



## Dunkeld & Birnam Community Council

Ordinary Meeting – 7pm Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016

### Birnam Institute

#### Minutes

#### **1. Those present:**

David Levy, Helen Taylor, David Fox, Graham Rees, Matthew Gerrie, Lorna Birse-Stewart, Stuart Paton, Cllr. Barbara Vaughan

There was also one member of the public present.

Apologies were received from Na'an McLure and Cllr. Grant Laing.

#### **2. Agreement of minutes**

The meeting minutes for 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 had been previously distributed to members by email.

- Proposed by: Matthew Gerrie
- Seconded by: Stuart Paton

#### **3. Treasurer's report**

Graham Rees advised the meeting that the CC account balance stands at £472.03. The Griffin micro-grant account currently stands at £6.35.

A micro-grant bid had been received on behalf of the A9 Community/Working Group. As previously communicated, the group has worked hard to secure agreement for a new period of enhanced local consultation (a co-creative process), which will inform recommendations, for subsequent submission to the Scottish Government as to 'dualling' options for the Birnam to Ballinluig stretch of the A9. The micro-grant has been submitted in order to support administrative costs (e.g. meeting facilities etc.). Members agreed that it was important to enable the A9 group to maintain the momentum and quality of their work, on behalf of our community and that approval of this bid would support them to do so. The bid was therefore approved in advance of the receipt of the 2017 grant.

#### **4. Matters arising and subject updates**

##### **a) Roads**

Stuart Paton reminded everyone of the existence of the Birnam to Ballinluig A9 Working Group, which encourages local people or anyone with an interest in doing so to sign up to the working group newsletter by emailing the following:

[dunkelda9workinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:dunkelda9workinggroup@gmail.com)

Stuart informed members of the next meeting between the A9 Working Group and Transport for Scotland (TFS) was to take place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, the outcome of which will be communicated within the A9 Working Group Newsletter and mentioned at the next CC meeting.

##### **b) Windfarms**

Stuart Paton updated members regarding the forthcoming Public Inquiry into the proposed Dullater windfarm. As CC representative for the inquiry, Stuart had recently attended a pre-inquiry meeting at the Butterstone Village Hall. The meeting had been well attended and included representation from the developers, PKC planning and the (community) Lunan Valley Protection Group. The Dullater Inquiry will take place at the Birnam Institute over four days, in March 2017. The inquiry will include an opportunity for community questions, during a meeting at 7pm on 28<sup>th</sup> March. Attendance and the pre-submission of public questions will be coordinated through the Lunan Valley Protection Group. Stuart will write an article regarding the process for public engagement, for the February edition of The Bridge.

##### **c) Correspondence/Website**

Perth & Kinross Fair-trade steering group - David Fox informed the meeting of the receipt of a letter from the Perth & Kinross Fair-trade Steering Group, requesting CC support in their bid for Fair Trade Zone status across the whole of Perth and Kinross. Each ward has an elected representative, ours being Cllr. Grant Laing. In Cllr. Laing's absence, it was agreed to postpone a discussion on the matter until January, when it is anticipated that Grant will be present.

Perth UK City of Culture 2021 bid - Correspondence has been received from group, which has been created to submit a bid for Perth to be the UK City of Culture in 2021. The bid is led by a board of partners, including PKC, Culture Perth & Kinross, Horsecross Arts, Pitlochry Festival Theatre, Perth Festival of the Arts, Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust, Perth & Kinross Civic Trust, the City Development Board and the Action Partnership for Perth City. Preparation for the bid includes gathering information about culture in the area, seeking volunteer 'Pioneers' to support the work in developing the bid and an invitation to communities across Perth & Kinross, to apply for funding towards

community events. More information can be found on the bid website via this link: [www.perth2021.com](http://www.perth2021.com)

David Fox will forward the correspondence for publication in The Bridge and to the Birnam Institute for their information. Na'an McLure has agreed to represent the CC and provide updates as the bid progresses. Graham Rees will also signpost any relevant enquiries, regarding Arts funding opportunities, to the Perth 2021 group.

Royal School of Dunkeld - On behalf of the CC, David Levy recently wrote to the Head of Education Services at PKC, to express concerns, as to the recent reassignment of the Royal School of Dunkeld's headteacher Kim Ramsay. The concerns expressed in David's letter, reflected those of many of the parents at the school, regarding the extremely short notice given and the mid-term timing of the move. A response was received, in which the author expressed confidence that the education of the children was not disrupted or affected by the change of school leadership during the transition period. However it was acknowledged that wider and earlier communication as to the intended reassignment, would have been helpful in allaying the concerns of parents.

A number of articles and items of correspondence have been forwarded for publishing on the website.

**d) Road Safety and Parking**

As previously communicated, Lorna Birse-Stewart has prepared a review of road safety and parking within the Dunkeld and Birnam area.

Community consultation and engagement has taken place over recent months, in order to identify areas of concern and to capture suggestions and recommendations for improving the current situation.

At the November CC meeting, members discussed the feedback, gleaned through community engagement, in consideration of the content and format of a formal submission to PKC (who will coordinate formal community consultation, before making recommendations and ultimately decisions as to any remedial work to be undertaken).

David Levy has agreed to collate the outcomes from the discussion and share with members for accuracy, before making the written submission to PKC. This work is ongoing.

**e) Community Resilience**

Lorna Birse-Stewart updated members as to ongoing development work, to prepare and publish a local community resilience plan and to create an associated group, to discuss and support preparatory arrangements for local emergencies.

Our 'Local Resilience Plan' is to be published in The Bridge imminently. There is also an intention to launch the Dunkeld & Birnam Emergency Preparedness and Coordination Group during 2017, for which local

volunteers are sought. Further information will appear in the February edition of The Bridge.

**f) Culture & Events**

Na'an McLure could not attend but has agreed to represent the CC regarding the Perth 2021 bid. There were no other items of note.

**g) Policing**

Police Scotland has commenced its annual Drink Drive campaign. Motorists are reminded about the implications of drinking and driving.

The weekly Police 'Commander's Bulletin' is routinely forwarded for publication on The Bridge website. There have been no other local incidents of note, mentioned on the bulletin.

All residents are advised to report any ongoing suspicious activity to the Police using the emergency 999 number. Any non-urgent information can be passed to the Police through their single non-emergency number on **101**, or should the caller wish to remain anonymous, via '**Crimestoppers**' on **0800 555 111**.

**h) Environment/Planning**

Helen Taylor had reviewed the recent planning applications. One application was discussed, for which it was agreed that the CC would make no comment. There were no other issues of note.

**i) Broadband**

The recently installed 'microwave' broadband service in Dalguise was funded by PGL, working in partnership with Highland Perthshire Community Partnership (HPCP). HPCP will shortly transfer its Broadband assets into a limited company, following changes to its board and structure. It is anticipated that the Dalguise broadband service will remain unaffected.

The Lunan Valley broadband project, incorporating the Strathbraan/Trochry/Amulree areas has progressed towards invitations to tender. Graham Rees indicated that there is an expectation that the project would be completed by the end of 2018, due to funding restrictions. Stuart Paton represents the Strathbraan/Trochry/Amulree communities on the Lunan Valley broadband group.

**5. A.O.B.**

**Access to Micro-grant funding for the Dunkeld & Birnam Community Emergency Preparedness and Coordination Group**

As mentioned above, Lorna-Birse Stewart and David Fox are in the process of creating a local group, to manage local emergency preparedness. Both are of the opinion that the availability of emergency funding is critical to the effectiveness of local emergency coordination. A discussion took place regarding the efficacy of any future micro-grant bid, from this group (once created), in light of its relationship with the

CC. David Fox will place an agenda item on to the January CC meeting, so that a discussion can take place as to the most appropriate and effective mechanism of creating a sub-group of the CC.

**Thanks**

At this, the final CC meeting of 2016 and as chair, David Levy expressed his thanks to members for their work throughout the year. Members were unanimous in their reciprocal thanks to David, who has worked tirelessly in his support for the group, during a year in which a great deal had been achieved.

The meeting closed at 8:55 pm.

The next meeting is  
Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January  
Members of the  
to attend.



scheduled for 7pm,  
at the Birnam Institute –  
public are most welcome

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