



BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10 August 2017

Held in the Adult Resource Centre, Jessie St., Blairgowrie at 7pm

<p><u>ATTENDANCE</u> Ms E Forrest (EF) Mr I Richards (IR) Mrs P McGregor (PM) Mr S Nichol (SN) Mr I Cruickshank (IC) Mr A Donald (AD) Mr B Smith (BS) Mr A Thomson (AT) Mrs M Young (MY)</p> <p><u>APOLOGIES</u> Mrs D Cushnie (DC) Mr G Darge (GD) Mr L Seal (LS) Cllr C Shiers (CS) Cllr B Brawn (BB) Cllr T McEwan (TM)</p>	<p>Chair Vice Chair Treasurer Secretary</p> <p>Councillor PKC Councillor PKC Councillor PKC</p>	<p>Mr J Menzies (JM) SM J Kitt (JK) 6 Members of the public</p>	<p>Press Scottish Fire & Rescue</p>
<p>Item 1 – Welcome & Apologies</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EF welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies for the above.</p>			
<p>Item 2 - Adoption of minutes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The adoption of the minutes was proposed by IR and seconded by AD.</p>			
<p>Item 3 - Subjects raised by members of the public.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">None</p>			
<p>Item 4 - Police & Fire reports.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Station Manager Jake Kitt said that since the last meeting there had been no significant call-outs and there had been 27 Home Visits. There is a problem at the Fire Station when there are cars parked in the road. There is not enough space for the appliance to turn and on several occasions the appliance has had to reverse out the back. SN has been in touch with Crew Manager L Rumgay and has agreed to take this up with PKC. JK said that Scottish Fire & Rescue are entering a consultation period and would like as many people as possible to take the survey on their website. BS agreed to circulate this. https://firescotland.citizenspace.com/planning-and-performance/perth-and-kinross-draft-local-plan</p>			
			<p>SN BS</p>

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Item 5 – Arising and Ongoing Issues.

- a) EF read out the monthly report from Discover Blairgowrie and One Voice.
- Hub magazine-deadline 11 August-4700 copies-delivery early September.
 - 10 volunteering opportunities on website.
 - Town Promotion. Ericht Trust & One Voice may merge to form a development trust. Plans to approach large businesses and landowners for endorsement.
 - Looking for advertisers for town map.
 - What's On poster at Tesco, Bus stance and TIC- hope to include Rattray Connect.
 - Forum on 3 August. Good turn out and lots discussed. Snow Road is opportunity for town.

BS said that the hope is to create an umbrella organisation that can speak for the town and have the business and tax capabilities that BRCC doesn't. A member of the public asked if BRCC should create a sub-group to do this but BS said that Community Councils don't have the ability to raise funds etc.

b) Group Updates.

AD reported that the Illuminations Ctte had tested the new lights which will go across Allan St. The old lights are still for sale at £400. Suggestions that the large tree at Mount Ericht should be lit again were dismissed due to safety concerns with the current wiring. Problem with light bulbs had been resolved. The Perth Games had been cancelled and it was hoped that this would be advantageous for the Blair Games on 3 September.

SN reported that street audits were carried out in Perth and Crieff as well as Blairgowrie. Meetings are scheduled to see what measures can be taken with the limited budgets available. Many of the measures that the Blair group suggested are low cost and Lower Mill St one-way was again suggested. There had been no further developments with the changes to parking limits etc. but the consultation had finished with only one objection to the removal of the Loading Bays. IC said that there is an anomaly on Croft Lane, adjacent to the Library car park, where an arrow on the road is pointing the wrong way. SN knows about it. PM said that there is a one way sign on the council building that is so faded it cannot be read.

SN

CS has put forward the idea that when Perth Museum closes for renovations, locally relevant artefacts should be displayed locally in Blairgowrie. SN, CS and IR would attend a meeting with Helen Smout, ceo of Culture Trust to discuss possibilities. Perhaps something temporary could be made permanent if suitable premises were to be found.

SN,IR

IR reported that BRAN continues to await the result of an application for £1500 from Paths4All. They have realised they need to be more ambitious in their funding applications as there is so much work needing done – the Cuttle Burn path needs attention and the Gormack to bothy path needs the kissing gates removed. This will need grant aid and they will ask PKC Greenspace for help with an application for £5-10K, it may also need a contractor. There is concern about the amount of litter and no matter how often it is cleared, there is always more. A member of the public said that there was a terrible mess on the Welton Rd with beer cans and broken glass bottles. IR said that the manager of Rosemount Farms is very cooperative and instructs his workforce not to litter. AT said that there had been a problem for over 50 years, with the fruit pickers getting the blame, while another resident said that she had problems with bikes left at her road end.

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<p>PM reported on the Blair in Bloom meeting that they had been awarded £4K from Tesco's bags of help which they will put towards their upcoming projects. H McCann and M Birch are to meet with a representative from the Golf Club to see if they would be willing to help replace the Golfer sculpture from the end of Golf Course Rd. They also asked BRAN's help in removing a tree from the site. Funding is to be sought for a portable sprayer for the weeds around the planters and IC has offered the use of his. There is no update on the wishing well and the tourist season is almost over. The Citizen of the Year and Young Person of the Year have been invited to participate in the Braemar Day festivities and fireworks, the BRAW festival and the Christmas light switch on. AD said that PKC had sprayed the Lornty Rd but failed to spray the Japanese Knotweed. Also, Croft Court is a mess.</p> <p>MY reported that green algae is taking over the Davie Park pond. AD said to contact the new Countryside Ranger, Alistair McLeod who would also be at the Loon Braes Fun Day on Saturday 12/8. She is in the process of setting up a residents' meeting with PKC Housing and Hillcrest Housing but one of the Hillcrest people has still to confirm. When MY has a firm date, she will send BS the letter inviting residents for him to copy & distribute. This meeting is only for the residents directly adjacent to the developments. A member of the public said that, on the weed issue, he had removed some Himalayan Balsam from the path above the bridge where there is very little of it. MY asked about the eroded banking on Welton Rd and AD said to contact Alan Findlay.</p>	<p>MY</p> <p>MY</p> <p>MY</p>
<p>Item 6 - Local Councillor reports.</p> <p>CS sent her report by email to SN.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She has a meeting next week about the museum options which SN & IR will also attend. • She is in ongoing discussions re the planning applications coming up. • She has a meeting organised to look at future development of Davie Park. • She has requested an update on timescales for the new Recy. • She has requested a multi-agency meeting re the anti-social behaviour at a couple of town centre locations and will involve BRCC in this. • She is having ongoing discussions re town centre parking. <p>AT said that the Davie Park needed development of the Braes and paths and a public toilet, possibly in the pavilion. IR said there is still the problem of legal ownership of the Braes and PKC are prevaricating. BRAN had Castle Huntly personnel lined up to do the work and they are very upset at the delay.</p>	
<p>Item 7 – Pending Planning Applications.</p> <p>There were no applications of interest. Re Westpark, the environmental study has now been submitted and the application is again "live". BS had contacted SEPA about the surface water problems. SN said that there were many people against the development and just as many in favour so he thought that BRCC should not make a formal comm. This was agreed. There were concerns raised by members as to what made a good impact on entering a town. AD said that PKC flouting the rules had to stop, but if people objected to everything then there would be no developments and the town would stagnate. All were agreed that there needs to be much improvement in infrastructure and roads and that not too many developments are at the same time as the town couldn't cope. There was concern that the new Recy would not be fit for purpose as it would be too small before it was built and with not enough parking. Forfar has lots of shops and no parking charges, so many people go there instead.</p>	

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Item 8 – Secretary’s correspondence.	
There had been no significant correspondence.	
Item 9 – Chair’s report on follow ups since last meeting.	
EF asked for updates from BS re the Big Guns and he said that he hasn’t contacted Historic Environment Scotland yet; one person has contacted him to say that both guns should be restored and not just the one.	BS
Item 10 – AOCB.	
IC asked who empties the bins in the laybys as there is one upended and it has been like that for weeks. There was a debate about the merits of bins or if there was more chance of people taking their rubbish home if there were no bins. AD said there were signs in Angus laybys “nae bins here- tak yer rubbish hame” and it seems to work. A member of the public asked about the forthcoming charges for garden waste collection which had been raised and discussed at last month’s meeting. There was much debate about how PKC was going to manage this with another resident saying that in Angus they charge £25 pa for garden waste but they also have a food waste container, larger than the kitchen caddy but smaller than a bin. She said that you would have to pay up or they wouldn’t pick up. Until there is further information about the workings of this, BRCC cannot do anything. AD asked if there was any possibility of the no 63 bus coming along Elm Drive but PM said that PKC and Strathtay have both said definitely not. IC asked if there was any feedback yet from the route along Golf Course Rd and PM said she hadn’t heard anything.	
Date of Next Meeting	All
Thursday September 14 2017 in the small hall, Balmoral Rd, Rattray at 7pm.	

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

Associate Members:

Ms T Dick

Local Councillors:

Mrs C Shiers
Mr B Brawn
Mr T McEwan

External:

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

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