

Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd of June 2021 at 7pm via Zoom

Attendance: Alison French, Stuart Phillips, Colin Hunter, Ken Johnston, Allan Todd, Cllr Hands, Cllr Whiteside and 4 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Fotheringham

Minutes of Previous Meeting (01/04/21)

Proposed – Ken Johnston

Seconded – Stuart Phillips

Police Report – Reports of 2 thefts and 2 house break ins. A letter was sent out to all parents of Birkhill Primary school re parking at the school and there will be warning issued from now on. There is a specific parking issue at junction of Dronley Road and Sidlaw Gardens. SP to take photos and AF will forward to PC Beattie.

Reports of dog thefts on Facebook isolated cases and there are few reported to the police. They advised to keep your dog near when outside and take a photo of any suspicious vehicle. There are reports of some antisocial behaviour by local young people i.e. jumping on garages in Muirhead and on the Millennium Hall roof.

Actions from Previous Meeting/Matters Arising:

- Resilience report forwarded – No update – AF
- VAA re secretary – AF
- Backmuir Park
- Liff primary
- Path gritting and Grit bins – to be deferred to later in the year.
- Changes in Health Care Services – AF to forward post from Muirhead Medical Centre explaining the changes.
- Henderson Park goal posts – Post to go on Liff Community Facebook Page re interest in new goals.

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 from Solar 2 gave a presentation on the proposed 49.9 MW solar farm.

Surveys to the area are ongoing (ecology, hydrology, landscape, traffic etc.) and will be finished by 12th of June. A public exhibition will be held in Fowlis Hall, on Sat 12th June from 10am to 12noon. The date for feedback is 19th June. Letters have gone out to all residents in the area. A visit to Errol solar project can be arranged for members of the CC, although this is a significantly smaller development.

A buffer zone has been introduced in the plans to protect badger and bat colonies as well as to reduce the visual impact from Piperdam golf course, North Binn cottages and other nearby houses.

Benefits of the scheme are biodiversity, reduction in farm traffic and increased hedge and tree planting. Some tree planting has already commenced with the southern boundary already completed. Community would benefit by £25,000 per year. The panels will be decommissioned after 40 years. The site would be managed remotely with engineers sent out when required. Security fencing and CCTV to prevent theft will have to be erected at key access points. When planning application is submitted there will be 21 days to make objection.

Neil Lindsay and Patrick Keogh from Solar 2 Company left the meeting along with 1 member of the public.

Ongoing Issues:

- Bi-Annual CC meeting – discussion re CC survey responses. AC may be able to help with secretary recruitment. There is money available for computers and broadband for CCs. Discussion re shared role for minute secretary and whether it could be a paid post, using the money above. AF would like AC to take control of CC websites domain name as each CC has to organise their own. AF to write to AC re issues.
- Liff Primary school citizenship award – ideas to be gathered for this time next year.
- Website - Now up and running after paying domain name fee. Cllr SH to check accessibility of website.

- VAS in Fowlis and 20 mph limit at Liff - No reports of improvement to traffic problems and speeding.
- East Backmuir Path/Old Dronley Road West – Resident should raise any issues with AC Access Officer, Paul Clarke. SP to follow up.
- Biomass Shed at Piperdam – some new activity. There is a new concrete ramp near the weighbridge. The fencing was never completed. SP and CH to investigate further.
- Recycling at Riverside – no update.
- Dykes of Gray – no update.

Correspondence:

- Register your Defibrillator – The Bowling Club machine not showing up on the AC map but is registered with the ambulance service. CH to forward this information to Lundie and Fowlis.
- Dropped crossing construction – Feedback the suggestions from the public to AC.

Finance: No update

Planning applications:

- 21/00206/full (25/03/2021) - proposed single storey extension to existing house at 3 The Glebe, Liff
- 21/00211/full (23/03/2021) - extension & internal alterations at Sunshine Cottage 5 Smiddy Brae, Fowlis
- 21/00221/full (22/03/2021) - two storey extension & rear extension at 10 Osprey Crescent, Piperdam
- 21/00256/full (19/04/2021) - erection of single storey extension to rear of dwelling at 25 John Huband, Drive Birkhill
- 21/00326/full (27/04/2021) - removal of existing conservatory to be replaced by sunroom at 8 John Huband Drive, Birkhill
- 21/00319/full (05/05/2021) - conversion & alterations to existing building to form dwelling house and associated works at Ledyatt Cottage, Lundie.
- 21/00233/pan (01/04/2021) - installation of solar photovoltaic array with an export capacity of not more than 50mw and associated infrastructure at Field 300m west of Grange of Berryhill.

Discussion took place re gauging the public response to this application. A face-to-face meeting would only be able to be held if restrictions changed. The CC must represent the views of the whole community and not just a few objectors. Information to go on Facebook of CC, Fowlis, Liff and Birkhill. A date for feedback was set as the 19th June and to go to SP email address. AF to make poster for noticeboards. A public meeting via zoom was planned for the 8th July.

- Farm Shop at Piperdam - site visit on 16th June by planning officer re appeal against the refusal. No one else is allowed to attend or give input.

Social media: Facebook – 1000 Likes. Website as above.

AOCB: The Men’s shed at the Millennium Hall is to close. The committee has decided to give the equipment away to other Men’s sheds. AT to contact Adrian Zealand and ask for 6 months to get some community action re saving the premises and equipment.

Winter service review and public transport review Thurs 3rd and Thurs 10th.

Date of Next Meeting 8th of July re Solar Farm and **29th of July at 7pm** – restrictions permitting