

Dunkeld & Birnam Community Council

Ordinary Meeting – 7pm Monday 10th December 2018

Birnam Institute

Minutes

1. Those present:

Stuart Paton, David Fox, Graham Rees, Nigel Turner, David Levy, Cllr. Anne Jarvis, Cllr. Grant Laing

Stuart Reilly - Retail Services Manager from CERTAS Energy

Sergeant Caroline MacNaughton and Constable Jamie Elder, from Police Scotland were also in attendance.

Apologies were received from Helen Taylor and Cllr. Ian James.

2. Agreement of minutes

The meeting minutes for 12th November had been previously distributed to members by email.

- Proposed by: Graham Rees
- Seconded by: Nigel Turner

3. Treasurer's report

Graham Rees advised the meeting that the CC account balance stands at £556.14 The Griffin micro-grant account currently stands at £1,798.01

4. Matters arising and subject updates

a) Filling Station – Perth Road Birnam

Nigel Turner introduced Stuart Reilly from CERTAS Energy, the operators of the filling station on Perth Road Birnam.

Nigel informed members that he had been in consultation with CERTAS Energy, through Mr. Reilly. Current issues included the monitoring of opening hours and the illumination of the gantry sign at the site.

Mr. Reilly confirmed that the fuel pumps were switched off between the hours of 11pm and 7am and that this included the lights on the pumps. However, he

acknowledged that the gantry sign was remaining on after closing hours, but that he was working with engineers to resolve this, so that it is switched off automatically when the station closes at 11pm.

In respect of station opening hours, CERTAS Energy intends to keep the filling station open until 11pm, despite requests from the local community to close at 10pm. However, Mr. Reilly agreed to continue to monitor this situation.

Cllr. Laing expressed his thanks to Mr. Reilly and CERTAS Energy, for working closely with the local community.

A discussion took place about the lack of toilet facilities at the site. David Levy recalled testimony at previous CC meetings from neighbours of the petrol station, describing motorists urinating and defecating in the vicinity. David expressed his opinion that CERTAS should take responsibility for their customers' expectations by arranging toilet facilities. Mr. Reilly said that the provision of toilet facilities wasn't within the CERTAS business model, however he agreed to look at the erection of clear signage at the site to inform customers of the lack of toilet facilities and signpost to nearest available facilities.

Mr. Reilly subsequently agreed to take away and progress the following actions:

- Bins/Glove dispensers to be installed on the forecourt
- Gantry sign lighting issue
- Toilet signage

Stuart Paton thanked Mr. Reilly for his attendance.

b) Policing

Sergeant MacNaughton informed members that the majority of calls to Police in our area tend to be roads-related, although there had been some calls in response to overnight deer-culling activity.

Sgt. MacNaughton said that there was a chance that the recent thefts of Quad bikes and generator machinery, in the Dalguise and Inver areas were committed by one criminal group, although there was no direct evidence as yet. Whilst the Police have no specific details of any vehicles or people involved, she urged vigilance to any vehicles (particularly vans) or people acting suspiciously and urged anyone to use the 999 emergency phone number to report any ongoing suspicious activity, or the non-emergency 101 number to pass on any information which may be of value to investigations.

In response to a question about speeding motorists on the Telford Bridge, Sgt. MacNaughton said that her officers do pay particular attention to this problem when resources permit. Members acknowledged that they have seen Police speed checks in the area. It was agreed that a longer-term solution could only be achieved through 'design' (e.g. traffic-calming and enforcement measures). Stuart Paton confirmed that he had discussed this with PKC and that it would be a priority action for the proposed road-safety working group once established.

Finally, Sgt. MacNaughton said that the Police would be increasing their activities towards maximising road safety, including a focus on drink-driving, throughout their seasonal campaign.

David Fox thanked the Police for their hard work and support to the Community Council and local community over the past 12 months.

c) **Environment/Planning**

There were no relevant planning applications for review, or other current items of note

d) **Community Funding**

Griffin Windfarm (Main) Fund – Matthew Gerrie represents the Community Council on this group. In Matthew's absence there were no particular items of note, however members discussed how the CC may request feedback/rationale for decisions on declined bids. Matthew Gerrie will be asked to progress upon his return.

Griffin Microgrant Fund – Four Microgrant bids were discussed and all approved.

e) **Community Resilience**

Johann Goree and David Fox spoke of the recent Bridge article and last CC minutes, which provided 'signpost' information for use in an emergency (e.g. severe weather events etc.). Johann mentioned a new smartphone 'app' from SSE, which enabled people to view current service information and power-outages etc. The app also enables members of the public to register for the SSE Priority Services Register (as mentioned in the November CC minutes). Johann agreed to update the CC Facebook page with this information.

f) **Correspondence/Website**

There were no particular items of note

g) **Community Engagement/Social Media**

No items of note

h) **Transport**

A9 Dualling – No particular items of note

Road Improvements – Stuart Paton will forward copies of all past correspondence with PKC, regarding road safety and parking etc. to Cllrs. Jarvis and Laing; who have agreed to engage PKC and elicit a response from them as to their intentions, based on the extensive work carried out to capture public concerns and identify some priority actions.

Road Safety - Stuart Paton confirmed that he is considering a proposal for a 'Road Safety' sub-group, which could oversee a range of initiatives and maintain a closer and more focused relationship with the community and key partners. For discussion at the January meeting.

Rail Services – The main railway line had been closed for several days recently, however the rail replacement buses and public information announcements appeared to have worked well.

Other – Stuart Paton intends to meet with Pam Green, from the local Save Our Bus Services (S.O.B.S.) group, to discuss local bus services. Stuart will feed back in due course.

i) **Windfarms**

No items of note

j) **Broadband**

No items of note

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

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

The Area Manager for Scottish Fire and Rescue Service would like to attend a future meeting, to discuss local services and answer any questions. Johann Goree will arrange.

Street Cleaning - Birnam

There have been a number of recent complaints as to the poor standard of street cleaning in the Birnam area. Cllr. Laing agreed to progress with PKC.

The meeting closed at 8:40 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm, Monday, 14th January at the Birnam Institute – Members of the public are most welcome to attend.