

**Meeting of the Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council**

**Minute of Online Meeting, 7:30pm; 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Community Councillors Present:**

Fred Geddes, Cameron Kemp, Judith Rumbold, Lindsey Stout, Karen Young.

**In attendance:**

Councillor Emma Knox.

<b>1. Apologies</b>	<b>Actions</b>
<p>Apologies from Alisdair MacNeil, Alison Mackintosh and Councillor Margaret Davidson.</p>	
<p><b>2. Minutes of Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b></p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were circulated online. Cameron Kemp made some minor changes to the draft minutes. The finalised minutes as circulated by Cameron Kemp after minor changes and subject to the changes in attendance were accepted, proposed by Fred Geddes and seconded by Karen Young.</p>	
<p><b>3. Matters Arising of Meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020:</b></p> <p>On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December 2020 a sub-group of the Community Council held a meeting on the planning consultation for the Draft Housing in the Countryside, Supplementary Guidance. These minutes were proposed for acceptance by Fred Geddes and seconded by Karen Young.</p> <p>Further matters arising are covered in the Planning section of the minutes.</p>	
<p><b>4. Police Report</b></p> <p>No concerns were raised regarding the police. No report was received.</p> <p><a href="https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/covid-19-bulletins">https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/covid-19-bulletins</a></p>	



## 5. Planning

### Inner Moray Firth Development Plan, 20/03893/FUL

Consultation starts on the 29<sup>th</sup> January and continues until the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local\\_and\\_statutory\\_development\\_plans/202/inner\\_moray\\_firth\\_local\\_development\\_plan](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local_and_statutory_development_plans/202/inner_moray_firth_local_development_plan)

Fred Geddes asked if we had had any response yet to our comments on the local development plan. Cameron Kemp said that we had received an acknowledgement on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

Councillor Emma Knox commented that the consultation recommended no further development in the Kirkhill area to that already planned, except at the crane yard site in Kirkhill. The school is already full. The planned sewage system for the area will be at capacity after the completion of the proposed development at the bottom of Newton Park by Tulloch Homes.

### Planning Reference 21/00228/FUL

Fred Geddes commented that the septic tank and soakaway are sited fairly close to the public road and watercourse. Fred is to check the distance in case we should query the distance.

### Planning Reference 20/05099/FUL

Fred Geddes asked if we had heard anything back about this proposal for portakabins in Beauly, a series of units along the back of an agricultural building. The Community Councillors asked for further information but have not received any more information. Councillor Emma Knox suggested contacting David Taylor of Beauly Community Council and supporting their position. Fred Geddes commented that the agricultural zone between Beauly and Muir of Ord is slowly being eroded in ribbon development. Agricultural changes of use should be fully investigated.



**6. A.O.B.**

British Telecom removed the phone box in St. Mary's Road on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (the day of the meeting) without any warning and after three public consultations which resulted in a community movement to adopt it. B.T. had responded that they were keeping the phonebox in use due to issues with mobile coverage in rural locations. Councillor Emma Knox spoke to them and the workmen who removed it said that the Council were removing it. Four other community councils have had their phone boxes removed when they had asked to adopt them. The Highland Council is not involved and has not given permission to B.T. to remove them.

The Community Councillors were in agreement that they would support Councillor Emma Knox in her movement to reinstate the phone box because the removal of the phone box changes the character of the village and is an historic building. Cllr. Emma Knox was in contact with Drew Hendry and Kate Forbes. Cameron Kemp is to write to Charles Stephen and ask that he replies to all.

**C.K.**

Fred Geddes asked Cllr. Emma Knox if we had any further information on the Gilfillan case, featured twice in Private Eye. Emma replied that Councillors have been asking about this since it happened. Cllr. Emma Knox has been looking at minutes of the Gold Group (Covid special measures) but they have been heavily redacted.

Dan Coulson has been in touch. Amazon deliveries won't go up Ladystone Road because of the condition of the surface. Councillor Emma Knox replied that it's very unfortunate for the residents but the position of the Council is clear, it is not an adopted road and that no Planning Officer can promise that the area won't be further developed. Karen Young commented that seventeen different houses take access from Ladystone Road. It would take a lot of money to get the road up to adoptable standard but it would open the floodgate for more development. Karen Young said that if there were a fixed period of time when there was to be no further development, then the road would not deteriorate further. She also said that residents are paying Council Tax but not getting the services they are paying for. Judith Rumbold agreed that she moved away from the area because of the Council Tax banding. Councillor Emma Knox commented that Council Tax also pays for other services, such as education, as well as refuse collection. Cllr. Emma Knox has sent the residents the ten year Inner Moray Firth Development Plan and there is to be no further development in the Kirkhill and Bunchrew area in that time.



## 7. Dates of Meetings:

Meetings will be online until further notice. This will be reviewed at our next meeting with reference to the current Scottish Government guidelines. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30 p.m. Cameron Kemp will circulate a list of proposed dates for 2021.

C.K.

Anyone wishing to air a concern should contact Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Council by email or by private message on our Facebook page. If the item requires discussion they will be invited to join the next meeting. It's inevitable that some Community Councillors and members of the public will find it difficult to join meetings online because of broadband connectivity issues.

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**Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council** on Facebook

<https://www.highland.gov.uk/>

<http://kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk/community-council-2/>

**The next meeting is on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7:30pm, online**

