

# MINUTES

## Portlethen & District Community Council

*Date | time | location* 23/11/23 | 7pm | Larch Room, Portlethen Academy

### In Attendance

#### Community Council Members:

Paul McLean, Amanda Ross, Lorna Doyle, Joy Komolafe, Michelle Aitken, Eoin McManus

#### Councillors:

Mel Sullivan, Catherine Victor

#### Aberdeenshire Council:

Tim Stephen, Gemma Morrison

#### Apologies:

Stewart Lees, Airlie Robertson

### Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Election of new Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary
4. Police report (tbc)
5. Approval of previous minutes (meeting 26/10/23)
6. Actions arising from previous meetings
7. Planning/consultations
8. Internal PDCC management
9. Financial
10. Urgent business

### Minutes

#### Welcome and Introductions

Welcome to members of public (5 in attendance), Aberdeenshire Council and Cllrs Sullivan and Victor.

#### Apologies

Received from Stewart Lees and Airlie Robertson.

#### Election

Paul McLean was elected as Chair, Stewart Lees as Vice Chair and Airlie Robertson as Secretary.

#### Police report

##### Antisocial behaviour, Violence and Disorder:

Area	Youth Disorder	Anti-Social
Portlethen	4	6
Stonehaven	5	11
Laurencekirk	0	6

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Area	Youth Disorder	Anti-Social
Coastal Road	0	4

### Acquisitive Crime: D – Detected UI-Under Investigation

Area	Thefts	Shopliftings	Theft of motorvehicle
Portlethen	3 (2 UI, 1 D)	8 UI	0
Stonehaven	1 UI	2 (1 UI, 1 D)	0
Laurencekirk	1 UI	1 D	0
Coastal Road	0	0	0

### Road Safety & road crime:

Area	Drink/Drug Driving	Dangerous	Careless Driving
Portlethen	0	0	1 UI
Stonehaven	1 D	0	2 D
Laurencekirk	0	0	1D
Coastal Road	0	0	0

Community Engagement & Reassurance: This month the focus is identity home safety and security and how to stop thieves entering and stealing from garden.

Approval of previous minutes:

Minutes of 26/10/2023 were approved.

Actions arising from previous meetings

- Status of PDCC Constitution – constitution to be resent to Aberdeenshire Council to ensure changes as agreed at AGM in May 2023 are confirmed.
- Findon Park Football Pitch – suggestion to ask the community to sign a petition to keep this as a recreational area, also suggested that the PDCC request to speak to the council when the application is up for determination. Action on Paul McLean.
- “Welcome to Portlethen Signage” – have reached out to council to determine optimal location(s) for a welcome sign/feature. Action on Michelle Aitken.
- Garage deeds update – Gemma will look into and revert.  
Bank account and Community Council Grant – New signatories to be added to bank account following the election at this meeting. Action on Amanda Ross and Joy Komolafe.
- Thistle Drive development – developer to be invited to attend a regular PDCC meeting. Action on Michelle Aitken.
- Police Station asset transfer – gauge interest – Police Station asset transfer does form part of the Community Action Plan but will need a [Community Transfer Body](#) with a minimum of 20 members set up to take this forward. There is a process to follow with Police Scotland, and it was suggested the community needs to move quickly to convene a group and register an interest should an asset transfer be what is wanted. Suggested the PDCC raises the topic to gauge interest at the new Community Hub meetings held by ASDA Portlethen’s Community Champion, next meeting is December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6.30PM. Action on PDCC members to determine who has availability to attend.

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- Portlethen Library PDCC queries box – trial to be set up for 6-8 weeks to determine if there's a need for this initiative. A decision will be made after the trial period. Action on Lorna Doyle.
- Big Bulb planting update – planting date will be either December 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>, will be advised on PDCC Facebook page. Action on Michelle Aitken.

### Planning/consultations

- The Democracy Matters consultation is currently being run by the Scottish Government and is looking in some detail at the future of Community Councils and the powers and responsibilities they have or could have in the future. The current consultation is building on the feedback that Community Councils provided in the first consultation and is looking to put more meat on the bones and understand the desire and capacity (or otherwise) that Community Councils have to change and expand their role and responsibilities. The consultation is open to individuals, organisations or communities: <https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/democracy-matters/> The consultation closes 28 Feb 2024.
- Online bus forum December 7<sup>th</sup> - The face-to-face Area Bus Forum meetings are being replaced with an online Aberdeenshire Bus Forum Meeting covering the whole of Aberdeenshire. The first meeting will be held on Thursday 7 December at 7.30pm until 9.00pm and it is open for anyone to attend. The format may change for later bus forum meetings. Information about how to attend this first meeting to be posted on the PDCC Facebook page. Action on Michelle Aitken.

### Internal PDCC management

- Elected office bearers details forms for Aberdeenshire Council to be completed following election. Action on Michelle Aitken
- Update of PDCC information available externally (Ways of working document and Our Portlethen). Action on Michelle Aitken

### Financial

- Financial records handed over by Aberdeenshire Council.

### Urgent business

- Urgent items pertaining to existing PDCC initiatives: Meikle Carewe Wind Farm Community Fund awards for 2023 have been decided. A good proportion of funding has been allocated to Portlethen groups, the Kincardine Development Partnership will contact all applicants with the outcome.
- Training available for all PDCC members via Aberdeenshire Council. Contact to be made with Gemma Morrison by the individual PDCC members to receive log-in details.

### Date of next meeting:

25/01/2024 at 7pm, Larch Room, Portlethen Academy.