

UDNY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting held on the 18th May 2017 in Udney Green Primary School.

- Present:** Garth Entwistle, Jim Mooney, George Bruce, Rob Henderson, Paul Bailey, Audrey Mooney & Brian McDougall.
- Also Present:** Cllr P Johnston, Cllr J Gifford, Cllr K Adam, N Wilson, L McInnes, C Christie & C Shand (part time).
- Apologies:** Cllr A Hassan, Peter McAllister, George Duncan, Matt Kaye & Police Scotland.
- Chair:** Garth Entwistle
- Minutes:** The minutes from the April 2017 meeting were discussed and the validity of the para in “Other Items” regarding Fleeman Park was questioned? After discussion it was agreed that reference to the Police has been misinterpreted and therefore this reference would be removed. It was also agreed that although the nuisance of noisy off road vehicles was discussed it was accepted that the actual incident took place more than two years ago and subsequently resolved. Subject to these changes the minutes were approved by Garth Entwistle and seconded by Paul Bailey.
- Fleeman Park** The meeting was informed that some of the residents of Fleeman Park thought that the wording of a note in the April minutes was very overstated especially with the use of terms such as “anti-social behaviour” and “vandalism” and were very concerned that these comments were in the public domain. It was explained that these were the terms used at the meeting and minutes should not get into the public domain until after they are approved at a subsequent meeting but unfortunately on this occasion they had been published by a third party. (Secretary's note – these minutes have been taken off the third party website). The meeting was reminded that the draft minutes did state that these were not major issues but needed resolution. It became obvious to the meeting that there were different opinions from the residents of Fleeman Park and a discussion ensued regarding the type of damage which has been identified and of various ways of stopping any further problems. It was suggested that the best way forward was for all the residents of Fleeman Park to get together to have a meeting to discuss the issues and resolve their difficulties and Garth Entwistle offered to chair this meeting if required.
- Scottish Police Report** Apologies were received from Police Scotland as they were unable to get someone along to the meeting but asked that any police queries be directed to Sgt Henderson at the Ellon office. Cllr's Gifford and Johnston commented that police presence at community council meetings was an issue for most community councils and they will be raising this problem at a meeting scheduled for the 20th June.
- Declaration of Interest** No members of the meeting declared a personal interest in any of the items being discussed.
- Road Safety Issues** Once again the issue of HGVs travelling though the small roads in and around Udney Green was brought to the attention of the meeting. In the main these are “C” class roads which are not wide enough to support this type of traffic. It appears that the problem is currently being exasperated by the increased activities in the construction of the AWPR. The meeting agreed that this was undesirable but had no powers to stop any vehicles using these roads but the Cllrs agreed to take this issue up with the roads dept. It was also noted that a count of HGVs passing Pitmedden School has been undertaken by the parents committee and they have recorded 29 vehicles in an hour. It was also stated that in the main, these vehicles were not speeding but this size of vehicle passing by the narrow pavements and footpaths are very intimidating.
- Udney Community Survey and Action Plan** As discussed at the last meeting, community council members working with Udney Community Trust, Formartine Partnership and the Community planning officer are using a system called “Place Standard” to hold a community consultation. This survey was launched and closed on the 1st May. The next stage was to analyse the

data and set up public meetings under the banner “Udny 2017 Our Priorities” to discuss and refine our new set of priorities. These events have now been scheduled for Wednesday 24th May at Pitmedden Hall and Friday 26th May at the Dr Spence hall in Udny Green. Both events will run from 11am until 7pm and people are invited to drop in at any time. All community councillors were encouraged to attend and support these meetings so that they can discuss the findings with the community and get a better idea of what priorities we need to set.

**Udny Green
Memorial Hall**

Garth updated the meeting by saying that the hall steering group were progressing the new legal structure for the hall committee. The aim is to become a SCIO with the ability to appoint a management board and this process should take about 6 months. Since the hall was opened it has been managed and maintained by a Management Committee formed by local residents. The Management Committee and all the current Trustees feel it is now desirable the hall’s Trustees, essentially its Management Committee, are now appointed in an open and clear way by members of the charity at the hall’s annual AGM. This is as required by the hall’s proposed new constitution which establishes the hall through OSCR, the charity regulator, as a SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation), as advised by Aberdeenshire Voluntary Action (AVA). To help progress these activities an article has been placed in the next issue of the Pitmedden News fully explaining the situation. In addition to this the committee want to progress its desire to develop the hall as a hub especially for health and wellbeing activities. They have spoken with adjacent community councils and it has been suggested that a group be formed with two members of each CC so that they can start identifying evidence of need.

Cllr Gifford added that he is now involved in the “Robb’s Trust” which may have funds that will be beneficial to the hall’s improvement work. It will be in the form of a regular annual income and will be distributed between different groups.

Paths Group

No new information this month.

**Community
Turbine**

Garth informed the meeting that the turbine continued to perform as expected and the reason why we report on the turbine is that this was a project initiated by the community council and progressed by a small group of people.

Community Trust

Brian explained that the community trust are currently engaged on the creation of the community survey as previously mentioned and this demanding task has taken up a lot of staff time. They have also been trained to set up and lead Health Walks which take place on a Tuesday mornings in Pitmedden which encourages people to take gentle exercise.

Pitmedden Park

Work is continuing on building the case for providing a new skate park within Pitmedden Park and quotes have been received which helps the preparation of a grant application to Sports Scotland. (This is likely to be in excess of £100k) In addition work is progressing well with the provision of containers which will provide changing facilities and an application for a building warrant is being compiled. The next main task is to fully set up the amenity trust which will look after both the hall and the park.

**Community
Council website**

Rob told the meeting that he was progressing well with the creation of the new community council website. One of the pages will be showing the members of the community council and it was agreed that we should all supply a photo (head and shoulders) so that this can be placed on the website. All members were therefore actioned to supply a photo of themselves to Rob or if it's easier to the secretary. This should be done asap.

**Planning
Applications**

There were 5 planning applications to discuss but it was agreed that the first 4 on the list need no input from the CC. The remaining application APP/2017/1057 may have more impact on the community and therefore will be discussed in detail at a planning

subcommittee meeting which will be scheduled for the 30th May.

**Aberdeenshire
Local
Development Plan**

It was noted that the Policy planning team are now working on a new plan and are scheduled to meet with us at our November meeting to discuss our thoughts on the future plans for our settlements.

Other Items

- With the closure of the Udney Post office the community council have been asked if it is possible to have the mobile post office come to Udney Green as well as Pitmedden. The meeting agreed that this was a good idea and will write to the Post Office to try and get it arranged albeit it is recognised that the mobile post office is a very scarce resource.
- It was agreed that the document regarding the 20mph members' bill will be discussed in detail at the June meeting.
- The secretary agreed to investigate the documents send out regarding the town and village enhancement grant to determine if action is required.
- Cryle Shand took the opportunity to thank the community council for their support over the past 5 year and said that he enjoyed working with them and wished them well for the future.
- End of minute

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on 15th June 2017 at Pitmedden Primary School starting at 7:30pm