

MUIRHEAD, BIRKHILL AND LIFF COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minute of Meeting held 6th February 2014 in the Millennium Hall

ATTENDANCE

Community Councillors – Ken Johnston, PC Sean Scanlon, Cllr Murray, Colin Hunter, Jim Moir, Doug Neilson, Vince Taylor, Alison French, Elaine Stewart and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr Fotheringham, Cllr Hands, Jimmie Reid, Stuart Phillips.

MINUTE OF MEETING 5th December

Adoption Proposed: - Jim Moir

Seconded: - Vince Taylor

SANDRA LINDSAY

Land Manager at Springfield Properties

Sandra attended the meeting to talk through the proposal that the company had for land just across the local authority border in Dundee City Council. The local development plan has, for over ten years, identified land in this area for residential development and over these years a few developers have had an interest but this interest has never come to anything. Sandra gave a full explanation of the company's proposals and answered a variety of questions from those in attendance.

In thinking about making an application, developers are required to submit a Proposed Application Notice (PAN) which outlines to the public and interested bodies, where development is proposed to take place and provides the opportunity for consultation on this to help shape the details of the proposal.

In November, Springfield submitted a Proposed Application Notice (PAN) for development in the area.

This covered a very wide area to ensure that any infrastructure work and service upgrades required were covered.

The area that Springfield has under their control and are seeking development on is much smaller however.

Two drop in events, where people could stop by, see the details of the proposal and leave comments were held in Dundee.

The boards on display at the Community Council meeting were the ones on display at the consultation events, and provided information on the proposal.

Springfield are initially proposing two applications.

One to the west and east of Dykes of Gray Road north of the Hilton Hotel and then a further one to the west of the road. The first will be submitted in March 2014 and the second, prior to the end of July 2014. Subsequent to this a third application is proposed at Liff Hospital if it is established that Springfield are the preferred party for this site. Across the applications there will be a range of house types from 2/3 bedrooms to 4 and 5 bedrooms and the second application will include details of a village centre and village green. It is anticipated that the first planning permission will be granted towards the end of the year or into early next year and that the remaining consents required will be in place in spring 2015. This will make starting on site possible in the summer of 2015.

The pre application consultation process will end on the 14th February 2014 and all the comments received will be submitted to the Planning Authority along with the application for the site. At this point, there will be another opportunity to comment on the application and this time the planning authority will deal directly with the representations received.

FOWLIS VILLAGE GREEN

Brian Smyth gave an update which included:

- Legal advice had been obtained from the web site Just Answer at a cost of £33 which concluded that Counsel opinion was needed;
- An application had been submitted to the Faculty of Advocates for Scotland, Faculty Services - Free Legal Services Unit via the Partner Agency, Planning Aid Scotland and a decision was awaited as to whether or not the application would be accepted;
- from the papers submitted to the private session of Angus Council's Development Control Committee in May 1999 it appeared that formal approval may not have been granted for Tay Developments proposal for maintenance of the village green; and
- that a resident had agreed to collect the donations and make arrangements for the maintenance of the village green for 2014.

The Community Council agreed to refund the £33 Just Answer fee to the Fowlis Village Green Fund

POLICE MATTERS

Community Liaison Officer Sean Scanlon

General issues such as Fraudulent Activities, Wildlife Crime, Operation Dry Up, Dark Evenings Crime, were reported on however items particular to the Sidlaw area were as follows

Rural Theft

Between 1900 Tuesday 3rd December 2013 and 1030 Wednesday 4th December 2013, a theft occurred at Newton of Auchterhouse Farm, Muirhead, whereby two large forklift and dung grab forks were stolen. Both items are large agricultural farm implements and a trailer or similar would have been required to transport the items from the locus. Between 0100-1330 hours, Saturday 7th December 2013, a theft occurred from a secure motor car in Gateside of Nevay, Newtyle. Person(s) responsible smashed the rear window of the vehicle and stole an iPad and jacket from within.

Suspicious Incidents

There have also been a number of suspicious incidents reported in the Muirhead, Fowlis and Piperdam areas, where persons were seen in suspicious circumstances and acting suspiciously in private gardens. Details are as follows; About 0740 hours, Tuesday 3rd December 2013 a male and female were seen to be acting suspiciously in Edward Place, Muirhead. They were seen to be going in and out of various gardens in the street. No thefts have been reported.

About 1300 hours, Thursday 12th December 2013, an unknown male was seen to be acting suspiciously within a garden at an address in Grey Den of Liff.

About 0045 hours, Thursday 19th December 2013 person(s) unknown rang the doorbell at an address in Piperdam Drive, Piperdam. No-one was seen at the door and a short time later the occupier's insecure vehicle door was seen to be wide open. Security lighting in the street was also seen to be activated at this time.

About 1920 hours, Saturday 4th January 2014 a male entered an address in Coupar Angus Road, Muirhead via an insecure rear door. He was disturbed by the occupier a short time later and fled the address. Nothing was stolen.

Fire-raising

About 2230 hours Tuesday 13th December 2013 a blue Ford Focus motor car was set on fire in a field near to the B954 Newtyle Road, on the outskirts of Muirhead. This vehicle had been involved in an RTC earlier the same evening but the owner was unable to arrange recovery at that time and intended to recover it the following day. Enquires are currently ongoing in relation to this.

Attempted/Theft by Housebreaking

Between 1500 hours Saturday 18th January and 2000 hours Monday 20th January 2014 six garages in Dalgety Court, Muirhead, have been broken into by person(s) forcing open the padlocks. Two garages have had a quantity of tools stolen. Enquires are currently ongoing in relation to this and suitable crime prevention advice has been given the owners.

Vandalism

Between 1200 hours Saturday 11th January and 0800 hours Monday 13th January 2014, a vandalism was reported at The Osprey Lodge, Osprey View, Piperdam, whereby damage was caused to internal doors, walls and also worktops in the kitchen area by a sharp pointed object or similar.

Between 1730 hours, Thursday 10th January 2014 and 0830 hours, Saturday 11th January 2014 a vandalism occurred to a blue Nissan Juke motor car parked in Commercial Street, Newtyle, whereby person(s) have damaged it using a key/stone or similar object. Enquires are currently ongoing in relation to this.

Between 1200 hours Saturday 28th December 2013 and 1200 hours, Sunday 29th December 2013, damage was caused to a headstone in the cemetery at Newtyle Church, Castle Street, Newtyle. Person carved a horseshoe sharp on the headstone.

Theft

About 2000 hours, Monday 23rd December 2013 a quantity of meat and poultry, including customers Christmas turkey orders were stolen from the rear store at James Pirie and Sons Ltd, Church Street, Newtyle. The male responsible entered an insecure store whilst staff were within the premises and made off with the quantity of goods. Between 0001 hours and 1100 hours, Monday 3rd February 2014 a high value watch was reported as being stolen from the Rainbow Executive Lodge No.1, Piperdam. The watch was a 'Hubolt – Big Bang' and valued at £11,000. Enquires are currently ongoing in relation to this.

In relation to the crimes reported above, Police Scotland reminds home owners and occupiers of the importance of keeping your addresses and vehicles secure at all times and asks residents to remain vigilant and report any persons or vehicles that you feel to be suspicious. Please report any such crimes, or other suspicious activity, to Police Scotland depending on the circumstances either on 999, 101, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111

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). If you are the victim of vandalism, please report it to Police Scotland on 101. If you see someone in the act or if you have any information which may lead to identifying persons responsible for vandalism, please report this to Police Scotland too.

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.

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 this, by reporting to Police Scotland on 101.

Antisocial Behaviour in the Communities

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.

BUSES AT BIRKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

The content of an information sheet, stating the Community Council's position with regard to buses turning at the school, was agreed and copies would be sent to the school head teacher, residents in the vicinity of the school, Police Scotland and Angus Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

Various items of correspondence dating from December through to current meeting are on the Agenda but were not commented upon

- Customer Forum re Water Services
- The Angus Strategic Landscape Capacity Assessment of Wind Energy can be <http://www.angus.gov.uk/wind/>
- Draft Renewable Energy Community Benefit Policy. There will be an eight week consultation period, which extends until Friday 14 March 2014
- "Survey of Local Authority Community Councils" from the Scottish Government..
- Strathmartine Community Council's Agenda 30th January

Hearing Aid maintenance sessions on the Mobile Library Service are to be extended until March 2014

Dog Fouling at Piperdam – Police to speak to residents

Next meeting of the Success For Sidlaw Transport Sub Group is on Tuesday 11 March 2014, at Strathmartine Primary School, 6.30 - 8.30pm

Flooding at Liff Culvert - Secretary to ask for an update

Playpark Consultation – Secretary to ask for an update

Birkhill Park – This is now part of the Fields in Trust

ROADS

Grass Verge outside Millennium Hall/Bowling Club – Some tidying has taken place

Movement of Bus Stops on A93 – Only the stop for travelling West is to be moved

Twenty's Plenty Review – Osprey Road, Piperdam

Major repairs to Dronley Mill Retaining Wall – The road will be closed for approx 12 weeks commencing March

The Angus Council (Disabled Persons' Parking Places) (Street Parking Places) (Variation) (No.1) Order 201X

A pothole is developing below the Gourdie Brae Scottish Water premises – Secretary to contact Dundee Council

Gulley's are not collecting the water on Gourdie Brae – Secretary to contact Dundee Council

Liff Footpath – Craig Hudson to be contacted

FINANCE

Finances are in order and healthy.

PLANNING

Applications

- **Ref: 13/01188/FULL** Erection of 16000 Free Range Egg Laying Unit and Associated Ground Works including Drainage for Mr Michael Arbuckle at the Chicken Shed Lundie Castle Farm Lundie Muirhead.
- **Ref: 14/00006/FULL** Extension to house at 10 Hillpark Drive, Birkhill DD2 5QZ for Mr Ballantyne.
- **Ref 14/00013/FULL** Demolition of conservatory & extension to house at 23 Blacklaw Drive, Birkhill DD2 5RJ
- **Ref 14/00024/FULL** Erection Of A Woodchip Fuelled Biomass Plant Of A Thermal Capacity Of 990K at Piperdam Golf and Country Club, Piperdam DD2 5LP by Hydroskot
- **Ref 14/00056/FULL** Extension to dwelling house at Wester Balruddery Invergowrie Dundee DD2 5LF for Mr Graham Cuthbert
- **Ref 14/00057/LBC** Listed building consent for application 14/00056/FULL at Wester Balruddery, Dundee DD2 5LF
- **Email received from Tayplan**

COMMUNICATION

- Website – The website has been updated
- Facebook – Facebook has had 120 Likes
- Notice Boards – Are to be kept up to date
- Transport Sub Group met on 14 January 2014 at Murroes Hall
Issues discussed:
 1. Sustrans- Ongoing
 2. Monifieth High School - Research and bus service update
 3. Traffic Concerns - Speed reduction initiatives
 4. Bus Services Update - Current Position
 5. Sub Group Logo - Ideas submitted
 6. Constitution - Deferred
 7. Next Meeting - 13 March 2014

A O C B

Update of the list of Community Council Meeting Dates for 2014 required

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 6th March in the MILLENNIUM HALL BIRKHILL at 7-30 PM

ONGOING ISSUES

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

- **Community Planning**
- **Birkhill**
Cemetery
Park Drainage
- **Liff**
Church Road
Woodside Road
- **Fowlis,**
Village Green Adoption
- **Piperdam,**
Core Path Gates

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 6th MARCH 2014 in the MILLENNIUM HALL BIRKHILL at 7-30 PM