

Mearns Community Council Meeting

7:00 Monday 28th April 2025 – Mearns Community Campus

Present: Andrew Macdonald (AM) Carol Medlock (CM) Dave Stewart (DS) Janette Anderson (JA) Ken Williams (KW) Phylis Bruce (PB) Gordon Reid (GR) Kevin Todd (KT)

Apologies: Chris Rushbridge (CR), Alasdair Shaich (AS) John Lovell (JL) Paul Green (PG)

EX Officio: Cllr Carr, Cllr Evison, Cllr Smith

Minutes: Emma Murray (EM)

1. Declarations of Interest

Planning application for Edzell Woods Community Hub (KW)

2. Approval of minutes of last 2 meetings

Approved by Carol Medlock. Seconded by Ken Williams

3. Matters arising

- Grit bins at West Cairnbeg raised by Cllr Carr to take forward.
- Laurencekirk Common Good Fund – no progress
- A90 Closure – Lack of local knowledge within Police Scotland to be tabled at next Community Council Forum
- Street lighting – work in progress (general paper coming to infrastructure services)
- Cleaning of culvert at Marykirk – Cllr Carr has an email and will send it on to Andrew and Chris regarding this
- Bent Road – no response from Andrew Tatton
- Electronic speed sign at entrances to Laurencekirk has been raised by Cllr Carr

4. Police Report

Circulated as received, taken as read

5. Correspondence

Circulated as received, taken as read

6. Settlements

Auchenblae: Nothing to report

Fettercairn: Nothing to report

Fordoun: Break in at Fordoun at the Redhall Arms, compressors were stolen

Edzell Woods: Moss Road – Scottish Water closed road for 7 days.

Black BMW has been abandoned, and the police stickers are on it

Glenbervie: Nothing to report

Laurencekirk: Car flipped over on station road – apparently due to speed.

Ongoing complaints about weed killing and pruning back hedges etc, apparently there is provision for this in Aberdeenshire budget.

Consultation is underway regarding the future of sheltered housing provision in Aberdeenshire. Cllrs advised no decision has been taken and this is a long process

Luthermuir: Andrew to write an email to Tim Stephens to ask for an update about access from the main street to the hall. And more generally the expectations regarding whether Council employees have a duty to report defects.

Pothole at the bottom of school road that has still not been repaired – Cllr Carr to raise it

Marykirk: Nothing to report

West Cairnbeg: Nothing to report

7. Roads, Planning & Landscape Services:

Update from Mairi Gougeon's office about the A90 North junction at Fordoun: Aberdeenshire Council have scheduled work for week commencing 11th August.

8. Treasurer's Report

Alasdair to send it over

9. SSEN –Round table update

Nothing to report

10. Briefing / update from Councillors / ex officio attendees

Cllr Smith attended Auchenblae Community Café – people there said they did not know what the community council was. People are also mentioning that free dog poo bags have been taken away. Cllr Smith to talk to Tim Stevens about street parking in Auchenblae.

Last Thursday the Council gave permission for plans to construct a massive hydrogen plant at Kintore – taking water out of the Don. Might be another pipeline coming down as it is linked to Grangemouth.

Shakin Brig at Edzell – need to discuss with owner of the bridge and to see if there is any funding from the council.

11. AOCB

Andrew suggested that MCC should look at the way it is working and structured. Is it too big to be locally relevant? There are 2 more meetings this session to look at different ways to change and help the Mearns Communities. Wide discussion followed: we could at least try and achieve a couple of projects per area. The money that the Community Council could be used for helping small local projects and we could and raise funds.

It was agreed to give The Crown Hotel something towards helping us out last minute for the last meeting.

DONM – 1900 Monday 26th May 2025 – Mearns Community Campus