

MUIRHEAD, BIRKHILL AND LIFF COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minute of Meeting 7th March in the Millennium Hall

ATTENDANCE

Community Councillors – Colin Hunter, Ken Johnston, Jim Moir, Doug Neilson, Stuart Phillips, Vince Taylor, Councillor Sheila Hands, Cllr Hands Assistant Sandra Black, Councillor Fotheringham, Terry Smart, M Mccarey, Brian Smyth, Robert Low, Colin Cocker, Ken Nicoll

Apologies, PC S Wilson, Councillor Thomson, Councillor Murray, Jimmie Reid, Elaine Stewart, Alison French, Paul Lewis

MINUTE OF MEETING 7th February **Adoption Proposed:** - Jim Moir **Seconded:** - Stuart Phillips

POLICE MATTERS

New non-emergency number

101 is the new number to contact the police when it's less urgent than 999.

The 101 non-emergency number will make it quicker and easier for you to contact the police when you don't need an emergency response, for example to:

- speak to your local police officer
- report a crime that's already happened, such as a theft or damage to property
- get crime prevention advice
- make us aware of any policing issues in your area

Safe as Houses

Safe as Houses is a partnership initiative to provide safety and security advice and assistance to older, disabled and vulnerable members of the community. Police, Social Work, your GP can all refer you to the project, and you can refer yourself if you think you would benefit from the scheme. A free crime prevention survey will be carried out by a Police Community Liaison Officer and recommendations will be made on how to improve your safety or security. For more information speak to either your local Community Liaison Officer, or contact Tayside Police Crime Prevention Officer on 01307 475977 or Angus Care and Repair on 01307 463232.

Garden Shed Security

Tayside Police in Angus are asking residents to look at security issues surrounding gardens and garden sheds as we approach the longer evenings and hopefully warmer weather. Fences or boundary walls should be kept in good repair. It is advisable to keep fencing at about waist height to the front of your house so the garden is visible. A criminal is far less likely to go to the front of a house that is easily seen by passers by. Equally, shrubs should be trimmed to no more than waist high and trees should have branches lopped to a height of about 2.2 metres. Remember, trees and bushes can be used as climbing aids to gain entry to property. As such, the use of thorny shrubbery such as berberis or hawthorn can be a good deterrent. Tools, ladders and garden furniture should be safely stored away. Mark property by painting, engraving, etching or using an ultraviolet pen with your post code. Remember to secure your shed and lock up garages at all times.

Current performance:

Violent Crime - there has been a 5.2% decrease in violent crime between April and December 2012 and of these crimes 90.9% have been detected.

Additionally, the number of crimes of vandalism have decreased by almost 1% on last year's results.

Domestic housebreaking, in Angus has decreased on the same period last year by 5.7%, and the detection rate is currently 4.9% above target. There were 36 crimes recorded of offences for supply/possession with the intent to supply drugs compared to 37 last year. Complaints regarding antisocial behaviour and in particular youths causing annoyance complaints have reduced by 24.7% in comparison with the same period last year. Much of this success is attributed to the existence of Friday Night Projects in every town in Angus.

Scam / Bogus Callers

Unfortunately, Tayside Police have again received reports of people losing substantial amounts of money after falling foul of unscrupulous people. One of the most recent cases highlighted a person making contact with another on a dating website and subsequently being conned out of a considerable amount of money.

Tayside Police continue to urge householders, the elderly in particular, to be on their guard against bogus callers who claim to represent legitimate organisations or companies. All householders should be vigilant and suspicious of everyone who calls unannounced at their door. Where someone claims to be a workman of any description, demand to see some form of identification. All bona fide callers should have ID and will not be offended if they are asked to provide it. If you are not satisfied that a caller is genuine, do not let them in and contact the police on 101.

Mud on Roads

Tayside Police in Angus is urging all drivers and operators of heavy plant and agricultural vehicles to be aware of the problems caused by mud on the roads. It is an annual problem and not one that is exclusive the county. Now the authorities are reminding drivers and operators that failing to clean up and remove mud from the road can be an offence under the Roads

(Scotland) Act. While it is appreciated that farmers and contractors need to move their machines from field to field, it is asked that any mess left on the road is cleared away as soon as possible.

Tayside Police have an agreed procedure with Angus Council (as the area's roads authority), to deal with any instances of mud on the road. This may result in the council arranging to clean the road with the costs then being recovered from the offender. Where necessary, tractor drivers and operators will be charged and reported.

Parking at schools

Complaints are regularly received by police in relation to inconsiderate and dangerous parking around schools in Angus, particularly at the start and end of the school day. Please help us to keep children safe by parking appropriately and obeying keep clear signs.

Farm Safety Awareness Event

Tayside Police and partners are holding a Farm Safety Awareness Event at Forfar Mart on Saturday 16th March 2013 from 10am. Police and partners will be on hand to provide advice on a number of issues affecting the rural communities, such as crime prevention, road safety and fire safety. The event is free.

BIRKHILL PRIMARY

School Buses/Parking:

Ongoing - Parents are asked to be aware that indiscriminate parking is dangerous for the children

COMMUNICATION

Website: mblcc.co.uk:

Vince explained this is nearly complete

Facebook:

Page is up and running and residents are asked to join, this will enable information to be circulated more widely

Interpretive Sign:

The sign should be available for the next meeting. Through this design we now have a licence to enable Maps to be printed

Notice Boards:

The notice board at the Co-op is in process of being made and the need for Planning permission is being researched

Correspondence Out:

None

Correspondence In:

Guide to Emergency Planning for Community Groups Booklet received

How to make your Community more resilient Booklet received

Scottish Southern Energy Consultation received

COMMUNITY PLANNING

Communication Sub Group:

No meeting

Transport Sub Group:

Meeting held 19-2-13 where a presentation on Cycle Routes was given - an Action Plan is in place – Posters are available on the Buses and the Bus Routes have been extended

FINANCE

Finances are in order and we have to thank Robert Low for, once again, giving his time and expertise as Auditor

The renewal of our Insurance is being researched to achieve the most appropriate conditions/cost

FOWLIS

Village Green Adoption:

Brian Smyth gave a run down on the background to this. An investigation into the ownership continues, Brian Smyth and the Chairman to pursue, Cllr hands to research the 3rd party liability issue

LIFF

Dog Fouling:

The local schoolchildren are to erect posters regarding the Pick Up and disposal of dog excrement

Speeding Traffic:

Ongoing.

Footpath Information:

The provision of a footpath at Church road on the "walk to school route" is considered to be a high priority and is being considered by Angus Council in the 2013-14 bids for funding. We are to ask for a full width footpath

Liff Primary:

Parents are asked to be aware that indiscriminate parking is dangerous for the children and blocks through traffic

LIBRARY VAN

Ongoing

MISCELLEANIOUS

Birkhill Cemetery:

Work, to extend the Cemetery to the north thus providing another 15/20 years worth of space for new lairs, commences this month

PARKS

Birkhill Park Drainage:

Work has been done and the grass area will be re instated when the climate allows

Fields in Trust:

Concern about ownership of Henderson Park, Liff, and Cllr Murray agreed to pursue the matter.

Birkhill Park has been included in the submission for inclusion

Angus Playpark Consultation

Ongoing to produce a report to inform Angus Council

PIPERDAM

Gates on Core Path:

The Sidlaw Paths Network are waiting on information.

Fire Hydrants:

Tayside Fire and Rescue are satisfied with the available water supply and that hydrants will be installed and checked as per agreed plans by Building Control,

Drainage- Pumping Station:

Scottish water replied saying that their warning system was now fully operational and should negate the necessity for tanker operation

PLANNING

Planning Applications:

This month's planning applications for our Community Council area were read out

Angus Local Development Plan Main Issues report:

A response was sent by the Chairman and, although late, our submission has been accepted by Angus Council.

National Planning Framework 3:

This document will contain both the local options for upgrading the route north i.e. Upgrading the Kingsway and a New Road through the green belt. Dundee and Angus Councils plus residents of the area favour the Upgrade to the Kingsway

ROADS

Pavement collapse on A923:

More repairs are proposed for 2013-14 budget

A923 Carriageway:

Carriageway work from North Mains of Liff to the Layby at Keithhall is to take place in two phases - 1st commencing 11th March for a period of 3 weeks – 2nd phase commencing 15th April for a further 4 weeks

U329 Carriageway:

Resurfacing will take place week commencing 4th March for one week

Gourdie Brae:

Drainage Gullies appear to be subsiding. Temporary repairs will be done (approx April). Top dressing works are provisionally programmed for June (weather dependant)

Post Box Road Consultation:

The provision of Roads Humps for traffic calming purposes is being proposed however the necessity and benefit of this course of action is being questioned by the residents, Secretary to write to Angus Council outlining their concerns

WHAT'S NEW ITEMS

Community Councillors are asked to monitor the What's New and Council Minutes available on the Angus Council website for information regarding our area

AOCB

Broom on Osprey Road needs removed to allow access for maintenance

Beware of Deer signs were requested for the A923 between Keithhall and Ledayatt

A local resident has provided photographs of the damage to the main A923 and a list of consequential problems The Secretary will pass on to Angus Council

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 4th APRIL
in the MILLENNIUM HALL BIRKHILL at 7-30 PM