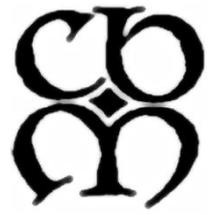


**CULTS BIELDSIDE AND MILLTIMBER
COMMUNITY COUNCIL**



The Future is Ours

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Abbreviations

ACC	Aberdeen City Council
CBM	Cults, Bielside and Milltimber
CBMCC	Cults, Bielside and Milltimber Community Council
CC	Community Council

Appendix 1

Education

The Scottish education system is distinctly different from those in the other countries of the United Kingdom. The Scotland Act 1998 gives the Scottish Parliament legislative control over all education matters, and the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 is the principal legislation governing education in Scotland.

Primary School Years

State schools in Aberdeen are owned and operated by Aberdeen City Council which acts as the Education Authority. Schools are supported in delivering learning and teaching by Education Scotland which is a Scottish Government executive agency charged with supporting quality and improvement in Scottish education and thereby securing the delivery of better learning experiences and outcomes for Scottish learners of all ages.

Children start primary school aged between 4½ and 5½ depending on when the child's birthday falls.

Primary schools in the MBC Community Council area are:

Cults Primary

Earlswells Road,

Cults,

Aberdeen AB15 9RG

Phone: 01224 869221

www.cultsprimary.aberdeen.sch.uk

Cults Primary School is an open plan school on one level. P1-7 has approximately 540 children. The nursery runs four sessions, two in the morning and two in the afternoon. Each session has places for 20 children.

Milltimber Primary

Monearn Gardens,

Milltimber

Aberdeen AB13 0DX

Phone: 01224 73251

www.milltimber.aberdeen.sch.uk

Milltimber Primary School has approximately 222 pupils in P1-7 plus 40 children in the Nursery. This figure fluctuates throughout the school session

Peterculter Primary

22 School Rd,

Peterculter

Aberdeen AB14 0RX

Phone: 01224 733197

www.culter.aberdeen.sch.uk

Peterculter Primary was built in 1896 as a Secondary School, but was a combined Primary and Secondary School prior to the construction of Cults Academy in 1967. After

that, it was converted into a Primary School. The current school roll sits at around 300 pupils.

Lairhillock Primary

Netherley

Stonehaven

AB39 3QS

Phone 01569 732520

www.lairhillock.aberdeenshire.sch.uk

Pupils attending Lairhillock School, and those children resident in the Lairhillock School zone but attending other primary schools, who are currently zoned to Cults Academy, remain entitled to attend Cults Academy. Any future housing developments in the Lairhillock School zone, including the Blairs development, will be rezoned to an Aberdeenshire Council secondary school.

There have been proposals to exclude pupils from Lairhillock Primary from the Cults Academy catchment area but these have been dropped following representations from the Lairhillock School Parent Council, Lairhillock pupil parents and Education Scotland.

Associated School Group:

Cults, Miltimber and Peterculter Primary schools are all included in the Cults Associated School Group (ASG). The ASG is a local authority term given to the schools which sit in the catchment area for their local academy.

Secondary School years:

In Scotland, pupils sit National 4/5 exams (previously Standard Grade or Intermediate exams) at the age of fifteen/sixteen, for normally eight subjects including compulsory exams in English and Mathematics.

A Science subject (Physics, Biology or Chemistry) and a Social Subject (Geography, History or Modern Studies) were also compulsory, but this was changed in accordance with the new curriculum. It is now required by the Scottish Parliament for students to have two hours of physical education a week; each school may vary these compulsory combinations.

The school leaving age is generally sixteen (after completion of National 4/5s), after which students may choose to remain at school and study for Higher and/or Advanced Higher exams.

The secondary school in the MBC Community Council area is:

Cults Academy

Quarry Rd,

Cults,

Aberdeen AB15 9TP

Phone: 01224 868801

www.cults-academy.aberdeen.sch.uk

Cults Academy is the largest state school in Aberdeen with a school roll of approximately 1150 pupils. Founded in 1967, it was the recipient of The Sunday Times Scottish State Secondary School of the Year Award 2008 due to its outstanding exam results.

Qualifications at the secondary school and [post-secondary \(further education\)](#) level are provided by the [Scottish Qualifications Authority](#) (SQA), which is the national awarding and accrediting body in Scotland.

The capacity of Cults Academy is 1141. Aberdeen City Council predicts that the school roll will rise to 1313 by 2019.

Private Schools

There are 4 private schools in Aberdeen admitting secondary age pupils, some of which also have junior schools and nursery care. They are:

Robert Gordon's College (co-educational)

St Margaret's School for Girls

Albyn School (co-educational)

International School of Aberdeen (co-educational)

3 out of the 4 private schools in Aberdeen are academically selective, meaning that potential pupils have to undergo an admissions process involving a formal exam and or a structured interview. Only the International School of Aberdeen is non-selective.

All independent schools in Aberdeen offer some form of scholarship or bursary for pupils who show high potential, but may not be in a strong enough financial position to fully afford tuition fees.

Independent schools usually offer the Scottish national curriculum or A Levels, and several schools offer the International Baccalaureate (IB). The only school in the city that offers the IB Diploma is the International School of Aberdeen.

Home-schooling

Under Scottish law, expats in Aberdeen are able to home-school their children. Parents wanting to take their children out of a state school have to get permission from the Aberdeen City Authority. If an expat pupil has never attended a Scottish school or attended a private school, they will not need the City Authority's permission.

Further and Higher Education

Vocational education in Aberdeen is provided by North East Scotland College and through apprenticeships. Skills Development Scotland is the national skills body which supports the people and businesses of Scotland to develop and apply their skills. They also provide careers information, advice and guidance, and work-based training programmes. All Scottish universities, including both Aberdeen University and the city's Robert Gordon University, are public universities and funded by the Scottish Government (through its Scottish Funding Council) and financial support is provided for Scottish-domiciled students by the Student Awards Agency for Scotland.

Appendix 2

Heritage

History, Records and Archives

The City Council information boards on the Deeside Way at the sites of former stations and the notice at the Bielside Cairn provide historical information on site.

Relevant books held by Cults Library and the Central Library include Roy Howard's *Cults Past and Present*, D Jamieson's *Old Lower Deeside* and Graham Marr's *The Old Deeside Road Revisited*. Cults Library also has individual histories of local institutions like the Bowling Club, Golf Club and Deeside Christian Fellowship Church.

The Central City Library Local Studies Department contains relevant volumes of all three Statistical Accounts of Scotland, compiled in 1794, 1843 and 1944, and also has bound copies of newspaper cuttings relating to Cults from 1854 and folders of cuttings relating to Milltimber and Bielside.

A list of local heritage sites and relevant information can be found on various databases:

- Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) on Aberdeen City Council website
- Silver City Vaults, local history section of Aberdeen City Libraries
- Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)
- CANMORE, the National Monuments Database
- Scottish Cultural Resources Network (SCRAN)
- Historic Environment Scotland

Appendix 3

Planning

The Appendix sets out the three main levels of planning which take place in our area and how the Community Council gets involved.

Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan

This plan is a joint effort between the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils which sets out the direction for development in the North East of Scotland over the next 20 years. The plan covers the whole of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire except that part within the Cairngorms National Park. The plan sets out a spatial vision and strategy for those matters which can be best dealt with by Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire working together. The last Strategic Plan was issued in April 2014, setting out how land will be allocated for development to 2035 and the plan is updated every 5 years. The plan addresses economic growth, housing and infrastructure requirements, sustainable development and climate change. Community Councils are given the opportunity to comment on the main issues report and the draft plan. As an example, Housing allowances for Aberdeen City up to 2035 are: Greenfield 21000 and Brownfield 10500.

Aberdeen City Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan provides the detail required for implementing the Strategic Development Plan. The plan sets out the specific sites proposed for housing and commercial development and the infrastructure needs. The Plan also sets out the policies which will govern development and summarises the Supplementary Guidance which accompanies the policies. As with the Strategic Development Plan, Community Councils are given the opportunity to review and comment upon the Main Issues Report and the Draft Report. This is an important process as it can define how much new development can be included and where it will be. The latest Local Development Plan 2015 was approved in January 2017 following examination by Scottish Ministers in 2016. The plans are updated every 5 years and given the lengthy review cycle, the next Main Issues report is expected in 2018.

Main points from the LDP for the Cults, Bieldside and Milltimber area are:

Housing Allowances: Countesswells 3000 ; Deeside, including Peterculter, 802 (Oldfold 550, Milltimber South 60, Culterhouse Road 10-15, Contlaw Road 10) . The 280 homes at Friarsfield are separate as they were approved in an earlier plan.

Local Planning

Major housing developments go through a Masterplanning process which involves public consultation. The developers are required to note the comments and concerns raised by the public and demonstrate to the City Council how they have addressed them but they may not necessarily agree with the issues raised. Once a Masterplan has been approved, the development proceeds using the standard planning application approval process.

Planning applications received by the Aberdeen City Council are posted on their website (www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment), which is also a good source of information on planning. Neighbours who live within 20m of the proposed development

should receive written notification of the application and they have 21 days within which they can make a representation. Once the application has been validated by the City Council anyone can make a representation/objection to a planning application within the 21 day review period. The City Council officially has two months to review and issue a decision on a local application but this time can stretch if there are questions or missing pieces of information in the application. Aberdeen City Council issue a weekly list to Community Councils and Elected Councillors showing the planning applications validated in the previous week.

The Community Council Planning Liaison Officer reviews the planning applications submitted for our area and she/he will bring forward for the attention of the Community Council any which could give rise to resident concerns. These will generally relate to larger housing developments, splitting of curtilages and new commercial developments; it is rare for applications for extensions to draw attention but they occasionally give rise to concerns. When necessary, the Planning Liaison Officer may contact the Aberdeen City Planning Officer to request an extension to the review period to allow an application to be discussed at the next monthly meeting. Residents can also bring forward an application which is causing them concern for discussion by the Community Council, either by contacting the Community Council secretary at cbmcc@cbmcommunity.org.uk or the Planning Liaison Officer directly.

The Planning Liaison Officer keeps a record of the applications received for our area and the actions taken, if any. A planning report is prepared and issued to the Community Councillors ahead of each meeting, summarising the applications received during the month and highlighting those that deserve comment. The Aberdeen City Planning website is used to establish which applications have either been approved or refused and the tracking sheet is updated.

The Community Council website holds copies of previous monthly planning reports and other documents relating to the review of planning applications. The website of Planning Aid Scotland at www.pas.org.uk also holds many useful documents on the planning process e.g. the Criteria For Judging Planning Applications used by the Community Council.

There is an established protocol for relationships between Aberdeen City Planning Department and Community Councils, the "Planning Agreement Between Community Councils and Aberdeen City Council Officers On The Planning Process". This was established in 2015 and is produced within and builds on the overarching framework provided by the recently adopted Community Council Protocol 2013. By setting out how the Community Councils and Aberdeen City Council will work together to ensure that the views of local communities are taken into account in the planning process, the Planning Agreement seeks to provide:

- Visibility, transparency and ease of accessibility in the way the process is operated.
- Opportunities for the local community to express their views to decision makers to ensure that their suggestions and concerns are fully considered in the planning process.
- A greater emphasis on accountability to local communities.