

**Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council**  
**Minutes of the AGM**  
**Held on 3rd September 2020 at 7pm via Zoom**

**Attendance:** Alison French, Stuart Phillips, Colin Hunter, Ken Johnston, Alan Todd, Cllr Whiteside, Cllr Fotheringham, plus five members of the public

**Apologies:** None

**Minutes of Previous Meeting (5/09/19) Approved** – Ken Johnson      **Seconded** – Colin Hunter.

**Chairperson's Report** (Alison French):

Community Council meetings and business this year have been greatly affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. No meetings took place after February until we held a virtual meeting in August. During this time, normal business was, in the main, suspended and the Community Council supported the local volunteer group who were helping to support the community. Last year we trialled a new meeting schedule – a meeting every 2 months plus an AGM, it appears to have been a success so if agreed at the AGM we will make a change to our standing orders to support this.

The Community Council has dealt with a number of issues since the last AGM including planning applications, access to the Riverside recycling centre, a tree felling order at Lundie plantation, and the removal of the podiatry service from Muirhead.

One of the main issues we have been focused on has been speeding in all of our villages. Recently Angus Council contacted us to advise that funding had been sourced to create a temporary 20mph area in Liff. We are hoping once the success of this has been reviewed, it will be rolled out to more areas.

We also attended one of the joint community councils meeting which was hosted virtually by Angus Council.

Our Community Assistants have continued to work hard despite not being able to meet anyone face to face since March and have now finished their term of office. Some of their key achievements have been setting up a monthly cinema club, gaining participatory budgeting for a number of local projects, a community event for all local groups, assisting local groups with looking for funding..... Unfortunately the lockdown this year has prevented the completion of a number of pieces of work but hopefully they will still be completed and there is a handover document and action plan with all the relevant details. Thanks to our Community Assistants and the members of the Steering Group for their hard work over the 2 years they were in post. With the remaining money within the charrette budget, 3 picnic benches have been purchased and are being installed in the park behind the Millennium Hall.

During the year we co-opted 2 additional members onto the Community Council.

Community Policing - PC Gail Beattie has continued to attend our meetings and we thank her for her ongoing support in our community.

The Community Council would like to thank the members of the Community Council, our local Councillors, local Police and members of the public who have attended our meetings for their continued support of the Community Council.

**Community Assistants Final Report August 2020:**

Since the last meeting the Communities Assistants have been:

- Signposting volunteering queries.
- Preparing for the handover over of projects by producing hand over files and meeting/communicating with the volunteers who will take these forward. Projects include Community Café and Community Cinema Club.
- Producing a Community – Led Action Plan. This plan was put onto Social Pinpoint – A community engagement platform for two weeks to allow the public to interact and give their thoughts. The information has been extracted and is available in a spreadsheet.

- Assisting Angus Council with finding volunteers to assist with food deliveries/prescriptions to people shielding in the community.
- Placing an order for the new noticeboard at the Coop and arranging delivery. It is currently at Evelyn Scanlan's house awaiting installation.
- Trying to find out the landowner on the fields along the north side of the Coupar Angus road (A923) between the Lundie Castle road end (grid ref. NO309353) and the top of the Fowlis Brae (NO317349). Recent works were carried out by Scottish Water on the fields and we were hoping it could be turned into a field-side path and direct crossings could be established to Core Path 215 (which also links to Piperdam) and to the Fowlis Brae and beyond. Have been in touch with Roads and Traffic, any future communication will go to Colin Hunter of the MBL Community Council.
- Continuing work on a resilience plan for the West Sidlaw area and a rural transport plan, which hopefully the Public Transport Team can implement the findings/recommendations.
- Made a newsletter, detailing all the work over the two years of the CA post. 1600 were printed from the budget and delivered to all the households in the area with the help of the Steering Group and CC.
- Ensuring the whole community is aware the CA post is coming to an end by putting on newsletter, emailing groups and sharing on social media.
- Looking into funding options for Lundie Hall car park and making contact with Angus Funding team to assist the committee in the future.
- Trying to find a volunteer to lead a community sing along at the end of the year, seeing as a choir leader could not be found. All contact details have been passed to Hong Zhang Communities Officer, who will contact if any singing related projects are to start up in the area in the future.

**Secretary's Report:** None

**Planning Contact Report:** (Stuart Phillips) Period September 2019 – August 2020

Number of planning applications: 20

Approved subject to conditions: 2

Approved without change: 8

Refused: 1 under appeal

Withdrawn: 2

Undecided: 7

**Finance Report:** (Colin Hunter) - Annual Accounts

The Audited Accounts were signed off on date and submitted to Angus Council.

Statement of Income and Expenditure for Muirhead and Birkhill Community Council for 1<sup>st</sup> Apr 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> Mar 2020

<b>Opening Balance</b>	£5304.71
<b>Income</b>	
Angus Council grant	£740.00
Reimbursement of office rent & purchases (Leader project)	£610.45
Participatory budgeting grants (£1500 x2 for community café and cinema)	£3000
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Leader project – office rent + WiFi June 2019	£245
Community Council insurance	£125.01
Lundie Hall Defibrillator Cabinet	£500
Hire of hall for Community Council Meetings	£130
Leader project – office rent + WiFi Sept 2019	£245
Leader project – office rent + WiFi Dec 2019	£245
Leader project – office rent + WiFi Mar 2020	£245

Purchase of 3 picnic tables	£1200
Website domain name	£34.74
	£2969.75
Surplus for period	£1380.70
Closing balance (31/3/20)	£6685.40

CH raised the issue of the decrease in grant from Angus Council from £740 to £400 to cover CC spending.

Crowdfunding for Covid 19 Support Group accounted for separately and around £700

#### **Election of Office Bearers:**

The chairperson, treasurer and planning officer all agreed to remain in post for another year. This will allow the new members interested in joining to become familiar with the procedures of the CC. It was agreed that new members could be co-opted having attended some 'face to face' meetings over the coming months.

The post of secretary may be divided into three roles: correspondence; minutes and social media. There are a number of potential volunteers interested and **AF** will discuss with them their preference for the roles.

Doug Neilson is still officially a member of the CC as he is a signatory for the accounts. Helen Haut has indicated that she wishes to resign and we await her letter of resignation.

**Date of next AGM:** Thursday 2nd September 2021 7pm, Millennium Hall.

Meeting schedule: Oct 20; Dec 20; Feb 21; Apr 21; June 21; Aug 21. The proposed change to the meeting schedule was approved and the standing orders will be amended to show that meetings will be bi-monthly with an AGM in Sept.