

Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council
Minutes of Meeting held on 2 December 2021 via Zoom

Attendance; - Colin Hunter (acting chair) Stuart Phillips, Ken Johnston, Allan Todd, Cllr Hands, Cllr Whiteside

Apologies; - Alison French, Stuart Grubb

Minutes of the previous Meeting (07/10/2021)

- Amend planning application at 166 Coupar Angus Road Birkhill to read 21/0678/full
- CH read a statement regarding PB – those unsuccessful will receive support for requesting funding from alternative sources, as both our submission were unsuccessful it would be good if AC can offer support moving forward.
- Community Council new members and office bearers – the latest offer for minute taking has fallen through. We have reached out for support for the Community Council in the Christmas edition of the Church Magazine which will be delivered to every household in December. The CC has offered to assist with the delivery of the magazine, CH will advise if help is requested
- Secretarial support offered from Angus Council and gratefully accepted
- Stone Caterpillar's no update
- Social Media - Cllr Hands tested website, some links need new labelling called alternative text. Some layouts a bit strange and this was better when open and using in Microsoft Edge
- Website - CH to contact Vince X re domain name. 1050 followers on Facebook

Proposed – Stuart Phillips Seconded – Ken Johnston

Police Report – the police report had not been circulated AF to email – CH listed the main points

- Local Police Liaison Officer Gail Beattie is retiring
- New local Area Commander Leanne Blacklaw
- That Guy campaigns
- 20mph zones – highlighting the benefits particularly around schools
- Pop Ups – two were stolen – replacements not 'secured' to date
- 38 calls, eight crimes of note, three thefts (petrol stations)

Matters Arising

Lundie farm felling – Scottish Woodlands answered all the question that were asked, one interesting fact that was picked up - mature coniferous plantations if felled not too much carbon capture is lost. Broadleaf is different as once established this improves the carbon capture.

Participatory budgeting – There was discussion on the process and outcome of this years PB and disappointment expressed that neither of the projects from our area gained any funding.

A few points from the discussion:

- the process gave insufficient time to advertise for local projects to allow for PB funding and also to spread awareness of the process to allow people to vote.
- the way of counting the votes which is a straight total does not take into consideration the population in each area. With MBLCC having a smaller population than the Burghs, it will always be harder for us to gain sufficient votes.
- It would perhaps be fairer to have a cap on the total amount of money that can be awarded to each project so that more projects can be awarded some level of funding.
- It was agreed that the community council could not support only one project, we are here for all the community. Our role is to facilitate to the residents all the projects that are submitted.
- There has been dis-satisfaction across the whole of Angus with the process this year, particularly in the rural areas.

- Possible alternative funding (Community Mental Health & Wellbeing Fund) could be accessed there is a maximum of capital funding is £10k. £120m being allocated from Scottish Government, this current year they are allocating £15m, VAA are co-ordinating applications. Cllr Hands to email the application form for sharing.

Traffic in Muirhead & speeding – There has been a suggestion put forward to create an island. The whole point of this exercise was to keep the traffic flowing at a reasonable speed, this will create a huge problem at 9am when the traffic is heavy. Why can't the yellow rumble strips be extended towards the west? New signage and markings on the road need to be in place to advise of new road layout. Can the Facebook page be used?

Offer to add information leaflets with election leaflets to the whole areas in the new year. Is there an alternative? We need to inform the residents one way or another of everything that is going on in the area. The PB process is an exact example of this. Is Social Media the answer? This will be followed up in the new year. There will be offers of Social Media & IT training from AC. Something for the future an electronic local newsletter to all signed up residents, taking GDPR into account?

Henderson Park goalposts- email received from JW the goals are now in place. A signed agreement for the use of the goals for insurance purposes should be sent to AC insurance officer covering the public liability insurance.

Liff Primary School Citizenship Award & caterpillar – no update and still on going

Parking at Birkhill & Liff Primary Schools – Cllr Whiteside advise she had attended a Traffic Co-ordinators Meeting and it was concluded that no further action was to be taken. They have been out to do check and no permanent changes are to be made. They may monitor the situation and a few suggestions have been raised e.g., staggered finishes for primary school children. AT will email Police Scotland asking them to make regular visits to show presence.

Correspondence

New mobile library timetable, placed in noticeboards in the meantime, more paper copies required CH will pick these up.

Shift Funding -promoting Cycling

Community Council Admin Support Options Paper

Introduction to St Johns Ambulance

SSEN – regular updates on working carried out

EU Citizens Rights

Boundary Commission for Scotland consulting with Community Councils

HM Fire Service Inspectorate: Local Area Inspection in Angus

Her Majesty, The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - Information- November 21

Community Planning Partnerships- Evaluating their Effectiveness

Forthcoming Scottish Government Webinars - Investing in Communities Fund Round 2

What's New List– 22 November.

Finance - There is still money from the Covid-19 Community Fund – it has been suggestion this money could be used to benefit families or individuals. AT has direct access to the RVS although it's based in Dundee, they have volunteers to help support if we can provide a list of names. It's not easy to obtain names of people who are in need. It has been brought to our attention that in Montrose the fire service has agreed to buy supermarket vouchers and gift cards that can be given to people. CH is expecting an update in this early next week. The school is another source who will know families in need and can distribute vouchers.

Planning -

21/00847/CLU (28/10/2021) Internal Alterations and Single Storey Kitchen Extension to Rear Elevation of House. 12 Hillpark Drive Birkhill Dundee DD2 5QZ.

21/00838/FULL (06/11/2021) Change of use of agricultural land to private garden and erection of a Garden Room & store for ancillary use to the dwelling Braehead Cottage Lundie Muirhead Dundee DD2 5NW.

21/00855/FULL (06/11/2021) Timber Garden Room Brewhead 2 Post Box Road Birkhill Dundee DD2 5PX.

No concerns for Community Council to response to.

Social Media – this has been covered tonight at various stages.

AOCB

- The next Bi-Annual Meeting will be held in May 2022.
- Resilience – storm tested this over the weekend. Generators in Rural Areas was dismissed a few years back this may need to be re-visited. Digital phone users had no coverage very difficult to know what was going on. Resilience high on the list of rural villages, would need to look for funding on this to provide back up to all. It may be a worthwhile exercise asking Eassie if we can visit to see what resilience planning they have in place and how well it worked. Previous experience in asking for a generator for the hall - SSEN had tight criteria and we were unsuccessful in acquiring one.
- Briefing Paper –
Notes from the Bi-Annual update from the Improvement Service who gave three recommendations
 - o Perhaps more effort to communicate the benefit and positive role that Community Councils can and do play may be beneficial.
 - o Broadening engagement with new groups and targeting specific groups such as young people by selling the work that Community Councils do and the positive change that they can make. Activities could also be targeted at younger people and aligned with schemes such as the Duke of Edinburgh award.
 - o Some aspects of Community Council work could be reviewed to ensure that they are not off-putting. For example, survey respondents highlighted the application process for joining, while Community Councillors highlighted the range of materials and information that new members were required to become familiar with.As we have tried most of the suggested recommendations, we will wait to see if any new volunteers come forward after the church magazine has been delivered.

Options paper re Support in admin work and social media training more worked needed on this.

Community Council Election draft timetable starting in August 2022 all info will be on the Angus Council Website and shared with CC secretaries.

Review of the Scheme of the Establishment. Two public consultations, changes to full council April/May

Review of the Community Plan

Kirriemuir Community Council shared their community projects involving old telephone boxes.

Registered defibrillators – list available from ambulance service. Would local people know this.
There is still a bit of a mismatch in relation to where they are situated.
Cllr Whiteside to share the link from the British Heart Foundation – National Defibrillator Network

Date of next meeting 3 February 2022