

# **Drumoig Residents Association**

## **Secretary's report for 2020**

Circulated to members 13, January, 2021

### **Introduction**

At this time last year who would have thought that we would be facing such a life-changing year, with no prospect of restrictions easing any time soon. This has greatly impacted society generally in the way that it operates, and the work of the DRA and community activities. However, there have been some achievements throughout the year, and some challenges for the year ahead.

### **Membership**

Membership of the Association remains high with only 8 of the 124 households on the estate electing to be non-members. This gives a 94% coverage of households in Drumoig including the additional 2 occupied houses in Pickletillum Avenue.

4 households moved away, and 6 households became new members in 2020.

We will continue to encourage all residents to recognise the advantages of membership as house ownership changes and new houses are completed in Drumoig.

### **DRA Committee**

The Committee held 4 meetings since the Annual General Meeting in January 2020. We progressed actions, monitored the financial position, reviewed correspondence, and agreed communications. The planning and organisation of community activities was cut short by the lockdown in March 2020 and the on-going restrictions since then.

The Chairman, John Cuthbertson, resigned for personal reasons in May 2020. On behalf of the Committee, we wish to record our thanks to John for his commitment and hard work for the Drumoig Community over the years. Committee members Heather Knight and Rosemary Davidson agreed to share the position of Chair on an interim basis, and Euan MacGregor and Neil Sibbit agreed to be co-opted to the Committee.

A new Committee will be elected as soon as the restrictions on gathering are lifted, and when it is possible to arrange the next AGM, hopefully in quarter 2, 2021.

### **News and information updates**

Throughout the year I received over 600 emails and sent about 500. Of these, over 60 were the subscribed members' news and information updates that hopefully you find useful. With the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, the news and information updates were not only sent to those members who had requested them, but the updates on support available to anyone impacted by coronavirus were hand-delivered to those few members who have not consented to receiving emails as well as any non-member residents on the estate.

Again if anyone has any news items that they would like to share with the subscribed membership then pass them on to me for distribution.

Don't forget to let me know if you change your email address so I can update the distribution lists. If you think you have been missed from any of the updates, then please let me know and I'll check the details that we have for you.

### **Community Initiatives**

The 2020 Burns Supper was another successful evening in January 2020. Many thanks to Dave and Lil Smith for leading on the organisation of that, and to the community members who contributed to its success. Unfortunately, like all the other events planned since then, 2021's Burns Supper had to be cancelled.

The onset of lockdown in March 2020 posed many challenges for our community, and we responded by asking for volunteers who would be willing to assist their fellow residents who may have no other means of support. This list was distributed to all residents in Drumoig and is still available from the Secretary. It was not published on the public website to protect the privacy of the volunteers.

The emails received show that the DRA is now recognised by wider community groups that cover our interests. We have well established links with the local councillors, Tayport & Ferry Port on Craig Community Council, Fife Council officials and the Communities and Neighbourhoods teams, and the Community Liaison officer at Leuchars base, and we receive updates on initiatives that may impact us.

These contacts proved useful in supporting the case for the installation of the bus shelter southbound on the A914 at Pickletillem.

There are on-going issues with the repair of pot holes and we continue to press Fife Council for action.

You may recall that early in the year Fife Council initiated a review of Community Council boundaries. We expect a response from the review in March 2021, delayed from last March by the pandemic.

Other on-going initiatives are the implementation of the 40mph speed limit beyond Drumoig to St Michaels, now over 2 years late, and the construction of a path from Craigie Hill to the new bus shelter on the A914. The progress of both of these issues is being pursued with Fife Council.

The new development at Pickletillem is now complete, and this has resulted in the erection of a bus shelter northbound on the A914. The impaired visibility from the shelter has been raised with Fife Council.

We have been supported in progressing many of these items by the 3 local Councillors, and particularly Councillor Tim Brett in our dealings with Fife Council.

### **DRA Website**

[Drumoig Residents Association - Home \(btck.co.uk\)](http://btck.co.uk)

We spent a considerable number of hours ensuring that the coronavirus support information was kept current as the situation changed from lockdown and shielding through the easing of restrictions and the tier structure to the stay at home restrictions currently in place. Links were established with the wider community initiatives in the Newport area. This has hopefully provided a useful source of information for residents throughout the pandemic.

BT, our current provider of the infrastructure for the DRA website, have signalled their intention to withdraw the service in May 2021. The website will therefore need to migrate to another provider, and this is being progressed at present.

Again any suggestions for improvements to the website would be welcome.

### **Conclusion**

2020 has been a difficult year for us all, and 2021 is still challenging, but there are signs of hope as the various vaccines are approved and rolled-out. We will continue to update and distribute information for members and the wider resident community. We hope to get back to community activity sometime in the year, starting with the AGM, but in the meantime

**Stay Home – Protect the NHS – Save Lives**

Ian Wilson

Secretary,  
Drumoig Residents Association,  
2020