

Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council Approved Minutes of meeting Held on 17th July 2024

Attendance:

Secretary: Avril Kidd Treasurer: Keith Kirkhope

Community Councillors: Liz Cargill; Elected members: Cllr Whiteside Police: Constable Martyn Brennan Members of the public: none

Apologies:

Community Councillors: Stuart Grubb; Grant Kidd; Margaret Dunning;

Elected members: Cllr Melville; Cllr Doran; Angus Council Officers: Hong Zhang

Planning: Rose Jenkins;

Minutes of previous meetings

Approved at meeting 17/07/24

Police Report

Recent crimes/issues in the area:

Assessment period - 15/05/2024 - 17/07/2024

There were **31** calls to the Muirhead, Birkhill, Fowlis and Liff area during this assessment period.

5 crimes were recorded. A break down as follows: -

Group 1 - Crimes of violence - 0

Group 2 – Sexual crime. 0

Group 3 – Crimes of dishonesty (includes shoplifting & fraud) - 1 crime recorded.

Group 4 – Crimes involving property damage – **1** crime recorded.

Group 5 & 6 – Miscellaneous/ other crimes including threatening & abusive behaviour, offences against emergency workers and retail workers - 2 crimes recorded.

Group 7 – Motoring offences – **1** crime recorded.

Emerging issues locally:

Nothing to report

Other topics of note or messages:

PC Brennan provided an update about 'Community Speed Watch'. Which may be of benefit to the Community Council and the community in general. He will provide us with an update once he has more details. This is a nationally run program and involves trained and vetted members of a community group using a speed gun. This information is then passed on to the police who will send out letters. If you think you might be interested in being part of a group to run this please do contact the Community Council.

Can we please remind all residents about the importance of home and vehicle security, ensuring vehicles and doors are locked, no valuables are left in vehicles overnight and that all residents review their own home security, for example – lighting, CCTV, Ring doorbell camera's, lines of sight to your own and neighbours' properties etc.

Should any resident wish a **FREE** crime prevention survey then the Community Police can be contacted using the direct email address <u>TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk</u>

Lots of crime prevention advice can be found at.

www.securedbydesign.com

We are keen to arrange another 'Catch up with a Cop' event if residents think this would be of benefit. The last event was poorly attended however if there is an interest in us doing it again, then we are keen to engage with the Community Council and residents on the best way to do this.

General Agenda

Community	NCR for	17/01/2024	Rose shared an update on our resilience planning. There is a
Resilience	Community		draft funding request that will be submitted National Centre
Planning	Councils		for Resilience Community Councils
			https://www.gla.ac.uk/research/az/ncr/howtoworkwithus/#
			applyforfunding>
			Open to: Scottish Community Councils
			Grant Amount: £500
			Application Deadline: 31st January 2024 (£600 of MBLCC
			money was approved at the meeting to be used for matched funding) for a Resilience Event as part of our Community
			communication plan).
			This comprehensive funding request application covers all
			aspects of resilience – flooding, winds, extreme snow, ice,
			power outages . This will allow for further funding requests to
			be investigated for equipment identified in the Resilience plan
			(e.g generators for community halls, pumps, sandbags).
		20/03/2024	An application has been made to the National Centre for
			Resilience fund for £500. This will allow us to fund the costs of
			undertaking a consultation with the local communities to
			understand their needs. It will also help us to formulate a plan and identify other projects that we can apply for funding for.
			- Identify Community groups and hold working sessions with
			them to understand their needs/ where they could be part of
			the Resilience plan
			- Identify Community members who could be part of a
			Resilience Group
		15/05/2024	To give our resilience planning efforts a boost, we are pleased
			to announce that we have been successful in securing a
			modest but important grant of £500 from the National Centre
			for resilience. To obtain this, we put together a plan to encourage community participation in developing a resilience
			plan. Our intention is that with a plan, we will be in a position
			to make further bids for capital funding to help support the
			purchase of equipment and upgrades which would enable the
			community to support each other during a range of events
			including floods, major snow, storm damage, etc. We will now
			start to roll out our community outreach plan and seek to get
			further involvement from residents in our area. We would be
			grateful to hear from volunteers who would be willing to
			participate and help shape the plans.
			£500 grant approved – fill in the banking form to receive funding
			Turiumg
	SSE	17/01/2024	Rose did speak to SSE in 2023 who pointed us to their website
	-		and a community grant scheme once we have a resilience
			plan in place.
	Site Visits	17/01/2024	Hong suggested we setup site visits for the areas that were
			flooded with Angus Council/Scottish Flood Forum/Farmers as
			a good starting point for what could be done to help
l			prevent/deal with flooding. A member of the public with SEPA

		Experience informed us that Farmers need a license from SEPA to allow dredging of burns now.
Resilience Event	20/03/2024	MBLCC plan to host a public resilience event with various emergency responders such as Scottish Power, Scottish Flood Forum, Fire brigade, Police. Explains to households what they might want to put into place themselves (Household resilience); Possibly do DeFib awareness talk; Perhaps some CPR training. Jennifer Anderson from the Angus Council Resilience team suggested a Saturday morning in March with some refreshments and some fun things for children to do. Once there is an agreed date with a quorum of attendees this information will be shared as widely as possible and start asking what Volunteers could bring to a allow us to create a Skills/Assets Register. - At this event we may look for Volunteers to work with the CC on a Community Resilience Team - It would be useful if the community were able to point out areas at risk on a map at the event (e.g. which public roads were flooded (and where) along with private properties that were also flooded. This was replaced by the Flood Mobile. This event was organised in collaboration with Angus Council and was noted as being very well attended today.
		Based on the discussions that were had one of the next steps is to work with the Scottish Flood Forum on our flood map. They will help us to translate our sketch information into a digital map that we can share with SEPA, and it may lead to the identification of other actions that can be taken to alleviate local issues. RJ to action sketch flood map and pass to Scottish Flood Forum.
		Much was said of the impact of farming in the area. RJ will discuss with some local farmers to understand what they can and cannot do, and the regulations that they work under (e.g. SEPA). RJ will report back at the next meeting.
	15/05/2024	At the last meeting we took notes of areas that were hit during recent spates of flooding. We further followed this up with a Facebook post seeking more information from the Community. This was met with an enthusiastic response and all the data was recorded on a map which has been sent to the Scottish Flood Forum. This is an organisation that supports communities at risk from flooding. They have advised that they will help us to digitise this information and we hope to be able to use this to inform future resilience plans.
		In addition to this, there has been much discussion in many of the meetings regarding the management of farm land in our area, the management of waterways, the roles of SEPA and famers, and whether this could have had a detrimental effect and exacerbate the flooding that we saw in 2023. Rose has

Traffic and speeding	Pop Up Jim	17/01/2024 15/05/2024	spent some time with local farmers to understand the responsibilities of the farmers, the regulations that they are working under and their approach to land management. This has been an interesting exercise and Rose will seek to share relevant information at the next meeting and through our resilience planning project. Ready for deployment. Requests for Jim to be deployed at various places to be added to a spreadsheet. Has been deployed in Muirhead, Liff, Fowlis and road to Piperdam / Lundie
		17/07/2024	Maybe we could deploy him at the Liff School Crossing as per the note below. Also a request for Jim to be deployed again on Woodside Rd in Liff.
	Speed Detectors	17/01/2024	There are 4 detectors on the main roads through Birkhill/ Muirhead two are owned by Angus Council and 2 were bought by the previous MBLCC:- 2 in Birkhill on Coupar Angus Road. - One beside Asda Petrol Station - One beside the Bowling Club 2 in Muirhead (both Swarco with a date on them of June 21) with serial numbers 16689 and 16670):- - One on Coupar Angus Road opposite the church - One on Newtyle Road opposite the back of the old
		17/01/2024 15/05/2024 17/07/2024	nursery MBLCC have previously asked Angus Council under an FOI application whether they own and maintain the cameras. The response was that they did not. The previous mins of MBLCC meetings have also been searched for any details relating to the cameras. At the meeting the details of ownership and responsibility were discussed again. Cllr Whiteside has spoken to Craig Hudson from Angus Council Roads department and he is happy to be contacted about the speeding signs. Email sent. Craig Hudson said he will look into this as soon as he can. ACTION Needs followed up. Avril to email him
	Traffic Police	06/07/2023 15/05/2024 17/07/2024	Members of the public asked why traffic police have not attended Birkhill/Muirhead in months especially on a Sunday morning when there is a group of motorbikes who round the corner at Adil's then speed out of the village. ACTION - Stuart to add this to the police feedback form ACTION – Liz to check and report to police via email There have been less motorbikes but one Sunday there was a
	Reducing Speed limit in Birkhill/ Muirhead to 20	04/05/2023	group of 25 bikes went speeding past. All roads being reviewed at the moment by roads teams and will be complete by end March 2023
	20	17/01/2024	Update from Cllr Whiteside: the result of the recent speed limit review and specifically 20mph) are with Transport Scotland. However Craig Hudson is going to discuss the route

		15/05/2024	between Muirhead and Liff at this month's traffic coordination meeting. Cllr Whiteside reported that there will be some funding available for this but it's to be decided if there is to be a blanket approach or target some areas with traffic calming
r	Traffic Calming measures in Muirhead	12/01/2023 04/05/2023 15/05/2024 17/07/2024	Put in place in December 22. How will Angus Council measure success? We need the old data and when will we get updated data? Graeme Dailly Director of infrastructure and Environment invited to our meetings. Said he will come along to meet with us at the same time as the Community Police Officer ACTION Stuart to contact Graeme Dailly to see about site visit No update
E V S	Path from Backmuir Woods to Liff School is needed	02/03/2023 04/05/2023 17/07/2024	Could we use part of the field as is done between Liff and Fowlis? Sidlaw Path Network say that Angus council have said they will be doing something ACTION — discuss with Graham Daily when he attends meeting Could any of the funding opportunities be used? Liz also to discuss with farmer. Is it possible to use the scrub ground between the Backmuir Car Park and the house next to the school?
C N r t	Pedestrian Crossing in Muirhead needs moved to the shop side of the	07/09/2023 17/07/2024	ACTION – discuss with Graham Daily when he attends meeting No Update
	Parking at Schools	15/11/2023 15/05/2024 17/07/2024	Police suggest reporting illegally parked car Registrations via community police email ACTION – Stuart to try to obtain the Birkhill PCC report about traffic options Birkhill Primary School are interested in doing the Cycle/Walking train. Hong following up with the Active Travel Team. ACTION – Avril to resend information to Liff PPC
r C	Parking on pavement outside the Pharmacy in Muirhead	17/01/2024 15/05/2024 17/07/2024	ACTION - Cllr Doran will bring this up with Police - COMPLETE Parking on pavement in Angus' grace period is almost up. ACTION – Avril to post information on Facebook – COMPLETE Several fines have been given out
C	Member of public contacted us to say they	17/07/2024	Crossing between Liff Hospital and Liff School is dangerous with the increased traffic because of Swallow Roundabout works Overgrown Vegetation has been reported to Angus Council. (However this area is in Dundee) Cars driving in middle of

	were very concerned about crossing in Liff		road and not doing 20 MPH. Poor road markings. Asked if the crossing could be moved to a different place or extra signposts. Police said they will try to attend to monitor cars.
Correspondence			
Funding Opportunities		15/05/2024	We now keep a list of possible uses for funding to allow us to react more quickly when the correct funding opportunity comes in. Once suggestion boxes are in place they could be used for this. Funding options discussed but none to follow up
		17/07/2024	Could one of them be used for the Woods to Liff School Path?
Finance/ Treasurer	Dual Approval Process from COOP bank	15/05/2024 17/07/2024	We have an outstanding invoice for the hall room hire which has not been paid due to the dual approval process from COOP bank not working FIXED - CLOSE
Planning	NPF4 Update	15/11/2023 17/01/2024	MBLCC have responded to Angus Council's call for interest in participating in the creation of a local area development plan. Members are reminded that the minutes of July 2023 explain the importance of the new National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and how this feeds into our ability to have a greater influence on shaping the MBLCC built environment. Rose working with the planning officer to provide the MBLCC input in greater detail
	Complaint 23/00756/FU LM. Solar farm behind the Roundie and East of Stoneygrove	17/01/2024	There was an issue identified with Angus Council's planning department reference planning application 23/00756/FULM. This is for the installation of solar panels on the land behind the Roundie and to the east of Stoneygrove. This application is in addition to those reported above. There was an issue identified with Angus Council's planning department reference planning application 23/00756/FULM. This is for the installation of solar panels on the land behind the Roundie and to the east of Stoneygrove. This application is in addition to those reported above.
			This planning application was approved and news of this was conveyed in the Courier on the 12th of March 2024. It was brought to the attention of the Muirhead, Birkhill, and Liff Community Council on the 15th of March 2024. The community council members were surprised at this because we were unaware of the planning application despite receiving the weekly planning lists. When we receive these we search through for the ones that are noted as assigned to our Community Council in the information. We did not find this application.
			We were aware of this development as the applicants came to one of our meetings to discuss this with us in 2023, and they spoke to us as part of their initial consultation prior to making a full application. We had members of the public in

attendance as well at the time, and there were concerns raised at that point about the access routes and impact of traffic on Gourdie Brae and towards Liff.

We were unsure how we could have missed the full application being submitted as we would have wished to comment on any proposals that could cause implications for traffic access and egress and general road safety, and we would have reflected the concerns raised in the consultation had there been no changes to the initial proposals that were presented. Upon further inspection, we can see that the application was wrongly assigned to Monifieth Community Council. As a result, we did not find the application in our weekly searches.

We were very concerned that due legal process has not been followed; the application was not validated correctly with the basic details, and as a statutory consultee we were not afforded the opportunity to comment on this application due to, we assume, an administration error on behalf of Angus Council. The application being wrongly assigned to Monifieth made it unsearchable for us or anyone living in our area who may have had an interest in commenting.

In light of this, we have written to the Council and asked how this could have happened and why no one in the planning committee checked that it had been correctly assigned, and whether there is any recourse that would allow the population of the Muirhead, Birkhill, and Liff Community Council to review a major proposal that significantly affects them. The initial response that we received was unacceptable as this basically blamed the Community Council for not checking the addressing on the several pages of documents that are issued on the list each week. We wholly rejected this position and submitted a formal complaint detailing our concerns and asking for information on how this could have happened and be prevented int the future again.

Cllr Whiteside and Cllr Melville also raised their concerns that this had happened. As a member of the Planning Committee they had read the associated reports during the meeting and assumed that our lack of response meant no concerns had been raised.

We await a formal response to our complaint. In the meantime, a statement has been posted on the Facebook pages.

15/05/2024

We received a response to our formal complaint today (which should have received over two weeks ago) after formally raising the issue again last week where we asked for an urgent response as they are not following the Public Bodies Complaints Handling Procedure. They have changed their process to help ensure this doesn't happen again by adding in a senior officer review to check the correct CC is mentioned in planning reviews.

New Ba Storage of Temp	West	15/05/2024	We also made the community aware of planning permission out with our area for the creation of a new battery storage system and associated works. This is to be on land 200m west of Templeton. We are NOT a consultee, but residents can comment on the application and review this.
			We also put information on the Facebook page about an application to create a Battery Storage system at land at Templeton. Again, this is not in our area but is a neighbour to us. Comments have been submitted and the majority are negative including some of the statutory consultees and other interested areas such as Environmental Health who dispute some of the consultant reports that have been submitted as supporting information. Additional information about the siting of the development has also been submitted and the site information is a little clearer now on line.
New Foo stadium Camper Park	ı at	17/07/2024	MBLCC attendees may be interested in an update on the creation of a new football stadium, crematorium, housing and hotel etc at land to the south of Camperdown Park sits beyond our area but neighbours us. Unlike Angus Council, Dundee City Council planning do not publish comments therefore it's not possible to determine the feelings of the public and there is no determination date set as yet either. At this time, comments cannot be submitted and it would appear that it is being 'called in' to the Planning Committee (which is normal for a development of this size and scale).
New Pla Applica	_	15/05/2024	Since the last meeting there have been 2 planning application for our area - one for Planning Permission in Principle to build 2 new houses on land in Invergowrie, and the other for full planning and listed building consent for works to a farmhouse in Lundie. Both have been advertised on the internet facebook pages. CLOSE?
		17/07/2024	Since the 15th of May, there have been 4 planning applications in our area, and 1 near to our area for note.
			Of the 4 applications, these have been posted on the FB pages and include listed building consent to replace sash windows, two extensions to existing properties, and one application for planning in principle for a new dwelling house. The latter application means that they are asking whether they would have a chance of succeeding in building a house on land that currently does not have permission and there is no specific details on the house itself other than its approximate location and massing.
			The one near to us for noting is for amendments to a farm barn in the Auchterhouse area at Sunnyhall Farm. This is a prior notification of a relatively minor amendment to the existing, working barn to help with building fabric repairs.
			Other previous applications have largely been approved with conditions. This is normal and usually includes comments on

SSE application for Electricity Pylons replacement programme 17/07/2024

providing or confirming specific details, and puts time limits on how long the permission is valid for as well.

Residents may be aware that SSE are proposing to upgrade the electricity supply between Aberdeen and Westfield. The bit that would affect our area the most is from Tealing to Westfield. SSE have applied to the Scottish Ministers to carry out the project, and the Scottish Ministers have said they have to do a consultation first. This has been on going for some time now. They are currently seeking to conclude their Stage 2 of the project by the 18th of July. This means that under Stage 1 they looked at all the potential options and narrowed these down into Stage 2. Throughout this period they have to speak to the communities that are affected by the remaining options and solutions.

The justification for this project is that it's necessary to support Scotland's transition towards a Net Zero future and the requirements of the interim targets by 2030. This is a really big part of the government's strategy as Net Zero can't be achieved unless there is more electricity capacity across the grid, and that electricity needs to come from renewable sources in the first place (hence the northern starting point in Aberdeen). To get more capacity, they need to beef up the transmissions lines across the country so that they can deliver more electricity as we reduce, and eventually eliminate, our reliance on gas. When we put new renewable sources of energy in our houses they require a bit of power to keep them going, and as we switch to buy electric cars in favour of diesel or gas, we increase the amount of electricity that we demand to make it all work. Overall it needs more power to be available.

This particular project appears to have several elements to it including a new 400kV substation in the vicinity of the existing Tealing Substation (the new stations is now known as the Emmock 400kV Substation project), and then the upgrade to the existing overheard lines that run from Tealing and will pass through our area towards Westfield.

The upgrading of the substation is significant and will be a very large development in Tealing. The overhead lines routes are still to be determined in detail as there are several options, but they too will be significant and will run through part of our areas. Of concern of several residents in our area and beyond is the height of the pylons. To carry the larger capacity SSE advise in their FAQs the pylons will range between 42m to 65m. The information on-line is a bit confusing and it's unclear quite what is going where. It is worth noting that in both cases there are alternatives ie an enclosed substation which is smaller and looks a bit like a giant warehouse, and underground cables. However, these options are far more expensive to do and, in some cases, it can mean long power outages if anything goes wrong because they are more difficult to identify, access, and fix. They are

			clear in their FAQs that the costs of this project will ultimately be passed to all consumers in Scotland and they advise that underground cables are 5-10 times more expensive than over ground cables. The current proposed route would come into the north east of Dronley Wood, diagonally through the woods towards the South West until just before Piperdam where it would shift south. This is a long our existing 275kV line that we already have. It is not clear how they are proposing to route the cable for our section and whether we would see bigger pylons or underground cables etc. We have emailed them to ask for clarification The Community Council are, as normal, able to help represent the feelings of the community but would always continue to encourage individuals to put forwards their opinions as well. The current consultation is open until the 18th of July 2024. Residents can still comment on the applications on this by emailing tkup@sse.com or writing to your Community Liaison Manager Rhiannon Merritt at SSEN Transmission, 10 Henderson Road, Inverness, IV1 1SN. After this, they will seek to collect and reflect on the comments before submitting more detailed planning applications. There will be further opportunities to comment at that point too, although the options will be firmed up significantly by then. Some very large infrastructure projects do not go to the local authorities and regional councils to determine, but are set to the Scottish Ministers for determination. Those relating to energy infrastructure fall into this category.
Social Media and Comms	Facebook insight	17/07/2024	Total Followers 1,468 (from 1,459) Last 28 days (June/July) - Post Reach of 2,670— Up from 2,100 prior.
	Communicati on plan	20/03/2024	Avril met with Hong to discuss
	σπριαπ		ACTION - Avril to work on a straw horse version for review - COMPLETE
		15/05/2024	Straw horse available for review. ACTION CC to review it then Avril to send to Hong – COMPLETE
		17/07/2024	ACTION – Keith to publish on Website
	Website	17/07/2024	ACTION – Keith to update the website with links to Resilience Forum and Flood Mary
Defibrillators	Liff Village	17/01/2024	Funding application submitted to National Lottery by Stuart

Date of next meeting: 18th September 2024 at 7pm (Tom Brown Room, Millenium Hall, Birkhill)

For up-to-date information visit our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/MBLCommunityCouncil or Website at www.MBLCC.co.uk

Minutes of meetings are held here: Meeting Minutes (mblcc.co.uk)

(https://mblcc.co.uk/Meeting-Minutes)



Contacts for MBLCC - chairman@mblcc.co.uk; treasurer@mblcc.co.uk; secretary@mblcc.co.uk; planning@mblcc.co.uk; secretary@mblcc.co.uk; secretary

Follow the MBLCC Public Channel on WhatsApp: https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaLQjGo3mFYA7zz9v61U

Useful links and email addresses

http://www.scotland.police.uk/

https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk

There are various ways to contact the police to report anything happening. Via the Community Council report, calling 101 or by emailing the community mailbox directly TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk

Registration numbers of vehicles illegally parked (such as dangerous parking or obstruction) can be emailed directly to TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk.

Please note that if a car is reported as stolen then turns out not to be stolen but just abandoned you will be asked to report it to Angus Council for it to be removed.

https://www.angus.gov.uk/bins litter and recycling/litter and flytipping/report an abandoned vehicle

Any road or street issues should be reported via the Angus Portal here https://www.angus.gov.uk/roads parking and travel/roads and pavements/report a pothole street lighting or other roadstreet issue or scan the below QR code



Winter Resilience Phone Numbers

Power Cuts call 105

Gas Emergency 0800 111 999

Floodline/Flood Agency 0345 988 1188

Muirhead Doctor Surgery 01382 580264

https://ready.scot/prepare

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN)

https://www.ssen.co.uk/

https://www.facebook.com/ssencommunity/

Priority register – https://www.ssen.co.uk/psr

Track or Raise a Fault in your area – https://powertrack.ssen.co.uk/powertrack