



BLAIRGOWRIE & RATTRAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12 April 2018

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

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| <p><u>ATTENDANCE</u> Mr B Smith (BS) Mrs P McGregor (PM) Mr S Nichol (SN) Mr I Cruickshank (IC) Mr G Darge (GD) Mr A Donald (AD) Mr R Duncan (RD)</p> <p><u>APOLOGIES</u> Mr I Richards (IR) Mrs D Cushnie (DC) Ms E Forrest (EF) Ms Hazel Harris (HH) Mr L Seal (LS) Mr A Thomson (AT) Cllr T McEwan (TM)</p> | <p>Vice Chair Treasurer Secretary</p> | <p>Cllr C Shiers (CS) Cllr B Brawn (BB) Ms C Damodaran (CD) 6 Members of the public</p> <p><u>LEAVE OF ABSENCE</u> Mrs M Young (MY)</p> | <p>Councillor PKC Councillor PKC Councillor PKC Press</p> |
| <p>Item 1 – Welcome & Apologies BS welcomed everyone to the meeting and recorded apologies from IR, DC, EF, HH. AT and TM</p> | | | |
| <p>Item 2 - Adoption of minutes The minutes were proposed for approval by IC and seconded by SN, subject to a few spelling errors being amended.</p> | | | |
| <p>Item 3 – Matters Arising 3.1 Roads update. SN reported that he had had no update from Chic Haggart (CH) at Perth and Kinross Council on this. CS said that she had met with Bev Leslie from Blairgowrie High School before the holidays and reiterated once again concerns about staff parking. She said that CH is going to have a look at the site after the school holidays and see if more can be done and asked if SN and a member of the public and a resident of Beeches Road who lives opposite the school, would be present at that meeting. CS also raised the ongoing issue of parking around the corner of Beeches Road near the Recreation Centre and said that CH had said there were already double yellow lines there. AD said that the double yellow lines needed to be extended, adding that he had received complaints from members of the public who had had their driveways blocked by people parking across them, and that during the bad weather it was difficult to get the gritters around the junction due to all the parked cars. CS reported that poles had been installed in the Wellmeadow for the vehicle activated signs which it is hoped might alleviate the issue of speeding traffic there. The member of the public asked CS what was happening with the council and a parking area at Beeches Road. CS said that she was still in discussions with council officers on that. The resident said that having looked over the title deeds for the properties, the</p> | | | <p>SN</p> |

residents are the owners of the common parking space. CS asked to see a copy of the title deeds. The resident said that when the school is in, residents can't even get a bike in as the cars are so tightly parked. Another member of the public asked if the teachers got free parking. BS said that he would like to make a point about the junction between Reform Street and the High Street, saying that drivers can't see the stop sign until they are right on top of it now because of the new raised hump. CS agreed that the hump had not made any difference to the safety of the junction, that the green light at the pedestrian crossing gives drivers the impression that they are good to go, and that there is evidence to suggest that this is an ongoing issue. The original suggestion was to put one big hump right across the entire junction but that this had not happened due to cost. PM suggested that as the paint had almost gone why was it not just repainted with a big 'stop' sign. AD commented that he was surprised by the number of HGVs that come up Leslie Street and onto Reform Street and the resident added that lots of HGVs, especially timber lorries, have to go on the other side of the road to get round the junction from Reform Street to Perth Street and suggested that maybe pedestrian crossing was too close to the corner. SN said that he would raise all the above issues with CH.

3.2 Memorial Seat for David Bailey. BS reported that the wood had been sourced and that they were now looking for someone to move it for Derrick Young to carve. It was still hoped that it would be in place for August.

3.3 Drive-It Day. RD said that plans for the event in Blairgowrie on April 22 were progressing well. Bob Ellis has spoken to AD about bollards and signs for the golf club and the Wellmeadow, and that MY has secured all the licences. There were going to be around 10-12 vehicles on display in the Wellmeadow as well as bouncy castles and inflatables, and a number of food and drink vendors. RD had drafted a letter on BRCC paper to go out to local businesses and residents asking them not to park on Bank Street in the run up to the event. Road closure signs had also gone up. RD said that they just needed the people of Blairgowrie and Rattray to come to the Wellmeadow and support the event which was to be attended by HRH Prince Michael of Kent. Cars will be leaving Blairgowrie Golf Club from 10am in 30 second intervals. Around 80 cars will be taking part and will be passing through the Wellmeadow for around 40 minutes. There was a short discussion between RD and AD about the flow of traffic. BS said he was sure it was going to be a great event.

3.4 Castle Water. BS said that IR had written a letter to Castle Water CEO John Reynolds who had replied saying that he was happy to meet with IR when he was mobile again after his operation.

3.5 and 3.6 Wishing Well/wreath rack. AD reported that DC's partner was going to look into making some sort of rack for the wreaths at the War Memorial but that he was unavailable for the next month. BS said that IR had been in contact with the Royal British Legion Scotland and was thinking it was going to be a wooden rack rather than a metal one. He asked AD to ensure that DC's partner confirms with IR before making anything. CS also asked that any possible designs are run past Andy Clegg at Perth and Kinross Council as well. AD said that there would be very little fixings and that the rack would be dismantled after a month and stored in the shed.

3.7 ABO Green Burn Wind Farm. GD said that he had spoken to Clark Crosbie from ABO Wind UK who said that they were delighted to have won their case on appeal and had been waiting for the period when a judicial review could be called to pass. That had lapsed a few days ago. He added that unfortunately the Westminster government had scuppered their plans however, and that due to changes in renewable energy policy the project was not viable at the moment, and that they were currently in discussions with the Scottish Government to see what can be done. GD said that Clark Crosbie thinks it will be some time before any contracts for the project are issued and that it is not until that point that the company will be in touch with community councils regarding restarting negotiations around the community benefit fund for the wind farm. 20% of the fund will go to GrowBiz and Blairgowrie High School and ABO would still like to see the remainder split three ways between Alyth Community Council, BRCC and Mount Blair Community Council, but that there was obviously a problem with Mount Blair Community Council not wishing to share the fund. According

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| <p>to GD, Clark Crosbie didn't think that there would be any movement for at least six months. GD will go back to him then to see if there has been any progress.</p> | |
| <p>Item 4 – Subjects raised by members of the public</p> <p>One member of the public asked if the community council had asked John Burke, the director of Corryard, to come to a meeting. Corryard had been asked to consider putting a path for pedestrians through part of the site of the former Hill Primary School, which Corryard is currently converting into residential apartments, to allow them safer passage than walking up Upper Allan Street which currently has no pavement. GD said that he had spoken to John Burke and that although he was sympathetic to the request and would like to help out he had a number of issues with it. The first of these was public liability on what is private property, and the second was that railings would need to be removed. The wall and railings are listed as well as the buildings. The third issue is that the proposed public footpath would be right up against the gable wall of building number two which has balconies on it and which people might not want to buy if there was a right of way there. John Burke felt that it would have a detrimental effect on the commercial aspect of the development but that once the properties had been sold it might be worth approaching the residents' group then and see what the best way of doing it would be. GD added that a possible solution might be to extend the footpath from the Royal Hotel to Upper Kirk Wynd which is all on PKC ground. The member of the public said that regulations state that footpaths should be 1.4m wide. AD said putting a footpath there would reduce the road to one way as you wouldn't be able to get two vehicles passing each other. GD suggested passing it to CH to see if he can come up with a solution. The member of the public asked if Corryard might be willing to make a financial contribution to any solution given that they got the premises for £1. SN agreed to raise the issue of improving the pavement situation in Upper Allan Street with CH.</p> <p>BS asked if there was any progress on getting a 20mph speed limit enforced around the community campus. CS said that 20mph zones only work if you get community buy-in to them. She said that it is something that they should be looking at and having discussions about. There are trial projects in other areas such as Burrellton but they have implications for a number of people. CS added that the issue is such an important one that it would be worth having a 'one-topic' meeting about it.</p> | <p>SN</p> |
| <p>Item 5 - Police and Fire reports</p> <p>No representatives from either Police Scotland or the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service were present and no emailed reports had been received from either organisation.</p> | |
| <p>Item 6 – Bus timetables, seating and electronic information</p> <p>In response to a request from a Kirkmichael resident, PM looked at the bus stances a few weeks ago and noted that there are two bench seats against the wall and the seats that are in the shelters themselves. There is no indication of which stance is which, except if you look at the timetables which are relevant to each stance. The timetables are different to the previous way they were displayed and can be difficult to interpret for a stranger, especially when they give three different sheets for the 57 service to Perth. PM spoke to someone at the Blair depot and they conceded that it would be better if there were an indicator on each stance and they would investigate. Electronic arrival and departure signs are not on PKC's agenda. BS commented that at the time of the bus terminus regeneration there was talk of electronic information being provided then.</p> | <p>PM</p> |
| <p>Item 7 – BRCC laptop</p> <p>The BRCC laptop is out of date and doesn't get used. It was upgraded last year to take Windows 7 which is as up to date as it can take and probably has no value. It was hoped to get agreement from the community councillors that were present to dispose</p> | <p>IR/BS/S N/PM</p> |

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| <p>of it in some way. AD asked if it could be wiped and donated to a community group. Following a vote it was agreed that the office bearers would decide how to dispose of it.</p> | |
| <p>Item 8 - CCTV SN had received an email from a company in England who said that they had read the minutes of a BRCC meeting and that they had a portable CCTV system. SN had passed the details on to BB for PKC to consider and said that the firm would be happy to come up and speak to the community about their products.</p> | SN/BB |
| <p>Item 9 – BRCC AGM The BRCC AGM is next month, on Thursday, May 10. BS said that they would be looking for nominations for all four office bearer positions. PM had stated her intention to stand down as treasurer, BS was happy to stay on as vice-chair, and IR and SN were undecided as to whether they would remain in post as chair and secretary respectively. BB would oversee the election of the new chair at the AGM.</p> | All |
| <p>Item 10 – Treasurer’s report The year’s accounts have been sent to the accountant and received back. They have also been sent out to members of the community council. These will be presented to the AGM. Thanks to Graham Edwards for preparing the accounts again pro bono should be recorded. PM has given the firm a small thank you for doing this. This is the only expense for the month of April and is £22.35.</p> | PM |
| <p>Item 11 – Councillors’ reports CS said that the Blair in Bloom litter pick was taking place on Sunday, April 15, and urged anyone who could volunteer for a couple of hours to go along and help ensure that Blairgowrie and Rattray were litter free. She also reported that the Blairgowrie and Rattray Time Bank had appointed a broker which will really help the organisation make a real difference in the community. The Time Bank is looking at if other groups could join as associate members to “bank” the huge number of volunteer hours that are put in every week. CS congratulated everyone involved in the pop-up museum over the Easter weekend, saying that it was amazing to see what could be done and commenting on the buzz that surrounded the event and its potential to grow. BS pointed out that the museum was a fantastic and well-attended event that was run by the Heritage group with support from the new Blairgowrie and Rattray Development Trust. SN said that two more similar events were planned for this year, one in June which will focus on the mills, the berries and farming, and one in November which will focus on World War I. CS said that the shared equity properties at Blackthorn Place were being marketed now by PKC and offered a great opportunity for local people to get on the property ladder. CS is meeting with Jim Valentine from PKC about the Recreation Centre and hoped to have more to say on that at the May meeting before the capital investment decision was made on the proposals in June. BB referred back to SN’s comments about CCTV earlier in the meeting and added that the privacy impact statement had not taken place yet and would take a few months. If that is all fine, and once the council has an idea of what sort of camera and system is required, the company that had contacted the community council could provide a quote for the contract if they still wanted to. BB also said that potholes in the area had started to be repaired now, and that a planning and development place making training session would be taking place on April 28 in Perth should anyone wish to take part. BS and SN then explained briefly place making theory and techniques.</p> | CS/BB |
| <p>Item 12 – Pending Planning Applications GD raised the issue of the unauthorised house at Kinloch, saying that PKC was looking for support from the community council for its enforcement action against the resident of the house, which had been built even though planning permission for a shed rather than a house was all that was granted. AD pointed out that the resident of</p> | |

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| <p>the house was not the person who applied for planning permission or who built the house. BS asked what action BRCC could take. GD said that they could write a letter of support for PKC, adding that in his opinion they should support the enforcement action as planning regulations are there for a reason and cannot be flaunted. BS said that an inspector had visited the site and passed it. AD said that the inspector was clearly looking at a house not a shed and that he felt the council were asking the community council to support their mistake. BB pointed out that the original owner had bought the land and tried to get planning permission for a house but was refused. He then got planning permission for a shed and then put in a kitchen and then it became a house and he had come before the local review body and had tried to get round it. Following a vote, the decision to write in support of PKC's enforcement notice was carried five votes to one with one member abstaining from the vote.</p> | |
| <p>Item 13 – Secretary's report Nothing that hadn't already been circulated and dealt with.</p> | SN |
| <p>Item 14 – Chair's report on follow ups since last meeting No update other than what had already been discussed.</p> | |
| <p>Item 15 – AOCB AD asked if through the community council condolences could be expressed to the family of the young man who died in a motorcycle accident on the Coupar Angus road last week. AD thanked everyone who supported the Blairgowrie and Rattray Access Network (BRAN) charity shop, saying that the support had been amazing. A member of the public asked what was to stop people putting their garden waste in other people's bins. Another member of the public raised the issue of speeding on the Coupar Angus Road coming out of Blairgowrie in the Rosemount area in particular, commenting that they had spoken to the council who said it was a police matter, and to Police Scotland who said it was a council matter. The member of the public asked for vehicle activated signs like they have in Balbeggie for the road. BS asked if CS and BB could pass the request on to the police and the council.</p> | |
| <p>Date of Next Meeting Thursday, May 10th in the Adult Resource Centre on Jessie Street in Blairgowrie at 7pm which will also include the AGM.</p> | All |

Distribution (email unless specified):

Community Council Members:

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

Local Councillors:

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