



BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14th September 2017

Held in the Small Hall, Rattray Church, Balmoral Road, Rattray at 7pm

<p><u>ATTENDANCE</u> Ms E Forrest (EF) Mr I Cruickshank (IC) Mrs D Cushnie (DC) Mr A Donald (AD) Mr L Seal (LS) Mr B Smith (BS) Mr A Thomson (AT) Mrs M Young (MY)</p> <p><u>APOLOGIES</u> Stuart Nichol (SN) Ian Richards (IR) Gordon Darge (GD) Pat McGregor (PM)</p>	<p>Chair</p>	<p>Cllr C Shiers (CS) Cllr B Brawn (BB) Cllr T McEwan (TM) Ms C Damodaran (CD)</p> <p>7 Members of the public</p> <p>Alistair McLeod (AM), Greenspace Ranger</p> <p>Police Representative</p>	<p>Councillor PKC Councillor PKC Councillor PKC Press</p>
<p>Item 1 1.1</p>	<p>Welcome & Apologies. EF welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave apologies as noted above.</p>		
<p>Item 2</p>	<p>Adoption of minutes. August meeting minutes were adopted, proposed by MY and seconded by IC</p>		
<p>Item 3 3.1 3.2</p>	<p>Subjects raised by members of the public. Motorists speeding in the area of Elm Drive posing risks to pedestrians and cyclists, particularly children. Discussion ensued regarding the perceived extent of the problem and potential solutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of adequate speed limit signage - Suggested digital displays to indicate to motorists driving over the speed limit - Lack of awareness of laws by motorists - CS is already looking into this issue - EF noted that SN is also making great effort to resolve issues in the area. <p>Potential traffic problems resulting from proposed new housing development in Rattray as well as speeding in Rattray High Street. The following main points were noted from the discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns that the current infrastructure is unsuitable for sustaining the development - There has been a recent, noticeable increase in traffic accidents occurring in the area. - Traffic assessment is due to be carried out with potential traffic calming measures being implemented as a result. - Police Scotland do not currently have resources to increase policing of speeding in the area. - Overall responsibility lies within government legislation and education of the public. 		
<p>Item 4</p>	<p>Police Scotland update. - Nikki Forrester will be taking over from John McCaig as Community</p>		

	<p>Sergeant in the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An informative talk and explanation was given on how Police Scotland use intelligence and risk assessments to deploy resources most effectively to cover potentially volatile situations, noting the recent march in Perth as an example. - The importance of receiving intelligence was emphasised in that if the public do not inform the police or other authorities of concerns or report wrongdoings then there is no evidence for deployment of resources. - Concern was raised as to the visible lack of officers on the street and can the public do anything to effect change in this respect? Police representative responded that this is a direct result of austerity cuts and Police Scotland have no option to increase the numbers of officers patrolling. - MY noted appreciation of support from Police Scotland during Braemar weekend. - Query was raised as to under-reporting of anti-social behaviour and the option of reporting anonymously. It was noted that there are facilities to report via telephone and internet such as through Police Scotland and Crimestoppers. Information and intelligence is also gathered via a multi-agency approach and members of the public do not necessarily have to contact the police, reports of anti-social behaviour can be made through other agencies such as social work, community wardens and housing. BRCC can also take forward complaints on behalf of members of the public who wish to remain anonymous. BRCC will inform public of options via social media - Query was raised regarding noise pollution emissions particularly from vehicles. Police response that this is covered under anti-social behaviour and inconsiderate driving laws. - Query was raised regarding the parking and drop off facilities in the area of the community campus. Police Scotland agreed to look into patrolling the area. There is currently an active petition on the matter. BRCC can apply pressure on behalf of the community. CS is continuing to meet with representatives from PKC and the developer to negotiate resolution of the issue. Agreed BS will write letter on behalf of BRCC 	<p>MY</p> <p>BS</p>
<p>Item 5 a)</p>	<p>Arising and Ongoing Issues.</p> <p>Discover Blairgowrie & One Voice Hub Mag</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autumn Magazine – 4,700 copies out for delivery - Christmas deadline 20th October. Delivery date mid-November. <p>Volunteering & Job Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 opportunities listed on the website – 2 new volunteers came forward in past few weeks. <p>Town Promotion/Town Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Met with Mike Morgan (PKC) and Cllr Shiers 5 Sep to work together to boost the town. <p>Town Map/Walk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Looking for advertisers – 2 sizes of ad, draft versions to be printed in next few weeks to show potential advertisers <p>Discover Blairgowrie Business Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 business - Business Association AGM on 20 September. <p>Forum – 26 October</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Angus Hotel – 5.30pm – We have an agreement with The Angus Hotel for 	<p>AM</p>

b)	<p>them to provide the mtg room free for the forum and Business Association in return for a free listing on the website – collaborating and working together</p> <p><i>See Item 4</i></p>	
c)	<p>Bonfire Night</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plans are now well underway for the evening. As Coupar Angus have their event on a Friday, Blair & Rattray one is planned for the Saturday - 4th Nov. Suggested start time of 6.45pm and an end time of 9.30pm 	
d)	<p>Alistair McLeod, Greenspace Ranger informed the meeting of his role in the area to work with local groups and community members to improve greenspace facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work is required on Davie Park Pond and a date will be arranged for the community to help clearing - Some spraying of invasive species has recently been undertaken and further areas have still to be covered. Concern was raised regarding Japanese Knotweed along the riverside and AM will look will into this. - Potentially a weekly community group could be established to help improve greenspaces and also be educational and informative for the community. A meeting will be arranged to agree how to take this forward. - Concern was raised regarding rubbish, particularly related to drinking alcohol along the riverside. Police are unaware of this. Suggested that more bins in the area would help. 	<p>BS</p> <p>BS</p>
e)	<p>The refurbishment of the Pea lights has now begun. Trees have been trimmed back and the old lights have been taken down in preparation of the new lights going up. It is understood an outside contractor will be installing the new lights.</p>	
f)	<p>Wellmeadow Christmas Decorations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MY has applied for funding for a traditional nativity scene as well as other yule festivities and a tree. Something Special flowers have offered to trim the tree. 	
g)	<p>Invest in Perthshire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Steve Johnstone and Lesley McDonald of Discover Blairgowrie were recently interviewed for an article to be published in the next issue of the magazine. Copy will be available to the public. 	
h)	<p>HEAT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An energy fair is to be held in the town hall on 24th November. This will be an opportunity for information exchange with energy suppliers with advice on how to reduce energy bills and consumption. 	
i)	<p>Hamish Henderson Festival</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - will take place 10th-12th November with a variety of events and activities throughout the town. - Movie to be shown in the big hall, Rattray Church, Balmoral Road on the Saturday afternoon. - Non-dancing ceilidh in the Town Hall on the Saturday Evening - Live music will be in The Balmoral pub, The Alehouse and No.31 on Friday/Saturday evenings. - Poetry reading will be on the Sunday afternoon in Wellmeadow Café, The CATERAN Café and probably the Alehouse - Full details will be available on Discover Blairgowrie web site and Facebook. 	
j)	<p>BRAN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - continuing their work as weather permits and weekly meetings. All are welcome to join. 	
k)	<p>Christmas Lights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - will go up on 5th November and switch on will be 25th November. 	

<p>l)</p> <p>m)</p> <p>n)</p> <p>o)</p> <p>p)</p>	<p>Highland Games</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - was a great success and lots of positive feedback has been received. <p>Resilience Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the electrician engaged to carry out installation of generator plug in systems in the Balmoral and Town Halls has not yet done the work. Agreed to contract another electrician. - Due to recent resignations there are vacancies in the group. <p>The Big Guns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historic Environment Scotland have indicated they want both guns to remain together. BS will meet with HES to discuss further. <p>The Town Hall has been repainted. Thanks was noted to The Community Payback Team who carried out the work. The cost for paint was over £1,000. There is still additional refurbishment work required including repainting of the outside of the building which PKC agreed to undertake in August 2014.</p> <p>Query re Visitor Centre previously discussed. CS met with Culture PK and agreement has been made to look into the feasibility of a pop up museum in the old council chambers in Leslie Street as a pilot. There is also a working group currently in place to look at potential developments for Blairgowrie and Rattray, including a visitor centre.</p>	
<p>Item 6</p>	<p>Local Councillor reports.</p> <p>CS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recently undertook a walk round of Ferguson Park with local councillors and agreement has been made to develop a maintenance plan. - A meeting is being held at the riverside on 26th September to look into maintenance of the area. - The new BMX track has been a fantastic success and thanks to all involved were noted. - There will be a meeting on 18th October at Davie Park regarding Kirkton Road. - A new warden will be targeting specific areas affected by dog fouling. Request for suggestions of which areas to include. <p>TM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new BMX track is in need of additional funding subsequent to recent flooding. <p>BB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be attending a meeting to discuss the war memorial. 	
<p>Item 7</p>	<p>Pending Planning Applications.</p> <p>No applications pending</p>	
<p>Item 8</p>	<p>Secretary's correspondence.</p>	
<p>Item 9</p>	<p>Chair's report on follow ups since last meeting.</p> <p>The Chair noted that a recent comment made that members of BRCC only have "pet projects" is not true and that all members work hard for the benefit of the whole community and are always there to listen.</p>	
<p>Item 10</p>	<p>AOCB.</p> <p>NHS Tayside will be undertaking a surgical provision consultation next year. BRCC can request that local consultations are undertaken at times to suit the community.</p>	

Date of Next Meeting	Thursday 12 th October 2017 in the Adult Resource Centre, Jessie Street, Blairgowrie at 7.00pm	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

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

Approved Minutes Distribution:

Website
One Voice
Blairgowrie Library
Discover Blairgowrie
Police and Fire Scotland