

MUIRHEAD, BIRKHILL AND LIFF COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minute of Meeting held 3rd April 2014 in the Millennium Hall

ATTENDANCE

Community Councillors – Colin Hunter, Ken Johnston, Jim Moir, Doug Neilson, Stuart Phillips, Jimmie Reid, Alison French, Cllr Hands, Cllr Fotheringham, and 1 member of the public.

Apologies: PC Sean Scanlon, Vince Taylor, Elaine Stewart.

MINUTE OF MEETING 6th February 2014

Adoption Proposed: - Jim Moir

Seconded: - Alison French

POLICE MATTERS

Fraudulent Activities

Police Scotland would like to remind members of the public to remain vigilant against fraudulent activities, in particular advanced fee fraud.

‘Advance fee fraud’ is when a person is asked to provide payment in advance of promised wealth, gifts, prizes or employment. Contact can come by email, phone, fax or post. Fraudsters typically target individuals claiming to be from the Ministry of Justice, the Government, Office of Fair Trading or a Loan company.

Examples of this type of fraudulent activity are;

- A financial company providing a loan requiring an administration fee
- The recipient has won a sum of money in a lottery
- An insurance policy has been discovered in the recipient’s name
- Time share refunds
- Payment protection insurance refunds
- Bank charges refunds

To receive the financial reward, the victim is required to pay an admin fee via money transfer service such as Western Union or Moneygram, or purchase Ukash vouchers then pass the code to the fraudster.

Never let a fraudster educate you on how a money transfer service works, only take advice from the money transfer company. Never ignore the warnings or make false statements on money transfer documents. The information is there to protect you. Do not pay for items bought on line using a money transfer service. Providers of money transfer services are not responsible for the satisfactory receipt of goods or services paid for by this means. Never share details of a money transfer with a third party to prove the availability of funds. Doing so may enable the money transfer to be paid to that third party. This is known as a ‘Proof of Funds’ fraud.

Remember if it sounds too good to be true it probably is

Wildlife Crime

Over recent weeks, Police Scotland, Tayside Division has received a number of calls reporting people deer poaching and hare coursing. Poaching is an acquisitive crime. Given the rural nature of Angus, it is anticipated that such crimes will continue to be reported. Poachers often have little regard for wildlife and the farmers whose lives they affect. It is rare that animals are killed merely for food; more often than not it is the case that such animals are taken for the pleasure of those involved. Poachers are very often involved in other criminal activity. If you suspect people are poaching, please contact police immediately. If possible, try to note a description of the people involved, and the registration mark of any vehicles. If you notice that the persons involved have firearms, please convey this information to the police when the incident is reported.

Operation Dry Up

During the darker evenings and on Friday/Saturday evenings can result in an increase of youth causing annoyance complaints in general. Along with this comes the increase in underage drinking complaints received by Police. Parents and guardians have a responsibility for the youths in their care, and as such are asked to ensure that they

know where their children are, who they are with and what they are doing. Alcohol causes untold damage to the health of young people, as well as contributing to antisocial behaviour and criminal activity. Many parents are of the opinion that by them supplying their children with alcohol that they are controlling the quantities consumed, however this is quite often not the case. Youths can, and do, leave the residential property, consume more alcohol and commit antisocial behaviour and crime. Furthermore, being under the influence of alcohol can increase a person's chances of being a victim of crime.

Dark Evenings Crime

Police Scotland would like to remind householders of the importance of home security. Police Scotland would ask members of the public to be extra vigilant, especially since the clocks have been put back with the darker nights and mornings and be aware of seeing anyone or any vehicles that are unfamiliar to the area or in suspicious circumstances. Also consider installing security lighting and/or timer switches in the house if going out for the evening. Criminals often carry out opportunist crimes, and will be looking to take advantage of open or unlocked doors and windows to steal from houses, garages, sheds and other outbuildings. As householders and their families head outdoors, doors and windows are often left wide open – providing an invitation for criminals who can sneak in and out in a matter of seconds taking valuable property with them.

Housebreakings/Thefts, – Sidlaw area

Crimes have been committed recently in the following areas:- Hosie Park, Dronley, Braeside, Auchterhouse, Coupar Angus Road, Wester Balruddery, Drum, Eassie, Woodside Road Liff, Berryhill Road Fowlis and on the B954 near to Meigle.

Scrap Metal Thefts

Scrap Metal and diesel thefts continue to strike rural Angus area when unattended items of scrap are seen lying around and is an open invite into the yard or field by strangers. Once within the yard or field they take the opportunity to have a good look around and if an insecure fuel tank is seen then there is a high chance that the diesel will be stolen at the time or there might be unwelcome visitors during the night.

Fuel tanks can be easily secured for a minimum cost by simply purchasing a good quality padlock or seeking advice from your fuel supplier.

Vandalism

Despite a downward trend over the previous few years, Vandalism does remain an issue in Angus. Vandalism is a crime which affects people's quality of life and costs communities millions to repair. It is easy to dismiss vandalism as a minor offence, but it does have a big impact on local communities (higher insurance premiums, facilities being out of use, may increase the fear of crime).

Antisocial Behaviour

The main issue which affects the communities of Angus is Antisocial Behaviour – in all its guises. ASB includes issues such as dog fouling, littering, neighbour noise, youth annoyance etc. Complaints of ASB, in particular noisy neighbours, tend to increase during the summer months. Angus Community Safety Team will continue to deal with problem residents in a robust manner. Please report such incidents to **Access Line on 08452 777 778**.

Antisocial Behaviour on Angus Roads

Police Scotland and its partners continue to receive complaints or anecdotal information regarding people driving in an antisocial manner, or perhaps having noisy vehicles. Please help us to combat all of the above by reporting to **Police Scotland on 101** or to **Crimestoppers** anonymously on **0800 555 111**.

FOWLIS VILLAGE GREEN

Those in attendance noted the advice received from the Faculty of Advocates Scotland Free Legal Service and in particular:

1. that Angus Council have no legal responsibility for the Green and cannot be compelled to do anything; but
2. that Condition 17 of the planning permission for Fowlis Village regarding maintenance of the Green was "imperfect in that it did not have a time limit, nor express the obligation in perpetuity".

The meeting noted that (2) above was consistent with advice previously received from a Scots Law solicitor who specialised in planning law on the Just Answer web site and from Planning Aid Scotland.

The meeting also noted that whilst Angus Council may not have a legal responsibility for the Green, they recalled that following a Land Registry search, it had been confirmed that Fowlis Village residents had no legal responsibility either.

Those present agreed that, as Angus Council had made errors during the planning consent process which resulted in the current situation, Angus Council should rectify this wrong.

The meeting discussed the merits of further dialogue with Council officers or representation to the Communities Committee of Angus Council. Following discussion the meeting agreed in the first instance to request an on-site meeting with Vivien Smith, Head of Planning and Place, Angus Council, with an invitation to attend going to local councillors and community councillors.

Members reserved the right to make representation to the Angus Council Communities Committee thereafter, if need be. Brian Smyth is to prepare a briefing document for circulation in advance of the meeting.

TAYplan

TAYplan have provided details of the Main Issues Report Consultation for the Approved Strategic Development Plan. These are: -

1. Consultation to run from 15 April until 27 June 2014.
2. Details and updates to be available through <http://www.tayplan.sdpa.gov.uk/>,
3. To follow on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/TAYplan>.

The meeting noted that there were problems accessing this information due to the link on computer however explanatory meetings will be held in Dundee and Perth. There are two briefing events to be held for Elected Members and Community Councils, one in Dundee on 15 April and one in Perth on 17 April.

Eight drop in events are planned from early April until early June. The 2 nearest to us are in Dundee, Discovery 3pm - 7pm on Thursday 15 May, and, Marryat Hall 11.30am - 4.30pm on Saturday 7 June.

SUPERFAST BROADBAND

The Printing and Distribution of Leaflets was discussed and authorised. We need as many people as possible to Register their interest if we are to get better speeds

CORRESPONDENCE

At their meeting of 4 March 2014 the Development and Enterprise Committee approved the fifth annual review and roll forward of the Angus Development Plan Scheme (DPS). The purpose of the Development Plan Scheme is to set out the broad programme for preparing and reviewing the Local Development Plan for Angus and what is likely to be involved at each stage. In addition the Angus Development Plan Scheme (Revised March 2014) will be available for reference, free of charge, during normal working hours at all Public Libraries and ACCESS Offices in Angus and Planning Reception, County Buildings, Forfar. Alternatively the document can be viewed on the Council's internet page at www.angus.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan/ Residents are asked to review and respond.

ROADS

Grass Verge outside Millennium Hall/Bowling Club – We believe that the grass Seed has now been planted

FINANCE

Finances are in order and healthy. Our Insurance will require renewal shortly

PLANNING

The online survey for our Local Development strategy closed on 17th March

COMMUNICATION

Mobile Library

Ways of promoting the use of the libraries will be considered and partnership with agencies encouraged. Those in the communities being served by the mobiles will be consulted.

Some of the options being considered as part of the Rural Access Vehicles (Mobile Library) Service Review are:-

1. Timetable to an "area" rather than a particular stop
2. Fortnightly stops for the public at the same time each fortnight
3. To include weekend and evening stops on the timetables
4. Timetables for Summer & Winter may be possible (note that Leisure Centres change their activity timetables with with the seasons)
5. To ask whether people would like the van to stop in one place for a long period (a number of hours/half day/full day)
6. To ask if longer stops would be better for IT use
7. To stop at large workplaces for a library service (monthly)
8. To find out when things are on in the village halls
9. Distance/accessibility to a burgh library is the criteria for service consideration, not burgh versus rural

Community Planning Sub Group

The Transport Sub Group met on 11th March

1. Graham Hewitson is to try and insure our views are considered
2. Monifieth Parent Council are to meet with Quality Assurance Officer Dawn Archibald re the School Transport

Website

The website is operational and has been updated

Face book

Face book is operational

A O C B

1. Update of the list of Community Council Meeting Dates for 2014 has been produced
2. Spending is to take place on the Core Paths in our area
3. An Angus Council Recycling Officer is to give a presentation to the next Community Council meeting (on 1st May) regarding the changes to the refuse/recycling from households which are being implemented soon
4. The minute of our recent Annual General Meeting will be available on the website
5. Date of the next Annual General Meeting will be 3rd September 2015

6. The proposed 20 mile per hour speed limit enforcement on Osprey Road, Piperdam will go before the appropriate Angus Council committee on 15th April. The proposal will be on the website on 12th April

ONGOING ISSUES

To be discussed only if there is a change to the current position and the item is not on the Standard Agenda

- **Birkhill**
School Buses
Cemetery
Park Drainage
- **Muirhead**
Resurfacing of Pavements
Resurfacing of A923
- **Liff**
Church Road
Woodside Road
- **Piperdam,**
Core Path Gates

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 1st MAY 2014 in the MILLENNIUM HALL BIRKHILL at 7-00 PM