

## Udny Community Council Meeting

15<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Venue – The Medan Centre, Pitmedden

### **Present:**

Gina Noble – Chair, Sue Hebenton – Vice Chair, Matt Kaye – Treasurer, Gary Bruce, George Duncam, Vikki Jannetta, Cllr Andrew Hassan, Cllr Jenny Nichol (online).

### **Non UCC Visitors:**

Phil Coventry – Resilience subgroup.

### **Apologies**

Cllr Derek Ritchie.

MINUTES	ACTION	DUE/STATUS
<p><b><u>Approval of previous minutes:</u></b> Approved by: GD. Seconded by: MK.</p> <p><b><u>Apologies:</u></b> As above.</p> <p><b><u>Non UCC visitors:</u></b> As Above.</p> <p><b><u>Police Report:</u></b> None in attendance</p> <p><b><u>Treasurers Report:</u></b> Current balance is £2,376 with only one transaction since Sep of £250 honorarium paid to GN. GN spoke with previous secretary, she has declined her offer of £250 so this can go to offset any community over spend. Subtracting reserved or committed funds of £648 (Udny Green Park), circa £300 (scribe/taking minutes), £775 (Village Tidy/Amenity grant) and £32 (URG from RCLV fund) leaves us with £621 of non-committed funding.</p>		

**Declaration of members' interest:**

None.

**Urgent Business:**

None

**UCA Update:**

Trees

We work with the Woodland Trust to plant trees in Udney. We've been very busy at our Tree Nursery at Collichare Allotments, we've laid new chippings and created an additional bed for transplanting all our saplings into this winter. There's still plenty of space for future years and we hope to find local projects where these precious trees can find a permanent home.

Swap Shops - Reduce / Reuse / Recycle

We partner UCT, Udney Community Shelf and threads and Yarns to run swap shops and reuse workshops.

Kids Reuse Competition

We are planning the 2<sup>nd</sup> Kids Reuse Competition. Entries will be handed into The Medan Centre in March.

Udney Climate Action Leaflet

Richard has been busy, and we now have a short leaflet about Udney Climate Action. Pop into The Medan Centre to pick one up.

**UCTC Update:**

Regular Groups / Events

We host regular groups in the Quarry Room - Baby & Toddler Stay and Play on a Monday 1pm to 3pm, Open Doors on a Tuesday 2pm to 4.30pm. We also host a Health Walk every Tuesday starting at 10am. Every Thursday there is a Waist Watchers Group at 9.15am. Every Friday at 2.30pm Stephen from Peterhead Fish Company is with us. Udney Community Shelf is open every day, located in the trailer in our car park. Café 48 is open Wednesday through to Saturday, 9.15am-3pm, and they will be doing a special Christmas Lunch menu during December.

Monthly Guided Walks

Monthly guided walks are the last Thursday of each month, we are planning the November Walk to Whisky Hammer. Walks for 2024 will start back in March.

Swap Shops / Reuse Craft Workshops

The Trust partner with Udney Climate Action, Udney Community Shelf and Threads and Yarns to host Swap Shops and Reuse Craft Workshops. We will be hosting our final swap shop of the

year on 25<sup>th</sup> of November and our final Reuse Craft Workshop, focussing on Christmas on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November.

A Seasons for Growth Seminar, Understanding Change, Loss, and Grief was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September. Graham from Brave Journeys volunteered his time to run this Seminar for the community, it was well attended. The focus was on grief, and that grief can be caused by any number of experiences including bereavement, relationship breakdown, moving to a new area, retiring, or losing a job. It could have happened recently or a long time ago. We've had queries whether we will run any more seminars, and this is something we will be delighted to investigate with Graham for next year.

#### Udny Community Trust Grant Fund

Our last round of funding for this year was October, our Board approved £37K worth of funding. Well done to Formartine Youth Project, Wood RecyclAbility, Udny Tennis Club, P.U.T, Udny Green Frost Fair, Pitmedden Amenities Trust and Udny Green School Parent Council. Local not for profit organisation / community groups can apply for our grant fund.

#### Community Land Week 2023

We helped celebrate Community Land Week 2023. We hosted a free Halloween workshop, and we offered free Soup and Sweets in the Café.

#### Looking Forward

We have started preparing for our Community Christmas Fayre, thank you to all the community groups who are coming along on 25 November. Save the date 11 December and come and join local artist Steve Murison and make some alternative Christmas cards, the theme is Christmas Creature Cards! We look forward to welcoming our volunteers in for a special volunteer's event on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December. Also keep an eye out for Breakfast with Santa in December.

#### **URG Report:**

Aberdeenshire Council requested evidence of their RCLV grant having been spent as per the funding conditions, all invoices, bank statements and a short explanation were submitted to Catriona Nicolson on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nov 2023, although this had already been dealt with on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2023.

#### Storage and Insurance for generators

GN Spoke with Udny Caravan Storage facility in Pitmedden. Both generators can be stored there at a cost of £250 per unit, per year. They confirmed free storage for the generators had never previously been agreed, as UCC had been led to believe.

GN contacted Zurich insurance to check insurance is in place for

<p>transporting the generators. Insurance company advised the generators are not insured as UCC had previously been led to believe. A quote was apparently sent on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June, based on a valuation of the generators from a previous member of UCC, but never acted on. An updated valuation of the generators and trailers is needed to ensure both are fully covered by insurance. MK is now handling this and has already sent the appropriate information to Zurich; he will feed back on progress at the next meeting. All appropriate insurance will be in place imminently.</p> <p><u>Insurance whilst towing generators:</u> Whilst being towed the generators would be covered under the drivers own motor cover policy. Each person who tows the generators would have to check their own policy (Written proof from the driver's insurance company confirming appropriate cover should be sent to UCC before anyone transports the equipment).</p> <p><u>Transporting sandbags to members of the community:</u> Any volunteer who is transporting sandbags would be covered under the individuals own motor cover policy. The UCC insurance does not cover this. Again, written proof from the individuals motor cover insurance company would need to be provided to UCC before any action is taken.</p> <p><u>Use of chainsaws for community projects:</u> This was not an easy answer. UCC would have to answer specific questions sent to them by the insurance company, UCC's responses would then be taken to the underwriters to check if insurance could be provided. At present no one is covered to use chain saws for any community council project.</p>	<p>MK</p>	<p>On Going</p>
<p><b><u>Planning:</u></b> Carthey Muar putting paths in.</p> <p>A planning application has come up for 'Removal of developer obligations' relating to Meldrum academy and funds for a 3G pitch or other recreational facilities. This needs looking into urgently as the deadline for any objections or comments is this Sunday. Suggested we put in a holding objection and discuss further. Also put posts on local FB page and local groups advising the local community of the impending deadline. GN email objection to planning office and contact school to see if they are aware. Also put a post on FB to make community aware of this application.</p>	<p>GN</p>	<p>ASAP</p>
<p><b><u>Matters Arising:</u></b> <u>Developer obligations:</u> A standard point for developer obligations is to be put on agenda. We can discuss each month and create a list of ideas.</p>	<p>GN</p>	<p>Before next meeting</p>

<p>GN to email Donner Sutherland to discuss. Jenny Nicol will forward GN an email relating to this. Discuss ideas for developer obligations at next meeting.</p>	GN/JN	On Going
<p><u>Donated compost:</u> Action complete – Remove from Matters arising.</p>	GN	By next meeting
<p>The trust has funding to give to bob for planters. There might be some left over for carol who looks after the planting for Udney Green community. Bob receives £1000 in an annual budget from the trust for plant bulbs etc for Pitmedden village. Possibility of this increasing to £1,500 so Udney green community can dip into the budget as well. General feeling from UCC is that this should be a community budget and all villages should, if they so wish, be able to access this funding.</p>		
<p>MK advised he is focusing on securing funds for carol, for Udney Green Village. There was some discussion around how UCC can best support Carol and ensure she can apply for funds from UCT. Possibility Carol could apply for funding through Udney Green Hall committee? PC will speak with Carol and explain what was discussed and how we can help.</p>	PC	ASAP
<p><u>Defib user instructions:</u> On Going – GN put on agenda for next meeting.</p>	GN	By next meeting
<p><u>Combination for container.</u> Done – Received from Aberdeenshire council – Remove from matters arising.</p>	GN	By next meeting
<p><u>Storm Babet Community Support Information:</u> GN received emails from Aberdeen Council – This is the type of information we should be sharing and getting out to the community when there is an adverse weather event.</p>		
<p>Sandbag container needs restocking – PC will organise this.</p>	PC	ASAP
<p>The community need to know where the Aberdeenshire Council rest centres are. GN to put a post on the UCC FB page and PC share the post to the URG page advising the public of these venues and that Aberdeenshire council would inform any areas if/when they are to be used.</p>	GN/PC	ASAP
<p>Information should be sent out regarding ideas for emergency grab bag PC will send UCC an email of the ideas URG have about how to make a grab bag. PC advised this topic has been raised on the URG FB page a number of times, it was also a fundamental part of the May UCTC event at the Medan centre. Light sticks were handed out during this event also, for use in grab bags and examples of necessary kit was on display.</p>	PC	ASAP

<p><u>URG pre-emptive action to be discussed by UCC:</u> UCC briefly discussed some ideas of what they would and would not be comfortable with. Also discussed initial idea Aberdeenshire council had for resilience projects. All of this will be discussed in more depth at the informal meeting on Monday the 20<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><u>URG vision document received?</u> Done – Remove from matters arising.</p> <p><u>Storm Babet:</u> Risk Assessment - carried out and provided prior to meeting.</p> <p>Full Volunteer Briefing – Confirmed this took place before the event.</p> <p>FB poster to chair for approval – Completed.</p> <p>List of volunteers to UCC – This was not actioned. It was discussed and advised UCC need a list of the volunteers before any action is take for each weather event URG deal with. All actions for this point now complete and can be removed from agenda - GN.</p>	GN	By next meeting
<p><u>Claymore Homes:</u> VJ had emailed GN some additional questions which GN for to Claymore homes, they have acknowledged receipt and advised they will feed back. GN will pull together a document with all the questions asked to date so we have a clear log of this information.</p>	GN	By next meeting
<p><u>Udny Green Parking poster project:</u> GN phoned planning on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November, they said because of the conservation area they would need to liaise with the varying departments, including roads. May take a bit of time but they will get back to us ASAP. If GN hasn't heard in the next few weeks she will chase.</p>	GN	ASAP
<p><u>URG informal meeting arrangements:</u> Booked in for 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm at GN's house. GN will email address to all.</p>	GN	ASAP
<p><u>Friends of Udny Cemetery meeting update:</u> Seemed to be a very successful meeting. They are setting up their own group and will access funding when needed. If UCC can support at all we will, but the general feeling from the meeting was they have everything in hand.</p>		
<p><u>Pitmedden Christmas lights:</u> MK confirmed all info was sent in that was needed from UCC. It has been confirmed to Ross that all paperwork from any</p>		

<p>person/group using any lifting equipment must be set into the relevant department in the council.</p> <p><u>Bronnie Bridge and Cairnseat repairs:</u> The road will be closed for 5 days from the 20<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><u>Speeding buses:</u> Speeding buses and Bus stops has been rolling on for a while. Revisit in Jan (speak to Paul Johnson)</p> <p><b><u>New Items:</u></b></p> <p><u>Appropriate Insurance for Subgroup activities:</u> Talked through what insurance was needed and who's policy covered what. CC insurance company have explained they will need specific questions answered, which they will provide, to ensure appropriate insurance for specific activities. Insurance company also advised, best practice would be for any community project that requires volunteers to use dangerous equipment, operate/work in adverse weather conditions, or drive and/or tow anything in support of the community, all risk assessments would have to be carried out and provided to the community council BEFORE any activities went ahead. We (UCC) would also have to show evidence of the individual's appropriate qualifications to carry out said risk assessments. IF insurance was available for the use of chainsaws during projects in support of the community, then appropriate qualifications, from recognised, regulated bodies, would also have to be provided to the UCC and confirmed by the UCC, before any activities took place.</p> <p><b><u>Notable Items sent by email:</u></b> Most emails for this meeting came through after the agenda was posted. How do we add them to the meeting if they are not advertised to the community as discussion points on the agenda? It was suggested these could go under 'points for discussion at next meeting' unless urgent, then they could go under 'urgent business'. However, for this meeting, these emails were received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital engagement newsletter – Who should this go to? General email to all? Do we need a Media person for FB posts etc?</li> <li>• Scams bulletin – Sent as PDF so should/could this be put on our website and FB page weekly, with us highlighting specific points?</li> <li>• Rural Childcare Provision in Aberdeenshire – Looking for community engagement. GB will post the link for the survey on our FB group so parents/carers within the community have chance to complete before any deadline.</li> <li>• Notification of Sheltered housing vacancy – Again looking for engagement from the community council.</li> </ul>	<p>GN/all UCC members</p>	<p>By next meeting</p>
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<p>As with the scams bulletin, could this type of information be posted to our FB page and website? How do we get this info out, out with the CC meetings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bus Forum – Advising face to face meetings are being replaced with online forums. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Second email received (evening of 13<sup>th</sup> Nov) – This shows an email trail expressing concern over the change of face to face to online. GN checked back – initial invite to this forum was received in May 2023.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b><u>Points for discussion at next meeting:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. GN has had an email from Katie Nethercutt who works for the Scottish National trust to have a chat about the future of the South Manes property, she will feed back in January.</li> <li>2. Quarry building.</li> <li>3. UCTC and UCC coming together to discuss imagine Udney.</li> <li>4. Tidying up the website Mug shots.</li> <li>5. Media – FB and website. Raising profile of UCC</li> <li>6. Fund raising projects for UCC.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Meeting Closed 10.25pm</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Next Meeting – 17<sup>th</sup> of January 2024.</b></p>	GB	ASAP
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