



# Aberlemno and District Community Council Meeting

## Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023, 7.00pm

### Farnell Village Hall

	<p><b>In attendance:</b> Community council members: Russell Bruce (RB), Isabelle Davies (ID), Lynn Bruce (LB), Jacqui Thornton (JT) Local councillors: Gavin Nicol (GN)</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Police representatives: Inspector Grant McGaughay (GM), Sargeant Tracy Brown (TB), Councillor Jill Scott (JS), Councillor Chris Beattie (CB), Angus Council: Sandra Livingston (SL)</p>	
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Welcome, housekeeping, attendance and apologies</b></p> <p>Russell Bruce opened the meeting at 7.40pm after a short break following the AGM, thanked all attendees for coming along and introduced the community council members and local councillors. Apologies were confirmed from the police representatives, Sandra Livingston and Councillors Jill Scott and Chris Beattie.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes from last meeting</b></p> <p>Lynn Bruce proposed the approval of the minutes from the last meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2023, and this was seconded by Isabelle Davies. The minutes will now be made available on the Aberlemno.org website.</p>	<b>JT</b>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Matters arising from previous minutes</b></p> <p>At the last meeting Chris Beattie agreed to ascertain when the barrier repairs will be completed at Netherton and the Brechin junction. As Chris was not present, no update available on this action.</p> <p>SSEN Overhead Line Upgrades - East Coast 400kV Phase 2 – Russell Bruce asked for all questions on this to be held until the discussion in AOB.</p>	<b>CB</b>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Secretary's report and correspondence</b></p> <p>As per update at AGM – see appendix 1.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Treasurer's report</b></p> <p>As per update at AGM – see appendix 2. In addition, Lynn Bruce walked through the Financial Statement for April to May 2023 (appendix 3) and confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The community council grant of £375 was received today (01/06/2023)</li> <li>• Request now made to Aberlemno Village Hall Treasurer for an invoice for £105 as part funding for the Aberlemno.org website</li> <li>• Adding the second signatory to the community council bank account is progressing</li> <li>• £25 has been paid to the auditor of the 2022/3 accounts</li> </ul>	

6	<p><b>Planning report</b></p> <p>As per update at AGM – see appendix 4.</p> <p>The weekly planning list and public access link are available on the community council page on the Aberlemno.org website.</p>	
7	<p><b>Local Community Policing Area Report</b></p> <p>No updated report has been received however Jacqui Thornton read out the crime stats from the April report (0 in our district) and confirmed the need to be vigilant regarding domestic oil tank safety in view of a few recent thefts. Further information is available on the Aberlemno.org website.</p>	
8	<p><b>Road Safety</b></p> <p>Lynn Bruce provided an update on activity since the last meeting in April.</p> <p><u>Aberlemno</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No road safety issues reported at the two Pictish events at the Hall in May</li> <li>• The following issues have been raised with Walter Scott at Angus Council Roads: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bridge in Netherton - when will repairs take place to the bridge as it has been damaged for a significant amount of time?</li> <li>○ New signs denoting “End of Restriction” in Church Road, Aberlemno - there have been a couple of verbal complaints about the speed of all types of vehicles are moving in Church Road and this has been compounded by the position of the new signs. It was hoped that the signs would be positioned the other side of the Aberlemno Bridge so that Church Road would become 30mph. The Church and houses in Church Road are part of Aberlemno and within the Village Boundary as far as residents are concerned so cannot understand why they have been left out of the speed limit for the rest of the village. The Community Council would be interested in having a site meeting with yourself to walk the road and discuss the placement of the new signs and the speed of vehicles in Church Road.</li> <li>○ Class C listed status Aberlemno Bridge – we are trying to establish the weight limit of Aberlemno Bridge for a future project to ensure that HGV’s can/cannot use this “Short Cut” to Montrose and Arbroath Roads.</li> <li>○ Solar speed signs for Aberlemno - suggested by the Brechin and Forfar Police Force Representatives to help inform users of vehicles at what speed they are travelling. This is to try and combat speeding vehicles in Aberlemno. The Police Force suggested originally that we had the use of a “Jim” the cardboard Policeman but this had no effect on speed reduction.</li> <li>○ Aberlemno has some Pictish Standing Stones which are situated on the B9134 and in the Churchyard which means at this time of year, are visited by many people and coach parties. As there is no footpath, parking in the Village Hall Car Park the visitors have to walk down the B9134 to view the stones and also down Church Road with a 60mph speed limit in force. This is a recipe for disaster and “near misses” are being reported to the Community Council by members of the public.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ So, it would be prudent in the view of the Community Council to have a site visit with yourself to show what the issues are and perhaps how we can agree on some alterations to make it safer for residents and visitors, who are using the roads and facilities.</li> </ul> <p><u>Farnell</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It has been established that Farnell does not meet the criteria for a 30mph speed restriction due to the lack of 'frontage development'. Lynn Bruce has asked Angus Council for the definition of 'frontage development' and is awaiting a response.</li> </ul> <p>Full audit of road safety for Farnell and Aberlemno - no further progress on this currently.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The potential for the community council to fund the cost of a noticeboard at Farnell Village Hall was raised. Upon receipt of this request formally in writing, this will be considered by the community council.</li> <li>2. It was agreed that the residents of Farnell would like to have a defibrillator installed, preferably at the Village Hall as this is the most accessible and easy to find place in the Village. Jacqui Thornton will explore the best route to proceed with this.</li> <li>3. One resident asked what the boundaries are for the Aberlemno and District community council – Russell Bruce shared the map and confirmed this can also be found on the Aberlemno.org website.</li> <li>4. A discussion took place about the increase in Fly Tipping, and it was confirmed that this should be reported to the Council each time.</li> <li>5. A request was made to re-highlight the issues of domestic fuel theft on the Aberlemno Facebook site.</li> </ol>	
Action		JT
Action		JT
<b>10</b>	<p><b>SSEN 400kV pylons</b></p> <p>Russell Bruce confirmed that as 20 requests have now been received by the community council, there will be a Special Meeting about the SSEN plans on 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm at Aberlemno Village Hall.</p> <p>At this Special Meeting the community council will pass on as much information as we can collate from meetings we attend and various other sources; we will listen to all views; we will provide guidance on feedback – content and recipients.</p> <p>All residents are asked to come to the meeting having given consideration to how both the works and the outcome will affect them.</p> <p>A summary of the key points raised at this meeting include the following, however it is important to note that the full discussion will take place at the Special Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● There is a lot of information being made available on the Angus Pylon Action Group Facebook page.</li> <li>● Mairi Gougeon, MSP for Angus North and Mearns and Andrew Bowie, MP, Minister for Nuclear and Networks were not aware of the extent SSEN's plans and are trying to get the consultation period extended. All local councillors are also in support of at least a three-month extension.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SSEN consultation and communication has been poor to date with a distinct lack of clear and accessible information being made available.</li> <li>• The line being taken by the groups fighting the against the SSEN plans is to get everyone involved; it might not be on your doorstep this time, but there is more to come over the next few years. Support the fight now and then in the future, everyone affected now can support you then.</li> <li>• There was discussion that if local councils object, this would then require a public enquiry to be undertaken – further details and confirmation needed about this.</li> <li>• The energy created by the offshore wind farms due for completion in 2027 must go somewhere and the current infrastructure is not fit for purpose. SSEN is not intrinsically linked to the ScotWind projects.</li> <li>• It is understood that the SAGE guidance is for pylons to be situated at least 30 meters from residential property however SSEN are looking at 15 meters.</li> <li>• A computer programme with out-of-date maps and no human input was used to generate the proposed corridors.</li> <li>• The preferred routes and pylon sites works are being undertaken simultaneously.</li> <li>• It is understood that SSEN would build the additional road infrastructure required and then after the four-year project, remove it.</li> </ul> <p>Russell Bruce thanked everyone present for their contribution to the discussion and reconfirmed the purpose of the Special Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June.</p>	
11	<p><b>Questions From the Floor</b></p> <p>There were no further questions from anyone present at the meeting.</p>	
12	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023 at 7pm in Aberlemno Village Hall.</p> <p>Russell Bruce thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.55pm.</p>	

## Appendix 1 – Secretary’s annual report



# Aberlemno and District Community Council Secretary’s AGM Report 2022/3

Since taking the role of Secretary for Aberlemno and District community council, I have undertaken the following key activities:

### Communication:

- Produced and organised printing for the leaflets distributed to all residents of our community council district.
- Set up the [aberlemnocc@yahoo.com](mailto:aberlemnocc@yahoo.com) mailbox.
- Totally redesigned the Aberlemno.org website to make it more intuitive to navigate and to include a page for the community council.
- This includes information about the community council, its members, meeting minutes and agendas as well as the planning reports.
- Alongside this I created a community information page on which I disseminate key information received from Angus Council and other sources such as the weekly Voluntary Action Angus bulletins. Other key information has included the kerbside Recycling Service Survey, Angus rural mobility hub plans and consultation response, volunteering opportunities, cost of living roadshows and live better longer events.
- The community information messages are also posted on the Aberlemno Facebook page.

### Community Council Meetings:

- Organised the agenda and produced the minutes for the four CC meetings to date, inviting our local councillors, police representatives, Angus Council representatives and publishing the details on the website, Facebook and Farnell and Aberlemno village noticeboards.
- Prepared and published the details for the proposal of a special meeting to discuss the SSEN overhead line upgrades, coordinating the responses to ensure there are sufficient numbers to warrant holding this meeting.

### Correspondence:

- Daily checks on the e mail account, responding to queries and disseminating information as appropriate through the website and Facebook.

Jacqui Thornton  
Secretary, Aberlemno and District Community Council

## Appendix 2 – Treasurer’s annual report



# Aberlemno and District Community Council Treasurer’s AGM Report 2022/3

## April 2022 – end March 2023

This report covers the period from October 2022 to end March 2023 only.

As the Treasurer for Aberlemno and District Community Council (CC), I have achieved the following in this short period of time since conception:

- Opening and running a Royal Bank of Scotland Account for the duties of our CC.
- Received Grants from Angus Council of £375 (restricted funds – to be used for day to day running of the CC) and £516.60 (unrestricted funds – to be used to purchase items or services, to improve the lives of residents that our District covers).
- Information has been given regarding small donations from unrestricted funds, for groups that applied. As of this date, no requests or emails have been received.
- Paid all Invoices that have been received in a timely manner.
- End of year Accounts were prepared, Audited and sent to Angus Council for checking.

Thank you to the residents, Auditor Vicky Hepburn and my other Colleagues on the Community Council for all their help and advice and I look forward to our continued working relationship in 2023/24.

Lynn Bruce  
Treasurer, Aberlemno and District Community Council



**Statement for Financial Year April 2022 – March 2023**

	£'s
Starting Balance	0.00
Income:	
Grant from Angus Council (Restricted)	375.00
Grant from last Community Council (Unrestricted)	516.69
Income Total	891.69 ✓
Expenditure:	
Restricted Funds:	
Stationery	181.72
Meeting Venue Hire	84.50
Leaflet Printing	36.54
Mileage	66.15
Unrestricted Funds:	
Postage	9.78
Housekeeping	14.00
Total Expenditure	392.69 ✓
Balance carried forward to 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2023	499.00 ✓

Prepared by: L. J. C.

Date: 31st March 2023

Lynnette C Patch (Treasurer)

**Auditors Certificate**

I have examined the books and records of the Aberlemno and District Community Council for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31 March 2023. I have found the above statement to be correct and all expenses accounted for.

Signed by: Vicki Hepburn

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> April 2023





## Appendix 4 – Planning Contact’s annual report



# Aberlemno and District Community Council Planning Contact’s AGM Report 2022/3

### **Actions**

Responded to Planning Applications on weekly list

Responded to queries raised - length of time roadworks in place in Aberlemno

Attended Consultation on Energy Hub in Brechin (April)

Attended training session for Community Council Planning Contacts (April)

Attended SSEN presentation (May) and followed up with informing as many local residents as possible - ongoing

Isabelle Davies

Planning Contact, Aberlemno and District Community Council