

Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 1st of April 2021 at 7pm via Zoom

Attendance: Alison French, Stuart Phillips, Colin Hunter, Ken Johnston, Cllr Hands, Cllr Whiteside, 12 members of the public and 2 representatives from Solar2

Apologies: Allan Todd, PC G. Beattie

Minutes of Previous Meeting (04/02/21)

Proposed – Ken Johnston

Seconded – Stuart Phillips

One small amendment to be made to previous minutes: change VAR to VAS

Police Report – No report received for March. However there have been warnings re dog thefts in Angus and a white van has been seen in Liff and Birkhill. Dog owners are asked to be vigilant and AF will ask PC Beattie for information re advice and/or a contact number and this will be put up on the CC Facebook page.

Actions from Previous Meeting/Matters Arising:

- Resilience report to be forwarded – AF
- Contacting the VAA re secretary – AF
- East Backmuir Path/Old Dronley Road West – issue re access as part of the path has been incorporated into a driveway. AC Access Officer, Paul Clark is working with the home owners to agree a solution to keep access open to walkers etc.
- Liff Primary school citizenship award – AF to talk to head teacher
- Path gritting and Grit bins – Once volunteers have been recruited then use link on the AC website to order extra bins.

Cllrs Hands and Whiteside left the meeting and Neil Lindsay and Patrick Keogh from Solar 2 Company joined the meeting along with 4 additional members of the public.

Solar Farm Development at Berryhill Site:

NL and PK gave a presentation on the proposed 49.9 MW solar farm, the background to the Solar 2 company and a preliminary timescale for the work to be carried out. This would start with an environmental study this summer, construction Sept to Mar 2023, with grid connection in Apr 2023. There would be a Community Benefit Fund with potential donations of £25,000 per year as part of the plan. They plan to carry out a public exhibition in May and attend the next CC meeting in June to discuss the Community Benefit Fund further. Comments from the public re the previous proposal in 2019 had been taken into consideration and appropriate changes had been made to the new plans.

NL, PK and the landowner answered questions from the members of the public and the CC with regards to flooding risks, hedge maintenance, and access to the site as well the environmental studies being carried out.

It was clear that 'face to face' public consultation would have been preferred by local residents but, due to Covid restrictions, Angus Council has directed that this would have to be done on online only. Solar 2 would be writing to residents and if restrictions allowed would hold exhibition in Fowlis Hall in May.

Neil Lindsay and Patrick Keogh from Solar 2 Company left the meeting along with some members of the public. Cllrs Hands and Whiteside rejoined the meeting.

Ongoing Issues:

- Speeding/Speed limits/Parking at schools – AF, AT & SP had a meeting with PC Beattie and it has been agreed that a letter, from the Police, will be sent to all parents re the parking issues at Birkhill Primary school. PC Beattie will also ask for additional presence at both schools at the beginning and end of the school day.
A VAS has been installed on Woodside Road in Liff and more have appeared in Fowlis. There has been concern raised over the number and positioning of the ones in Fowlis so AF to ask Angus Council about moving one to Church Road in Liff. In addition, yellow lines have been painted at School Wynd and around Liff Primary school. However, this has moved the parking problem to Church Road. PC Beattie to be contacted re traffic issues and CC to follow these up at next meeting.
- A request for volunteers for the Speed Watch initiative is to go on the CC Facebook page.

- Henderson Park goal posts – permission has been granted by the land owner and Liff head teacher is to contact AC re moving the goal posts.
- Recycling at Riverside – an arrangement has been agreed and will be announced at the end of April.
- Biomass Shed at Piperdam – no update
- Dykes of Gray – school and roads – no update

Website:

A company has offered its services to make the CC website more accessible. Cllr Hands agreed to check and give feedback however it was reported that the CC website had been unavailable for a numbers of weeks. AF and CH are to follow this up.

Correspondence: circulated electronically plus

- Discussion re lack of correspondence re Community Council Survey – link to go on Facebook page and be shared widely.
- Co-op Community Fund applications are now available.
- Monifieth Learning Campus Consultation – this affects children in our area so link to be shared widely.

Finance:

The accounts for the last financial year have been prepared and are ready to be audited. Of the £400 CC grant, £381 has been spent.

Planning applications:

- 21/00094/full (04/02/2021) - Extend dwelling to form enlarged garage and public room on ground floor and gymnasium and associated facilities on first floor at 24 Osprey Road, Piperdam.
- 121/00109/full (16/02/2021) - Single storey front extension to existing house at 12 Westgreen Wynd, Liff
- 21/00136/full (03/03/2021) - Proposed grain store at West Adamston Farm
- 21/00167/full (17/03/2021) - Demolition of existing dwelling house and cattery and erection of 4 detached dwelling houses at Cats Hotel, Balruddery
- Permission has been granted for 3 detached houses at the Muirhead Garage site.

Social media:

- **Facebook** – 965 Likes. Assistance with social media is still needed.

AOCB: None

Date of Next Meeting **3rd of June at 7pm** – restrictions permitting.