local community members, and we (UCC) are now contacting the relevant departments to seek advice regarding the issues raised.</p> <p><b><u>Improvements to Amenity of Towns and Villages for the benefit of all – 2022/2023 funding:</u></b></p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Daviot-Oldmeldrum Explorer Scouts did a great job picking up litter throughout Pitmedden village in late March. Donation of £250 paid over. Bench - £585 excl VAT – Aberdeenshire council have agreed to purchase the bench and present it to UCC net of VAT to allow our grant to go further are buying bench, then we (UCC) will purchase it off them. This will enable us to avoid the VAT and makes funds go further.</p> <p><b><u>Liability Insurance:</u></b></p> <p>URG went back to Zurich insurance, and they are covered under the current policy. There is a need to cover equipment and vehicles. Information has been gathered and once valuations are given, the council will pay.</p> <p>MM has been chatting with Zurich insurance and will now copy CW in so she can deal with all insurance needs/paperwork.</p> <p>PC confirmed all equipment and vehicles will be serviced regularly.</p> <p><b><u>UCC Domain Name:</u></b></p> <p>Currently pay to be hosted.</p> <p>Udny.org.uk Udny.org – Can have.</p>	<p>PC</p> <p>CW</p> <p>MM/CW</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>On Going</p>
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<p>What do we do about the domain name? MK gave clarification of how you buy a domain name and host it.</p> <p>MK needs to speak with CD (previous secretary) and CW regarding website, prior to contact Gail Henderson.</p> <p>For Udney.org – Already have a site with hosting.</p> <p>It was suggested we keep udney.org.uk to prevent any confusion.</p> <p>MK is going to contact Gail Henderson to discuss what can be done, then come back to us with all the costings for both versions so we can compare and discuss. Once all information shared, we can choose which option is best for UCC.</p> <p>CW suggested all UCC members have login details shared so we can all add things as needed. MM requested this be a priority to support CW in her new role as interim secretary.</p> <p>PC confirmed he will manage anything regrading URG.</p>	<p>MK/CW</p>	<p>On going.</p>
<p><b><u>Bus Stop Relocation:</u></b></p> <p>A possible leaflet drop was discussed at the last meeting – needs moving forward. MM to find out what the community wants on this one.</p>	<p>MM</p>	<p>On Going</p>
<p>8<sup>th</sup> May – The Big Help Out – Could leaflets be handed out then? CW to speak with UCT to action this.</p> <p>Cllr Johnston suggested posters could be put up at the local bus stops.</p>	<p>CW</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p><b><u>Pedestrian Crossing – Old Meldrum Road:</u></b></p> <p>CW describe a near miss with a car she and her child experienced whilst walking home from school a couple of weeks ago. MM has also been approached by two members of the local community who have also mentioned the need for pelican crossings. This issue needs to be a priority.</p> <p>This can be raised at the event on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May.</p>		

The suggestion of a three-way crossing is in the Imagine Udney Action Plan.

**Developer Obligations:**

CW is going through all the paperwork and getting on top of this.

**Speed Watch Update:**

Covered in Police Report.

Any way to get pedestrian crossing signs up? Should roads department be contacted? CW will email and start the request.

**Udney Resilience Group Update:**

See attachment report from PC.

Awaiting delivery of next generator. This should happen in the next couple of weeks.

PC advised URG have received new terms and conditions for a previously approved grant from UCT. PC advised they had already signed the original T&C's, and had not been advised as to why they were receiving revised T&C's, so he wanted to confirm there are no issues? No notable reason was given for UCT issuing revised T&C's.

PC talked through URG plans and protocols regarding payments etc. MK agreed with these protocols.

URG hoping to be at the event on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May as well.

PC has been talking with Scottish water and Scottish Flood Forum. Ensuring they work with all groups to ensure good working relations.

**Planning Applications:**

CW is communicating with GD. No real change in the situation yet.

CW

On Going

CW

ASAP

**Notable Items sent by email:**

Colin Duncan is forwarding all information to CW. She is getting into it all but please bear with her whilst she gets used to the systems and volume of information coming in.

Re: upcoming AGM – SH and PC are currently co-opted members. They need to put themselves forward to be voted on as full members at the AGM.

Nominations open: 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Nominations close: 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023

**Help Shape the Future:**

We will re-visit this.

**Local Place Plans:**

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of May – CW will be attending the forum. CW suggested it would be useful if other members of UCC attended, so we as a group have more information to discuss.

Cllr Johnson confirmed it would be in everyone’s interest to have good representation there.

**Finance Report:**

Please see attached report from MK.

CW and GN to discuss secretary and scribe role moving forward.

**Udny Community Trust Update (presented by Vikki Jannetta):**

**UDNY CLIMATE ACTION Update**

Swap Shop took place Sunday 2 April, we had 200 attendees, lots of swapping great success. Next Swap Sunday 4 June.

UCA event end March 27 attendees, now compiling an environmental community action plan.

CW &GN

ASAP



Kids Reuse Competition Create from Waste huge success, about 50 entries. Planning same competition for next year.

Tree Planting took place within the village end March.

**Udny Community Trust Update**

The Big Help Out - 8 May, 11 Groups confirmed and Councillors and local MP Richard Thomson

Monthly Guided Walk will commence 2nd Wed each month.

Babies & Toddlers weekly Monday alternating between mornings and afternoons.

Open Doors weekly 2pm Tuesday.

Udny Community Shelf weekly on Saturday 9:30 – 1:30pm.

Conversation Café resume in June first Wednesday each month.

Grant Applications deadline large grants 19 May, small grants 16 June. Grants will be discussed at the Board Meeting on 28 June.

Bike Event hoping to host in June.

Summer Fayre - Sat 1 July

Christmas Fayre - Sat 25 Nov

Extended Café Opening 10 May - 14 June

Café also open for Swap Shops on a Sunday every 2<sup>nd</sup> month.

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

GB not in attendance.

Please see above for update.

**AOCB:**

- CW – Invite email received regrading The Big Help out. A5 flyer suggested. Photos etc regarding the group. Promotional information. Perhaps a logo? CW will let GN know exactly what information is needed and GN will then gather the information and pass to PC, PC will then create the A5 flyer.

The possibility of a logo being developed was discussed. It would be good for UCC to have something that makes us more identifiable. It was mentioned that there had been ideas previously

CW/GN & PC

ASAP

<p>created and will be in the secretary information sent to CW.</p> <p>CW will find and send the previous logo ideas to PC; PC will then approach a graphic designer contact he has whom created the URG logo.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leaving doo to be postponed (possibly over the summer), to give more chance of convenient date for all.</li></ul> <p><b>Meeting Closed 9.42pm</b></p> <p><b>Next Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> of May 2023.</b></p>	<p>CW &amp; PC</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
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