



KINTORE AND DISTRICT
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minute of Kintore and District Community Council Meeting

**Held 7:00 pm on 16th March 2021 by Zoom
video conference.**

Welcome

Chairman, Jamie Grant welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Attendees and apologies

Present – Ken McEwen, Jamie Grant, Bill Duthie, Janine Cracknell, Kenny Thomson, Alan Milne, Paul Davison, Drew Cullinane, Donna Heron, Moira Moran, Paula Martin, Cllr Dominic Lonchay, Cllr Glen Reid
Apologies – Cllr Martin Ford, Cllr Fergus Hood
Police: No police were in attendance.

2. Declarations of Interest

A96 Dualling – Paul Davison highlighted due to the close proximity to his house, he has a declaration of interest in this agenda item.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

There were no corrections highlighted in the AGM or February monthly meeting minutes. Bill proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Drew.

4. Matters Arising

All matters arising would be discussed under the agenda items.

5. Police Report

A copy of the police report has been circulated and is included in Appendix A. The Chair confirmed he did receive the report directly from the Police after a slight delay. Details highlighted by Chair. Policing priorities continue to focus community reassurance, drugs and road safety.

6. Urgent Items of Business

No urgent business.

7. Treasurer's Report

The balances of the accounts have been confirmed by Treasurer. There has been no income or expenditure in both accounts since the last meeting. Community Council Account £2,411.25 and Floral Displays Account £1,477.02.

8. Planning Matters

- a) **Scotia Homes/Town Park** KDCC submitted a response to Aberdeenshire Council on 15/03/2021 regarding APP/2021/0422 Modification of Section 75 (S75) agreement.

The developer wants to change the legal agreement with the council from:

“ground shown shaded in green of the plan”, 3.51 ha developer park land plus 0.29 ha council, with a “title condition restricting the use thereof to a park for recreational or community purposes only” and “within the open space land a pavilion and associated car park...The specification to include...a cricket square.”

to one with a 120m x 120m multi-purpose playing pitch instead of a cricket square, an amended specification for the pavilion, and a town park relocated from the originally-specified location and split into separate sections, including two SuDS basins and small areas of grass on street corners.

There was general agreement regarding the necessity for the S75 to be modified but with much greater suitability to the community needs rather than the developer. KDCC proposed facilities for a tennis club in the s.75 legal agreement instead of the multipitch which would enable the club to generate income for maintenance.

The Chair carried out a site visit to the proposed development and met with one of the residents. This resident had concerns regarding previously submitted KDCC comments. The Chair was able to reassure the resident. Members of the KDCC agreed with the necessity of highlighting and retaining Green Corridors within Kintore. Otherwise, the fauna resident in Gauchhill Woods could be left isolated. This matter is to be monitored closely.

- b) **Agile Energy** – Cllr Lonchay confirmed that he has responded to the resident Mr Parr on 15/03/2021. KDCC were copied on the response. Mr Parr has been invited to make a representation to the Committee meeting, as per normal procedures. (via Alison Cumming before 12:00 noon on the preceding Friday to the committee meeting).
- c) **CAAD at Midmill School** – APP/2021/2356, 2357 & 2358. The KDCC did not object to these applications before the closing date. There was a discussion concerning if the land going forward is to be valued as residential land, this could set a precedent for future planning applications.
- d) **Crichie Development** – This is discussed under correspondence as notification was received after the agenda was finalised.

9. Action Kintore/The Bothie Update

The monthly meeting was cancelled due to illness and will be rescheduled. Repair work has continued to the Bothie, but it is still shut until lockdown is eased. David Porter (reporter from Advertiser) has been in touch regarding the funding of the Town House project with Ken. Jamie and Bill are interested in attending the meeting when rescheduled. **Jamie and Bill to be invited to the next Action Kintore meeting.**

10. Flooding

Network Rail were seen to be looking at the bridges on the rail line near the burn. Cllr Reid has been liaising with council officers and Network Rail, continuing to apply pressure to investigate further. **Drew to send details to Cllr Reid of Network Rail sighting.**

11. Phase 2 of the Review of the Aberdeenshire Council Scheme for Establishment of Community Councils

Consultation is still in progress; Aberdeenshire Council hosted a forum on 12/03/2021 to brief the highlighted points of the Phase 2 review. The Chair encouraged the members to complete the online consultation form prior to the closing date of 14/04/2021. **Janine or Jamie to resend the Community Council Consultation information email to all KDCC members.**

a) Thainstone: Inverurie Community Council (ICC) boundary proposal

The KDCC continue to be in full agreement to oppose the proposed changes from the ICC. The proposal is to put Thainstone and Kirkwood Commercial Park in the ICC area. There have been no changes on this. Alison Cumming, Aberdeenshire Council Area Committee Officer, has been clear that nothing is decided at the moment and that changes will be considered in conjunction with the Phase 2 review. KDCC will record the views of Thainstone residents in the meantime, the best method is to be considered going forward. The existing KDCC-ICC boundary coincides with the East Garioch - Inverurie council ward boundary and the Scottish Parliamentary Aberdeenshire E-W boundary. Houses in the Mill Road, Port Elphinstone are in Inverurie CC and the Inverurie council ward, as are the houses on the north side of the B993 near Ardennan House. Crichtiebank/Broomend and Broom Lodge are in KDCC/E.Garioch even though their only access is via Mill Road. The 3 houses in Mill Lane could also be in KDCC or ICC – a check of the electoral register would confirm their allocation. *(i)* Maps detailing the boundary are included in **Appendix B** for reference.

12. A96 dualling: preferred route response

The KDCC response has been submitted on 8/3/2021. The KDCC response objected strongly to the preferred orange route, and Transport Scotland's rejection of the option to widen the existing road through Inverurie. The objection is based upon a review of all the strategic studies and reports on the Inverness – Aberdeen corridor in the last 13 years. This has shown that the road usage figures did not require a full-specification dual carriageway to be built in or around Inverurie. The KDCC objection was to the preferred orange route was based on:

- the massive environmental and visual impact of the cutting through Shaw Hill, the destruction of Roquharold woods and the 550m long bridge across the lower Don valley.

(i) **Mill Lane has been confirmed as part of the East Garioch ward, and so is in the KDCC area.**

- the adverse impact on wildlife (particularly red squirrels) and the environment (particularly increased greenhouse gas emissions).
- the cost of £560m versus the cost of the option to widen the existing road in Inverurie, estimated in 2009 to be £26m.
- the proposal to construct a grade-separated interchange to replace the Thainstone roundabout would cause inconvenience for Thainstone residents, requiring some of them to make a 4 km detour to get onto the southbound A96 carriageway which passes directly past their houses.

The Chair confirmed the plan was discussed at the Community Council Forum on 3/3/2021. Several of the Community Councils have or were in the process of submitting responses. The matter has been discussed extensively by Garioch Area Committee on 23/02/2021. Cllr Lonchay noted that there had been 17 comments passed by the Committee afterwards. The Chair confirmed this discussion had generated extensive offline comments from KDCC. Comparing KDCC response and the preferred route there is a significant difference. Cllr Reid confirmed that widening the existing road is not an option being considered by Transport Scotland and that Aberdeenshire Council are no longer proposing their Option Q proposal. Option Q would however reduce the congestion on the A96 and in Inverurie centre, which the Transport Scotland option would not.

13. Aberdeenshire Councillors' Update

Cllr Reid has received complaints from residents regarding the poor maintenance of the Rollo Mire. After investigation, Cllr Reid has been advised this area is not council maintained. Greenbelt have also advised it is not their responsibility to maintain it either. Currently, it is not clear who owns the area. Cllr Reid is continuing to investigate. **Cllr Reid to update the KDCC on the responsible party for Rollo Mire at the next meeting.** Cllr Reid has also received complaints about the glass recycling located near Kintore School not being emptied. There were some vehicle reliability issues but this should now be resolved. Cllr Reid advised that the seasonal garden waste collection is recommencing at Midmill School from 10/04/2021. Cllr Reid also advised there is a road closure scheduled for next week, Forest Road between The Square and Town House is affected. It is expected that the buses will use the alternative junction to Forest Road during the roadworks. Cllr Lonchay highlighted that the Council Budget was being discussed the following day. It is expected to be a lively discussion as significant savings are necessary.

14. Kemnay Academy Parent Council Update

The latest Parent Council meeting was held on 9/3/2021. The discussion focused on two main areas. The need to attract more parents to the parent council and to increase the visibility of the parent council in the general community. One member has agreed to put together an eye-catching newsletter highlighting the focus of the parent council to be sent out with the minutes. The possibility of developing a tie up with local publications was suggested. The second area which dominated the discussion and also led to an ad-hoc meeting being scheduled for 17/03/2021 was the projected school roll of 1000+. The parent council are planning to invite the Education Officers from Aberdeenshire Council to a forthcoming meeting to explain

the strategy for accommodating such a large number of students in the coming years.

15. Correspondence

The secretary has been forwarding out all correspondence when received. Recent correspondence includes Inspiring 2021 nominations open until 05/04/2021. Guidance Notes regarding the effective running of Community Councils during lockdown and the need to hold another AGM in June. Aberdeenshire Council are seeking views regarding the introduction of a Demand Responsive Transport Service; closing date 28/03/2021. The next Community Council Forum is scheduled for 08/06/2021 and is focusing on Community Resilience. There is Paul Laidlaw from the Scottish Flood Forum in attendance. The Chair highlighted the opportunity to work as a Poll Clerk on 06/05/2021. It is necessary to work for the entire day with minimal breaks, 06:30-22:30.

Crichie Development Planning Permission Consultation received on 16/03/2021. The developer is proposing walkways and pathways to be removed from the plan. Section 42 application will need to be responded to before the closing date of 30/03/2021. KDCC will need to respond with any comments by this date. **KDCC to respond to Crichie Development Consultation prior to 30/03/2021.** It was suggested to send this consultation notification to the Inverurie Community Council for their reference. **KDCC Secretary to send details of Crichie Development Consultation to ICC Secretary.**

16. AOCB

a) Community Projects

A discussion regarding the green spaces that are forgotten about within Kintore followed with the potential to set up a community project. The key will be accessing funding. The Scottish Civic Trust <https://www.scottishcivictrust.org.uk/> is a source of funds and project advice for major community projects in Scotland. Cllr Reid mentioned www.ruralpayments.org as a possible funding source. **The Chair is to refer to the Rural Payments website and the Scottish Civic Trust advise at the next meeting.** The Chair highlighted the importance of attracting more community involvement in these types of projects to ensure success and community buy-in.

Rollo Mire - There is potential to open up Rollo Mire to make it accessible to the public by creating a boarded walkway. Currently Rollo Mire, managed by Greenbelt, is entirely fenced off and is boxed in by houses on two sides. Emma Wilkins, the Aberdeenshire Council Environmental Planner, promotes the use wetlands as community space.

Canal Walk – A project to establish a walking route around the Aberdeenshire canal, owned by Kirkwood Commercial Park, and clearing debris and dumped rocks, would open up this hidden asset to recreation by residents. This would need to be a joint project with ICC, who have experience of opening up the northern part of the canal with the Millennium Path.

Sand Pit Loch - The sand pit loch off The Long Straight owned by Tom's Forest Quarry, is also of great interest for a potential usable green space.

- b) **Social Media** - There are tentative plans to revisit social media for KDCC and Kintore as it is agreed this does needs a refresh. **The Chair and Ken are to meet to discuss and update on the proposed media strategy at the next meeting.**
- c) **Kintore Kirk Easter Covid Cairn** - Rev Meyer also asked Ken to mention the Kintore Kirk Easter Covid Cairn project and for all KDCC members to highlight it to the wider community. The hope is to build a Cairn in the Kirk grounds to mark all we have been through in the last year. **All KDCC members to highlight the Kintore Kirk Easter Covid Cairn project to the wider community.**

Action Items

- **Jamie and Bill to be invited to the next Action Kintore meeting.**
- **Drew to send details to Cllr Reid of Network Rail sighting.**
- **Janine or Jamie to resend the information email to all KDCC members.**
- **Cllr Reid to update the KDCC on the responsible party for Rollo Mire at the next meeting.**
- **KDCC to respond to Crichtie Development Consultation prior to 30/03/2021.**
- **KDCC Secretary to send details of Crichtie Development Consultation to ICC Secretary.**
- **The Chair is to refer to the Rural Payments website and advise at the next meeting.**
- **The Chair and Ken are to meet to discuss and update on the proposed media strategy at the next meeting.**
- **All KDCC members to highlight the Kintore Kirk Easter Covid Cairn project to the wider community.**

17. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 20th April at 7pm by Zoom video conference.

Appendix A



GARIOCH COMMUNITY POLICING TEAM VISIBLE, ACCESIBLE AND EFFECTIVE

Community Council: Kintore Community Council

Reporting Period: 16/02/2021 – 15/02/2021

Previous Reporting Period:

Current Policing Priorities:

- Community Reassurance
- Drugs
- Road Safety

Community Reassurance:

People: Hi-Vis patrols in order to maintain public confidence and protecting people through Engage, Educate and Encourage.

Property: In line with the above to ensure the security of property.

These will likely change in due course and fall back to more traditional priorities based on crime patterns and community need.

Crime Overview and Explanation:

CRIME TYPE	CURRENT PERIOD	PREVIOUS PERIOD
Assault	0	0
House Breaking	0	0
Public Nuisance	2 – social media posts	1 minor breach of the peace
Road Traffic	2 – Fail to stop after a minor accident and no insurance and a	2, no MOT and dangerous driving

	vehicle in a dangerous condition.	
Drugs	0	0

Assault – Includes all recorded instances of violence.

Housebreaking – includes all break in's to domestic and commercial premises, including attempted break in's.

Public Nuisance – All youth annoyance and calls in relation to anti-social behaviour.

Road Traffic – all calls in relation to Road Traffic Offences (speeding, illegal parking, obstruction etc).

Drugs – all reports incidents in relation to drugs dealing and use.

This report covers the period of a month and there is no comparison due to previous reports being missed for one reason or another.

The crimes reported to us during this time have been of minor nature and there is nothing of significant note.

Significant crime/issues within your community:

As above during the reporting period, there have been no significant crimes or highlighted issues of concern.

There have been numerous calls to the area again to assist members of the public, road traffic collisions and general nuisance calls. None have resulted on anything criminal.

As ever there continues to be numerous reports and instances of fraud. Online and over the telephone. I would again urge residents to be extremely cautious and not give out bank details or any details over the phone. Your bank will never ask you to do this. If there is anything suspicious speak with your bank.

Planned Community Policing Activity/Advice:

We have continued our high visibility patrols in all areas of the community and carrying out numerous checks on retail premises and premises who are allowed to operate as essential.

There are no planned operations.

As ever, I would encourage your community to ensure all car and house doors are locked and keys secured, prior to going to bed. A locked door is the most effective way of preventing your property becoming victim to crime.

I would like to re highlight the importance of the Police being made aware of a crime or offence in the first instance. There has been numerous reports of crimes and offences having occurred but Police Scotland have not been informed. While a useful tool it can also hamper enquiries depending on what is posted.

Conclusion:

Community Policing will continue to focus on reassurance and patrolling during this time.



"The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has yet to be fully understood, but all organisations agree that it will have had an effect on the mental wellbeing on our communities, particularly around personal resilience.

Sadly we have seen a rise in suicide over the last few months across the region, which is devastating for families and friends, but also impacts widely across communities, as they come to terms with such a sudden loss. There can be residual feelings of guilt or shame, caused by stigma (the feeling of being judged).

Helping starts with conversation, and not being scared to mention the suicide. If someone is feeling that low, talking about suicide WILL NOT put the idea in their head, but it might release some of the pressure however. Educate yourself around suicide, be kind, and ask people how they are feeling, and most importantly listen, you don't have to be an expert or have the answers or give views, just be an empathetic ear.

Support information:

www.unitedtopreventsuicide.org.uk - Scotland's official new movement to prevent suicide

www.preventsuicideapp.com

Provides info for those affected by suicide, contact details for services in Aberdeen city and Aberdeenshire and allows users to create their own safety plan. Available to download as a free phone app from your app store

SAMARITANS is a confidential 24hr emotional support service for anyone in the UK and Ireland

Phone - 116 123

Samaritans.org

jo@samaritans.org

BREATHING SPACE 0800 83 85 87

Is a free and confidential phone line service

Mon – Thurs 6pm to 2am, Fri 6pm – Mon 6am (lines open 24hrs at weekends)

Appendix B

Maps detailing the Kintore and District Community Council boundary with Inverurie Community Council.

East Garioch map



KDCC map

