

Echt & Skene Community Council

Minute of Meeting held 20th July 2023 at Garlogie Hall

Present: Fiona Bick (chair), Nick Pilbeam, George Glennie (Secretary), Ian MacMaster, Niall McBeath, Paula Houston, Cllr Iris Walker, 1 Echt resident.

Apologies: Cllr Craig Miller, Cllr Ron McKail, Cllr Fatima Joji

Minute of last meeting: Approved

Police Report: Police Report received for June. There were 5 road accidents reported during the period and 1 drugs offence (cannabis). Police have done speed checks in Echt – no charges made. Pop-Up Bob had also been deployed. It was noted that Pop-Up Bob is effective at deterring speeding whilst in place.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A2B Bus Service: Council has added a Thursday service to Banchory following the consultation. **CLOSED.**

Speeding Issues in Dunecht, Echt, Garlogie, Lyne of Skene and Mason Lodge: No update from Chris regarding Dunecht. Question was raised as to when speed surveys were last carried out in Garlogie, Echt and Lyne of Skene.

Action: Fiona to review dates of last speed surveys and request repeats if more than 4 years ago.

Following last year's survey of Garlogie residents regarding speeding, it was agreed ESCC would contact Roads department to discuss additional traffic calming measures in Garlogie. **Action:** Fiona.

Community Action Plans: Kirkton of Skene CAP Steering Group is meeting on 21st July to review the validation events results and discuss next steps.

No progress on recruitment of new Echt CAP Steering Group members.

Flooding at Greystones: Scottish Water work has been completed and the water supply pipes have been removed from the culvert. **CLOSED**

Echt Playpark Improvements: Council Landscape Services is happy to proceed with residents' suggestions for park improvements (new path and wooden Gruffalo sculpture for the copse at the SE corner, more spring bulbs and relocation of a bench). Paula has costed the proposals at around £2000 excluding the aggregate for the path. **Action:** Paula to approach Breedon regarding potential donation of aggregate.

Burnside Footpath: No update.

Proposed Dunecht Footpath: No update.

Hill of Fare Proposed Wind Farm: RES public exhibitions took place w/c 12th June. Fiona and George attended the Echt event and handed out questionnaires. 360 responses received in total so far (online and paper) following all 4 events of which 75% object and 12% support. HoFWIG ran two "Know The Issues" events in Midmar and Banchory. CC Chairs meet again on 14th August to discuss survey results.

SEEN Consultation on Proposed new Kintore to Tealing 400kV OHL: The deadline for the submission of comments on the scheme has been extended to 28th July. Some other Community Councils have submitted responses. It was agreed that ESCC should do the same since concerns have been raised by large numbers of area residents. **Action:** Fiona to draft submission

New Planning Applications:

- APP/2023/1133 Change of Use of Agricultural Land to Form Domestic Garden, Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse and Erection of Garage - Mains Of Landerberry Echt Westhill Aberdeenshire AB32 6XD. No comment.
- APP/2023/1233 Erection of Dwellinghouse (Change Of House Type to Previously Approved APP/2022/1233) - Site To South West Of West Lodge, Kirkton Of Skene, Westhill. No comment.
- APP/2023/1036 Alterations and Extension to Dwellinghouse - White Gables, Garlogie, Westhill AB32 6RX No comment.
- APP/2023/1256 Demolition of Buildings and Erection of 3 Dwellinghouses - Cullerlie Smithy, Echt, Westhill Aberdeenshire AB32 6XP. No comment.

Prior Planning Applications:

- APP/2023/0919 Non Compliance with Condition 1 (Time) and Condition 23 (Restoration) of Planning Permission Reference APP/2013/1856 Determination of Conditions for Mineral Site for Extension to Existing Workings - Craigenlow Quarry, Dunecht, AB32 7ED 9th May. Members reviewed EIA and application and agreed no objection post- previous meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Income received since last meeting - Council annual grant of £933.16.

Expenditure of £93.06 since last meeting - £28.75 for hall fees, £20 Scotways subscription, £14.30 keys for Echt cabinet, £30 gift voucher for independent examiner

Cash in Bank: £8,950.82 (£5,400 ring-fenced for Echt play-park equipment installation; £3,550.82 general ESCC funds)

Cash in hand: £39.89

Members agreed to proceed with purchases for Echt park improvements using ring-fenced funds.

Correspondence/Consultations/Upcoming Events:

- Aberdeenshire's Local Transport Strategy Consultation – deadline 30th July
- SEN Resilient Communities Fund - deadline for applications 31st July
- SEN Community Benefit Fund Consultation – deadline 13th August
- Scottish Govt Permitted Development Rights Review – deadline 23rd August
- Review of the Aberdeenshire Licensing Board's Licensing Policy Statement – deadline 1st September
- Review of Aberdeenshire's Common Good Policy and Creation of Common Good Asset Register - deadline 2nd October
- Scottish Govt Council Tax review – details on Cllr Walker's Facebook page

AOCB:

- Brian Strachan has retired and been replaced by Natalie Wood as head of Aberdeenshire Roads Department

Future Meeting Dates

- 7th September Echt Hall
- 19th October Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene
- 30th November Lyne of Skene Hall
- 11th January Garlogie Hall
- 22nd February Dunecht Hall
- 4th April Echt Hall
- 16th May Milne Hall, Kirkton of Skene
- 27th June AGM Lyne of Skene Hall