



to stay in Blairgowrie so that they were near to family, they should be allocated a house here and not elsewhere in Perthshire. A member of the public said that all the houses could be filled with those from Blairgowrie on the waiting list. There was again anger on all sides that PKC had allowed developers to buy out of the “affordable housing” requirement. Why put a policy in place and then let some developers side-step it. PKC should be held to account. There would be a lot more social housing in Blairgowrie and Rattray if this had been adhered to without the need to shoehorn them all into one space. The density of the development was very much on all people’s minds, 71 houses in such a small space was against all PKC’s policies and the fact that there is no integration of social housing, just a large lump all in one place. There was also concern about the access for emergency vehicles with so little parking on street being planned and only one access route. However it was pointed out that there is an emergency route on the plan exiting on to Elm Drive which would have removable bollards. A member of the public said that PKC must allocate 50% of the housing to those who are homeless and he was aware, in his professional capacity, that this sector has a much higher chance of having issues with drugs, alcohol and ex-offender issues. EF said that it was wrong to assume that there would be issues as there were plenty of decent people who were forced into bad times through no fault of their own. The member of the public said that chances of rehabilitation were much higher when “problem” tenants were integrated into society and not clumped together. Another member of the public said that Picture House Court in Reform St also has problems and some tenants have moved to more expensive housing to escape this. SN said that if people wished to make objections to PKC they should only object on planning grounds as other matters were not relevant to the planning process. Grounds such as density, appearance and the percentage of affordable houses. This was not the density of social housing that should be in a rural town. MY said that she was happy that PKC had moved a little from their original plans but there was room for manoeuvre. Another member of the public said that there seems to be little in the way of recreational space provided to which SN replied that the amount of open space and car parking was insufficient. EF said that BRCC would invite Ms Cameron to attend the next BRCC meeting and she was passionate that BRCC should act as a conduit for the community. SN asked that all who wished to object did so by the deadline of 20 June. MY agreed to put details on Facebook and BRCC’s website. BB said that he and CS were in full support, there should be more shared ownership but far less density.

EF

Another member of the public asked if Lower Mill St could be made one-way as the level of parking there was causing problems and emergency vehicles would have great trouble negotiating it. SN said he would add it to his list of things to take to PKC.

SN

Another member of the public was again commenting on the lack of grass maintenance in Rattray specifically Ferguson Park and the Common. He had organised the very well supported Rattray & Blair ½ Marathon and he felt ashamed to welcome participants to the event with the area so unkempt. He arranged to get it cut himself and it only took 1 hour 40 minutes. DC also said that the area at the Balmoral Rd end of the River walk up from the Oakbank Bridge was also a disgrace and hadn’t been cut recently. She said it was a very bad advert for the town. IR said that he would talk to Paul Summers, PKC, and ask for a site meeting to discuss these matters. A member of the public said that the grass is so long in Beeches Rd that the mower will not be able to tackle it and it will need a scythe but when they cut the roadside verge, the driver of the mower removed the grass collector from his vehicle and the grass was blown out the rear of the machine and made a dreadful mess. IR thought that lack of supervision was a part of the problem. LS asked everyone to congratulate Peter Ritchie on the ½ Marathon’s success.

IR

**Item 4 - Police & Fire reports.**

**NB Draft minutes are circulated for early action & general information. They may be subject to amendment before being ratified at the next meeting of the BRCC.**

<p>There were no representatives from either Police Scotland or the Fire Service.</p>	
<p><b>Item 5 – Arising and Ongoing Issues.</b></p> <p>5.1 Discover Blairgowrie Update The update had not been received.</p> <p>5.2 Riverside. BS said that he had a meeting with interested parties about the Riverside and most matters were addressed, including which areas were to be left and which ones could be trimmed of self-seeded saplings etc. From the weir at the bridge to Oakbank steps – 2 areas are to be left, including the area between the playpark and the river which is to be a natural barrier. The area between the playpark and the bridge can be cut to “long grass” with the rest also cut to “long grass”. BRAN would undertake the work and one of the volunteers has offered to get a transect survey done to establish the flora and fauna and see which areas can be undertaken. The Cuttleburn outflow area is to be “landscaped” to make it more picturesque instead of a plastic tube sticking out of a brick wall! One of the projects that the Riverside Venture Group wanted to do was have History walks up and down the Riverside and Blairgowrie &amp; Rattray History Trust are going to do this with the full support of the Riverside Venture Group and PKC. In reply to a member of the public, BS said that BRCC and the local councillors are putting as much pressure as possible on Castle Water (CW) to put in place sufficient parking facilities for their staff, so that the parking area at the riverside and the surrounding roads are not choked with all day parking. A member of the Riverside group said that, in a meeting with Alan Gorman, PKC, he encouraged them to invite like-minded people to join in the discussion and in her naivety, she had emailed CW to see if they would be interested in this as they were new to the riverside area but she received a sharp email reply saying that it did not concern them. IR said that they have no concept of community engagement and have shown that since they opened there. There was concern that the planning application at present under consideration for extra accommodation would result in an increase in CW personnel but CS and MY have been assured that it is only for office accommodation. SN argued that the application gauges the number of occupants on the area of floor space and toilets, fire escapes and stairways are calculated on this basis. Once the planning consent had been given, subsequent tenants or indeed the present tenant could quite legitimately increase their workforce. MY said that the CEO of CW was not aware on the damage done to the flowerbeds and verges by the riverside, or of the offer of parking beside Tesco. She also said that the proportion of staff who commute from outwith the town is higher than BRCC were led to believe initially.</p> <p>5.3 New Pharmacy. Postponed until next meeting.</p> <p>5.4 New Recreation Centre. PL was unable to attend but AT said that she had undertaken numerous open days and taken statements from local groups and individuals in Blairgowrie, Alyth, Coupar Angus etc and has consulted with the Education bodies for the background for the schools. She has reported back to PKC on a regular basis and will put her conclusions to them by mid-June. Then PKC will review and take all the recommendations on board with hopefully their thoughts on the consultation by mid-July. She intends to come back to the town with the final recommendations by the time of the BRCC August meeting. Some of the submissions were:- the size of the pool, changing facilities, separate changing facilities for school/community, wet/dry, male/female/family, size of halls, gym, dance room, all the things that Blairgowrie, Rattray and East Perthshire should have. Mrs B Leslie and Alan Dingwall want to work</p>	

**NB Draft minutes are circulated for early action & general information. They may be subject to amendment before being ratified at the next meeting of the BRCC.**

<p>with all the sports organisations to get the right facilities. AT said that he looked forward to seeing the recommendations in August. Some of the available money will hopefully be set aside for provision of a half size 3G pitch at Davie park as well as a 2G full size all weather pitch at the Recy, which all the sports groups are in favour of as it would mean that they could all play at home and not have to travel to Perth etc. AT thanked PL for all her hard work and asked that BRCC send PKC a letter of support. This was proposed by BS, seconded by IR and all agreed.</p> <p>5.5 Blairgowrie Community Transport Scheme. Postponed until next meeting.</p> <p>5.6 Group Updates.</p> <p>MY said that the seasonal window for refurbishing the pealights had been missed but after the summer there is a plan and timescale to have the lights ready before the switch on when the clocks change. She thanked Grant Keay for his help.</p> <p>MY said that there will be a meeting the following week of the Hamish Henderson Festival Group and that some acts and venues are already confirmed and the Town Hall has been booked.</p> <p>AD said that the new Christmas lights have arrived but unfortunately, because of the delay, the expected transfer of the old lights to Kirriemuir has fallen through, although somewhere else may want them. The Illuminations committee will be inspecting the new lights at a temporary location and checking fittings etc.</p> <p>SN said that progress on improvements to the towns parking restrictions, removal of loading bay and double yellow line designations had been delayed due to staff shortages at PKC. He was assured by the council that consultation with the business community and BRCC was imminent. It was hoped to have these improvements in place by the main tourist season but this was now unlikely. The Living Streets report needed comments by 13 June.</p> <p>IR said that there hadn't been any BRAN working parties out because of the rain but that hadn't stopped AD and Roger Mackie who had worked continuously. Bob Ellis had been inspecting the CATERAN Trail for the Yomp. Work was due to have started on the Loon Braes but had been held up because PKC wanted a risk assessment done. There was also a question of how much of the Braes was actually owned by PKC. The seat at the top of the Cuttleburn has been removed by PKC and they want any replacement to be to their specification!</p> <p>PM said that the alterations to the no 63 bus service would commence on 7 July and asked for publicity from CD. MY said that she would make up posters for the website and Facebook and for the bus stance and One Voice. Also the Coop on Coupar Angus Rd.</p> <p>PM said that the Blair in Bloom group had made £400 at their plant sale despite the weather that day.</p> <p>LS said that there would be a gentleman coming from the HEAT project to give a short presentation at the BRCC July meeting. He distributed some flyers about the project to members and said that the HEAT project had had a disappointing take-up but those have been given advice say it is very helpful. The team is doing as much as it can giving free and impartial advice on energy use and he asked BRCC to spread the word. MY said that she would contact Noeleen Chapman. LS said that HEAT would be having a stall at the market and they were working with schools; he reminded everyone that it was Rattray and the Glens and not Blairgowrie at the moment.</p> <p>IR said that the Citizen of the Year awards would be on 24 June at 11 and offered congratulations to AT on being Citizen of the Year.</p>	<p>SN</p> <p>MY</p>
<p><b>Item 6 - Local Councillor reports.</b></p>	

**NB Draft minutes are circulated for early action & general information. They may be subject to amendment before being ratified at the next meeting of the BRCC.**

BB said that CS had a meeting with John Reynolds, CEO Castle Water (CW) about sorting out the car park problem and there are hopefully some PKC sites that could also be used. EF thanked BB for coming on Election day.	
Item 7 – <b>Pending Planning Applications.</b>  None.	
Item 8 – <b>Secretary’s correspondence.</b>  SN said there was none.	
Item 9 – <b>Chair’s report on follow ups since last meeting.</b>  EF had been asked about the flower beds in the Wellmeadow that had been cleared but PM said that Blair in Bloom know nothing about it. It was thought that PKC would replant when the weather was better. EF had also been asked if there was a twinning committee and if there was anything done to celebrate Blairgowrie & Rattray’s twins, Fergus, Ontario and Pleasanton, California. She said there was concern about the posters on the railings in the Wellmeadow and other places which were put up and never taken down. AD said that there are banners put up by the sponsors on Braemar night but these are taken down soon afterwards; any that are obscuring sight lines are removed by the Roads Dept and Daryl McKeown is the person to see about this.	
Item 10 – <b>AOCB.</b>  Concern was raised about the West Park development and how only those within 20m have been notified and the short objection period. SN replied that this is still in the pre-planning stage and it is normal to only notify neighbours within 20m the planning application number is 17/00939/IPM. A member of the public said that there were a lot of houses planned and it would destroy woodland and add to the drainage problems. SN replied that this site had been approved in principle and its use for future development could not be overturned.	
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>  Thursday 13 July 2017 in the Adult resource Centre, Jessie St, at 7 pm	All

Distribution (email unless specified):

Community Council Members:

Mr I Cruickshank  
Mrs D Cushnie  
Mr G Darge  
Mr A Donald  
Ms E Forrest  
Mrs P McGregor  
Mr S Nichol  
Mr I Richards  
Mr L Seal  
Mr B Smith  
Mr A Thomson  
Mrs M Young

Local Councillors:

Mrs C Shiers  
Mr B Brawn  
Mr T McEwan

External:

PKC Community Councils  
Clare Damodaran (Press)  
Mrs B Leslie Blairgowrie High School

Approved Minutes Distribution:

**NB Draft minutes are circulated for early action & general information. They may be subject to amendment before being ratified at the next meeting of the BRCC.**

Associate Members:

Ms T Dick

Website

One Voice

Blairgowrie Library

Discover Blairgowrie

Police and Fire Scotland

**NB** Draft minutes are circulated for early action & general information. They may be subject to amendment before being ratified at the next meeting of the BRCC.