

<p>There had been an instance when two lorries became entwined after a collision. AD said that BT would not move their telegraph poles so that the road could be widened.</p> <p>MY asked if BE had spoken to Anna Bowman about the Fairtrade Organisation. BE said not yet.</p> <p>She also asked if a date had been set for plans for the new Recy. CS and BE are having a meeting on Tuesday about the Davie Park and would hope to talk about the Recy too. GD said that the community should draft suggestions about the facilities required for the new Recy and BE replied that once there is something in writing about the Recy then the community would be involved. CS said that there is mention in the Capital Budget about an extension to PE facilities at BHS (Blairgowrie High School) and she wished to clarify what this consisted of. MY said that it was a prime opportunity for swimming lessons, childcare etc to be included. CS was insistent that it must be a community operated model.</p>	<p>BE</p> <p>CS</p>
<p>Item 4 - Police & Fire Reports.</p> <p>There were no Police or Fire personnel present but MY raised the question of armed Police in Blairgowrie which she was very much against. CS said that there is a community safety meeting on the 31st. She also said that there is a new Chief Superintendent for Tayside who is committed to community policing and wanted to build a relationship with the community.</p>	
<p>Item 5 – Arising & Ongoing Issues.</p> <p>5.1 BRCC vacancies.</p> <p>MY said that PKC Democratic Services had said that the vacancies should be filled by co-option and not by election, therefore if anyone was interested then they should fill in a form and send it to PKC. Any suitable candidates could be approached one to one or as a group. MY would forward the forms to the group.</p> <p>5.2 Cycle Path update.</p> <p>LS said that possible routes had been identified for the proposed cycle paths from Blairgowrie to Coupar Angus and to Alyth although none of these was straightforward. A consultant who had experience of these kinds of areas would have a meeting with the steering group on 24 August. Awards for All had been approached next week for the funding of approx £10K for a feasibility study. TACTRAN could also be approached for £10K. The steering group is in partnership with Forward Coupar Angus, One Voice and Alyth Development Trust. On the actual paths, LS said it was too soon to say much. They were applying to the EU Regional Development Fund and if successful, amounts could be £ ½M upwards. One off capital must be matched. Deadline for this funding is 2019. They hoped to set up low carbon transport hubs and electric bike schemes; also encourage car sharing clubs and collate information about existing public transport links. BE said that they should involve BHS so that a safe route could be established for school pupils to school and it is a really exciting project. They intended that the catchment area should only be East Perthshire. IR asked if they intended to use the Core Path network where suitable and BE said that they already had a couple of landowners on side. MY asked if the paths would be tarmacked so that the paths would appeal to a wider group of people including disabled, prams & buggies and not just cyclists. BE replied that the paths would be suitable for walkers too but they were not planning to tarmac the surface of the routes. AT asked that TACTRAN should engage with the local community before doing paths, as some of the recent renovations were not really needed and the money would have been better spent elsewhere. LS said that he was going to meet with a group in Muthill who had been successful with their funding application and see what he could learn from them. He also had a meeting with the strategic planning officers from PKC for necessary support.</p>	<p>MY</p> <p>LS</p>

<p>5.3 Walkers Are Welcome.</p> <p>IR said that he had a meeting with Lesley McDonald of Discover Blairgowrie and she said that we need to attract more visitors. The walkers have to complete 100 miles in sections from Inverness to Edinburgh, for which they pay a fee of £790. This covers all transport, accommodation and food. They walk parts of the Great Glen Way, the West Highland Way and Cateran Trail. IR hoped that they would spend 2 nights in Blairgowrie but this is to be confirmed.</p> <p>IR also talked about an accreditation Scheme for the local Community Council areas - Walkers are Welcome. There are 6 criteria and the area must offer certain facilities to apply for accreditation. He proposed that a community action group be set up but BRAN couldn't sponsor and run it. He would get in touch with Dufftown (a registered town) and if he visited BE volunteered to accompany him. IR will prepare a brief report for the next BRCC meeting.</p>	
<p>5.4 Extended town speed restriction – 20mph</p> <p>MY said that there is some confusion about the 20mph restriction as the trial was only for the Wellmeadow and over to Haugh Rd. Both BE & CS thought this was the case but MY had seen an email which showed that PKC are to implement a restriction including part of Reform St from the Copy Shop towards High St., all of High St, all of Allan St plus that area already agreed. CS & BE said they had not heard of an extension to the area and would not have supported it but would seek clarification. MY asked if it was possible to approach farmers and haulage companies to warn their drivers that there was a 20mph limit as most seem to be unaware of it. BE said that there had been an exercise in Scone where the community contacted haulage drivers to ask them to slow down. CS would bring this up at a meeting with Roads department. AT asked about the lack of beepers on the pedestrian crossings. BE handed out a report from Siemens which claimed that there was too much risk that the sound from one set of crossings could be misconstrued by people wishing to cross at another set. Most of the meeting found this unbelievable and wished to keep demanding that beepers be installed. MY asked CS why the trial of the beepers, that had been agreed with CH, had not been started yet and why further consultation with an outside group had been sought. CS said she didn't know but would chase it up again.</p>	<p>CS BE</p> <p>CS</p>
<p>5.5 Resilience Plan Update.</p> <p>BS reported that there had been a meeting of the Resilience Group on Monday 9 August. They cannot progress with the plans for an exercise until they have the grab bags and contents. The breakdown of the application for funding to SSE is £6K for 2 plug in generators;(these would be used in the event of an outage and would be plugged in to the Town Hall and Rattray Hall which are the places of refuge), with the rest made up of grab bags for 6 - £1200, domestic generator & dehumidifier, lighting sets, first aid kits, shovels, brushes etc £1750, a total of £8950. This bid is based on the successful bid last year from Bankfoot with which Resilience Officers were happy with. MY asked if all were in favour of opening a separate Bank Account to hold this money and all were agreed. PM said that the process of opening a separate account had been started. MY also clarified that the ownership of the equipment would be BRCC, devolved to the Resilience Team of IR, IC, AT, LS, BS and Fraser McDonald who is an ex fireman. PM also agreed to prepare a spreadsheet to record receipt of equipment by individual members of the team. MY said that any PAT testing would be required every 4 years and BS said that equipment would be kept in team members' homes and larger items in the same premises as BRAN's equipment.</p>	<p>PM</p>
<p>Item 6 - Local Councillor Reports.</p>	

<p>BE started by apologising for BRCC not being invited to the testing of the pedestrian lights bleepers last week as he had thought that the Roads Department would have let us know. CS said that BRCC should be copied in to the report. Siemens said in their report that too much confusion would be caused by beeps being heard from adjacent crossings and it could cause a pedestrian to cross when it was not safe to do so. MY asked why so many people do not use the crossing and just cross where they feel like it? AT said that last week he watched a group of about 20 tourists attempt to cross the Wellmeadow; they pressed the button and there was not enough time for the whole party to cross. CH (Chic Haggart PKC) said at a previous meeting that the lights would have sensors and that the pedestrian lights would stay green until everyone was across. That is patently not the case. AD voiced the opinion of most of the meeting that the only solution is to have lights high on the opposite pole as then everyone can see them and they are not obscured by people standing at the operating pad. MY said that most people are unaware of the trembler pad under the operating pad. This has been verified by questioning relevant parties who are affected by sight and mobility problems. If no sound is heard and they can't see the opposite green man, then people think that the lights are faulty. It is not acceptable. BE said that he would take it up with Siemens. MY asked if Siemens couldn't supply a different sound that wouldn't be heard so far away as the next crossing? AT said that CH is going back on the crossing times and MY said that there should be another site visit as CH is changing his mind too often and reiterated that CH said there would be a sensor not a timed crossing. He is reneging on what was agreed. BE agreed to contact CH.</p>	<p>BE</p>
<p>BE mentioned the proposed plans for speed humps at the Reform St./ High St junction and said that Daryl McKeown PKC would come & discuss. SN said that on 7 September there is to be a Charrette walk around the town and a plan of action will be drawn up to make the town centre more pedestrian friendly. There was word of making Reform St 2 way again but this is not feasible as it is too difficult for lorries to turn left into Perth St without encroaching on the opposite (right turn) lane. The concerns needed to be discussed.</p>	<p>BE</p>
<p>BE said that BRAN continues to do a lot of work and IR and AD are to be thanked for the amount of work that they put in.</p>	
<p>BE said that it is 20 years since the Gaelic Mod was held in Blairgowrie and BEPTA (Blairgowrie & East Perthshire Tourist Association) are leading and engaging with other groups to put some sort of event on in October, but this is in the early stages. LS said that he sang at the Mod!</p>	
<p>AT asked why local contractors are no longer doing work for PKC, when local firms can be there quicker & do a better job. Why are Glasgow firms getting the contracts in Blairgowrie? It is the thin end of the wedge. SN replied that all work must now go through the National Procurement Agency and local firms have to compete with national firms for the work. Fife Council called in the local contractors and helped them learn about the paperwork required. AT said that a firm called "Batman & Robin" from Glasgow had been contracted to work in the town and had to return 3 times to get the job right when a local firm would have got it right the first time.</p>	
<p>CS was asked if there was any update on the Upper Allan St HGV lorry problem and she replied that there was to be a follow-up meeting.</p>	
<p>She said that the officers leading the Carsie Play area refurbishment had listened to the residents.</p>	
<p>There had finally been a resolution in the EE mobile mast problem.</p>	
<p>On Monday she would have a meeting at Erich Court where residents have been complaining about anti-social behaviour.</p>	
<p>CS reminded BRCC that the Rattray Fun Day was on Saturday 13 August from 1 – 3.</p>	<p>CS</p>
<p>CS said that she is trying to get the Residents Association up and running again.</p>	
<p>The Hamish Henderson film will be shown in possibly October. There may be an opportunity to link with the festival BE would be organising with BEPTA.</p>	
<p>The white lines have recently been renewed in Blairgowrie but they have painted the loading bay in front of Wetherspoons again. This is totally unnecessary</p>	

<p>and is from when Woolworths had the premises. Wetherspoons have their loading bay at the back of the premises. CS would contact CH.</p> <p>Blair in Bloom had their judging last week but they really need help – they have only a few volunteers and they are struggling to do all the flowers as well as fixing and tidying up after PKC. BE said that there are more groups helping with the weeding and the street sweepers Willie and Davie are doing a great job. Both sets of judges were quite pleased. Other people should be encouraged to help out. AD asked about overhanging branches which the group from BRCC had cut back at Bankhead. BE said that if a private residence had overhanging branches then the owner must cut them.</p> <p>Castle Water are advertising for staff after they announced a major expansion of their business in the town. 100 jobs is great for Blairgowrie. AD asked about parking for all these workers and BE said that they were to have the use of the area in Lower Mill St. CS said that a lot of their staff cycle to work.</p> <p>CS said that the problem with HGVs on Upper Allan St was in hand as was the problem with youths using the fort in the Riverside play park. IR said that he had approached the youths one evening and they said that there was nowhere else to go. CS said that they should be directed to SCYD.</p> <p>AT had asked Sgt Karen Harrison (Police Scotland) how many arrests there had been for drug offences in Blairgowrie and Rattray. There is a problem of drug dealing in Davie Park but nothing gets done and no one arrested. He asked can CS get anything done. CS said there is a Pubwatch meeting every other month, which the Police attend. Publicans may not want to report drug dealing as they think this may be detrimental to their licence but now they are saying that this could show they are being proactive in stamping out bad behaviour. MY said that there are also home tattooists, who apart from not having a licence are also throwing out contaminated waste. AT highlighted other bad behaviour in the Wellmeadow when some young people were throwing coke bottles when a Police car passed and didn't stop. The only time that Police are visible is when they are on their way to Tesco or a takeaway. CS said that she had met the new Police Officer when she was in the Davie Park and there were motor bikes running all over the grass. The Police were called and arrived within 10 minutes but one officer in a car was no use in trying to catch motorbikes. If there had been two then they could have blocked the exits and caught them. AT said it was putting visitors off. MY said that another problem was that it is very difficult to get through to the control room if you try to report something and this is leading to under-reporting.</p>	<p>CS</p>
<p>Item 7 – Pending Planning Applications.</p> <p>GD said that he had contacted David Rennie, The Enforcement Office at PKC Planning about the McCarthy & Stone development taking more pavement than it showed on the plans. Mr Rennie thought that it had been done and Andy Baxter is on holiday. Springfield had passed on their thanks for all the comments about the development at Rattray.</p>	
<p>Item 8 – Secretary’s Correspondence.</p> <p>NF said that she had had an email from the Police asking if they could have the minutes from this year’s meeting as they hadn’t had them. PM stated that all minutes and agendas had been sent to Sgt Karen Harrison.</p> <p>MY said that following on from the complaint about disabled access to buses from Blairgowrie by NF, she had had correspondence from Andrew Jarvis of Stagecoach stating that from 31 December this year it will be illegal to operate a double decker bus unless it had disabled access. There may be a problem with single deckers if they have to use an old bus in the case of a breakdown.</p>	
<p>Item 9 – Chair’s Report on follow ups since last meeting.</p>	

<p>MY wished to congratulate Tesco for their Food Cloud Scheme and she had posted details on the BRCC Facebook page. This scheme is for not for profit groups who can accept food donations.</p>	
<p>Item 10 – AOCB</p> <p>GD said that there had been communication from ABO Wind about the Community Benefit Fund that BRCC had been negotiating (with Mount Blair and Alyth). GD thought that agreement had been reached on a 40/30/30 basis but this letter said that it would be 40/20/20 with the remaining 20% allocated to Blairgowrie High School Parent Council to be disbursed to BHS, Perth College UHI and Growbiz. The Community Benefit Fund should not go to state funded institutions like BHS and Perth College. He will have another meeting with Mount Blair CC (MBCC)'s chair Colin Murdoch and with Alyth CC. GD thought that we should resist these new divisions. All were in favour.</p> <p>GD said that PKC are not interested in changing the name of BHS to Hamish Henderson High/Academy and that it would need to be the school that changed the name if they so wished. GD said that he would approach the school.</p> <p>IR said that CS, BE and IR are endeavouring to establish the positioning of all dog waste bins in the area. BS has copies of 6 maps marked with bins and these will be marked with red stickers for dog waste bins and green for litter. They can then mark on the map where bins are needed. Lucy Garthwaite PKC has said that when the changeover from large to small householder bins is complete, there will be some surplus bins which BRCC could put on the Core Paths and PKC will empty them.</p> <p>AT said that he had received an anonymous donation of £500 towards fencing and CCTV after the panels at Piggy Lane were broken by vandals. SFP will replace the panels at a cost of £2200. AT thanked the generous benefactor for the money.</p> <p>SN said that the Ericht Trust needs more members and the work that One Voice is doing along with Discover Blairgowrie and the follow up grant for the Charrette needs to be on a sustainable basis</p> <p>TD attended the meeting in her role as Chair of the Association of Blairgowrie Craft Workers and said she was horrified that the bill for the recent Craft Fair in the Town Hall was £180 when for an identical Fair in April was charged £96. She said that Craft Fair cannot afford this. AT said that there had been no increase in letting charges for 8 years and they were struggling. If PKC didn't pay the cleaner then the town hall would not be viable The Town Hall MUST be seen to be viable. The new scale of charges distinguishes between Community Groups who pay a small charge, tea dances etc which pay an intermediate charge and Commercial groups who pay £25 per hour. TD says there was no warning of an increase and the charge doubled in one hit. AT replied that a letter had been sent to all organisations who used the hall in the last year – there had been groups of about 80 charging their customers £3 each, a total of £240 yet the hall was only getting £25. Although the craft fair was run by people making money, it should have been £18 per hour and it is difficult getting the balance right.</p> <p>MY said that the Ericht Trust needs new members and the fee is £2.50. She also wanted to thank the departing secretary NF and wished her well at uni in Stirling.</p> <p>MY mentioned about the Resilient Communities Conference taking place in Edinburgh on Friday 7th October. BS said it was already full and tickets were sold out.</p> <p>IR had the sad task of informing everyone that David Bailey, the past BRCC Chair had died after a short illness. He passed away surrounded by his wife and 2 sons. MY said that he would be sadly missed and his contribution had been amazing.</p>	
<p>Date of Next Meeting.</p> <p>Thursday 8 September in the small hall, Balmoral Rd, Rattray at 7 pm.</p>	<p>All</p>

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