

Dunkeld & Birnam Community Council

Ordinary Meeting – 7pm Monday 8th April 2019

Birnam Institute

Minutes

1. Those present:

Stuart Paton, David Fox, Graham Rees, Nigel Turner, Chris Claydon, Cllr. Anne Jarvis

Also in attendance:

- Two members of the public, Andrew Cave and Mike Stead
- Police Constable Steve Band

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Ian James and Grant Laing

Stuart Paton confirmed that Johann Goree had resigned from the Community Council, due to a move out of the area. Stuart asked for the minutes to reflect his thanks and that of other members, to Johann for his support whilst a member

2. Agreement of minutes

The meeting minutes for 11th March had been previously distributed to members by email.

- Proposed by: Nigel Turner
- Seconded by: Chris Claydon

3. Treasurer's report

Graham Rees advised that the CC account balance stands at £444.64. The Griffin micro-grant account currently stands at £4500.58

4. Highland Perthshire Cycling

Mike Stead, a trustee of Highland Perthshire Cycling, attended to provide an overview of a new, local initiative, for which he was seeking indicative support.

The aim of the initiative, for which Mike had recently submitted a funding bid to Griffin Fund Panel, is to improve cycling access and facilities in our area of Perthshire. Mike and colleagues have worked with a number of other local authorities in Scotland, to create cycle routes for 'Bike-Packers', who carry their

camping gear on their bikes and may spend several days covering distance around a number of identified rural trails.

The intention for the wider Dunkeld area is to identify and map a series of such trails, of varying lengths and difficulty. The trails would seek to use current forest roads and tracks (generally the wider, easier to navigate trails), for use by families and groups. Mike confirmed that the cyclists who take part in bike packing, are not racing, rather they are taking part in an adventure trail and often camp out in the more remote areas.

Mike explained that he is in consultation with a number of tourism and land-management organisations, to ensure that the right engagement takes place. He spoke of the potential for additional tourism for the area, which would support local hotels and businesses, particularly in the 'shoulder' seasons of spring and autumn, when many people may take part in such events.

Members asked Mike a number of questions, in the interests of local people, walkers, parking etc. and it was clear from his answers that there was no obvious detrimental impact on other users of the trails or the town.

Members agreed, in principle, to the initiative and look forward to seeing the plans in more detail, in due course.

5. Matters arising and subject updates

a) Policing

PC Steve Band was in attendance and spoke about a number of minor incidents in the area, stressing the need for people to be vigilant and security conscious, locking their homes and vehicles and keeping valuable out of sight.

Steve said that the local Community Police team will be much more visible in coming months, partly due to a reorganisation and subsequent allocation of dedicated Community Officers to our area. Steve, with his fellow PC Jamie Elder and Sergeant Caroline MacNaughton will be working with other colleagues to tackle local issues. One such issue is speeding within the 20mph zone on Bridge Street, for which officers continue to conduct speed checks. Steve explained that, in one such operation last week, six speeding motorists were stopped. Five received formal warnings and one received a fixed penalty notice, which will also mean points on their driving licence. The Police are keen to stress the risks that speeding motorists take; primarily in respect of the vastly increased chances of injuring or killing a pedestrian or another motorist, but also the very real risk of losing their driving licence. Steve told us that if a motorist were caught travelling at 35mph in the 20mph zone on Bridge Street, they would not receive a fixed penalty. In such cases, a report would be sent to the Procurator Fiscal, with a good chance that the driver would lose their licence.

b) Environment/Planning

Planning Applications for Review – One planning application was discussed, but there were no issues of note and no formal representations will be made.

c) **Community Funding**

Griffin Windfarm (Main) Fund – Helen Taylor attended a recent meeting of the Griffin Fund Panel, which is her first as CC representative. There were no particular matters of note.

Griffin Microgrant Fund – One Microgrant bid had been received and was duly supported.

d) **Strathtay Action Partnership**

There were no issues of note

e) **Community Resilience**

David Fox informed members of recently circulated guidance on insurance cover, for emergency resilience activities. In short, whilst insurance is provided for basic activities, such as clearing snow from paths, helping with shopping etc. there is no cover in place for the use of machinery (power tools etc.) and no additional cover for vehicles, which remains the responsibility of the vehicle owner/user. It was agreed that, upon activation of a local emergency resilience coordination group, it would be important to ensure that everyone fully understood the limitations of insurance cover. It would also be sensible for the chair of that group, to maintain close working links with PKC and emergency services, so that all locally-arranged activities were known to those groups and coordinated as part of a wider response to any incident or event (e.g. severe weather etc.).

f) **Correspondence**

There were no particular items of note

g) **Community Engagement/Social Media**

David Fox reported that the Dunkeld & Birnam Facebook page had helped to reunite two people with lost property, after sharing of messages to group members. The group has a growing number of members and is an excellent means of communication with those members of the local community who have access to this channel of communication. He asked everyone to encourage friends, colleagues and other local people to sign up for the page.

Following Johann's departure, David will enable Chris Claydon as a 'page-admin'

h) **Transport**

A9 Dualling (Pass of Birnam to Tay Crossing Section) – Stuart Paton mentioned the recently held community-consultation event, where Transport Scotland and the Contractors Jacobs presented their initial review of the community option for the dualling of the A9. Stuart will ask a member of the A9 Community Group to come to the next meeting, to discuss their views and proposed next steps.

PKC Consultation notice re intended works – PKC has recently circulated formal consultation notices on their intended works on:

- i. Double-yellow lines on the East side of Brae Street, Dunkeld
- ii. New disabled parking bay outside the chemist shop in Bridge Street

Stuart Paton intends to ask a representative of PKC Roads, to attend a future CC meeting

Glen Quaich Road (Amulree to Kenmore) – Severe weather closure – Cllr. Jarvis has been supporting on this work, through liaison with PKC. It has been established that Kenmore Community has no intention of installing snow gates at their end of the road, as there is no obvious impact there. Cllr. Jarvis has agreed to progress with PKC, to explore options for next winter

A9/A923 Dunkeld junction – Stuart Paton recently met with Bear Scotland and Transport Scotland, with regard to the ongoing concerns about the A9 Dunkeld junction. Bear Scotland have committed to improving signage and road markings, although there is no timeframe yet, for the work to be completed.

6. A.O.B.

Co-option of new members

Two local people, Andrew Cave and Craig Ross, have expressed interest in being co-opted to the Community Council. David Fox will send them the relevant documents for completion, so that co-option may take place at the next meeting.

There were no other items of particular note

The meeting closed at 9:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm, Monday 13th May at the Birnam Institute.
The meeting will incorporate the 2019 D&BCC AGM

Members of the public are most welcome to attend.