

Kirriemuir Landward West Community Council

Minutes of the Kirriemuir Landward West Community Council Meeting held in Kilry Village Hall on Thursday, 28th February 2013 at 7.30pm

Present:

Roger Clegg (RC), Chairman, Kilry
Geoff Hobson (GH), Deputy Chairman,
Kingoldrum
Sheila Beckett (SB), Secretary,
Lintrathen
Gillian Beckett (GB), Balintore

Liz Hamilton (LH) Ruthven
Dave Koller, (DK), Kilry
Terry Roberts (TR), Glenisla
David Robinson, (DR), Airlie
Sue Smith, (SS) Balintore

Visitors: Councillors Iain Gaul (IG) and Jeanette Gaul (JG) (for items 1-9), Councillor Ronnie Proctor (RP), Malcolm Connor, Lindsay Downie (LD), Nicholas Gibb (NG), Jill Hobson, Sarah McCabe, Graham Mackay.

1.0 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Major John Gibb and PC Bell.

2.0 Approval of Minutes of Meetings held on 29th November 2012

The Minutes were approved and the Chairman signed them. Community Council minutes are available on the www.klwcc.org.uk website.

3.0 Matters arising from Minutes of the Meeting on 29th November 2012

Reekie Linn – Footpath. Ownership of the surrounding land is still under investigation. Following the exceptionally wet weather the fallen trees around the pathway could be an aid to safety however tidying the area would be good from an aesthetic point of view.

Play Park – Glenisla. The area is glebe land leased by Angus Council from the Church of Scotland. The play equipment on it is owned by the community and maintained by Angus Council. Angus Council has written to the Church of Scotland to find out whether the glebe is included in the latter's plans to sell Glenisla Kirk. The play park and the equipment will remain as they currently are until a response is received from the Church of Scotland. Any unsafe equipment would be removed in any event under other regulations. Grants are available to provide alternative funding for the play park and these will be investigated.

D Ramsay – Turbine. IG reported that Angus Council has not yet worked out the legal issues surrounding community benefits – their administration, responsibilities and areas to be covered. It is expected that the Scottish Government will provide some direction during the next three to four months. Angus Council wishes to ensure that common good funds benefit people in Angus. The Drumderg Trust was set up as a special purpose trust in Perth & Kinross but has reportedly run into complications. Angus Council's Law & Administration department is consulting Holyrood following which Angus Council will then carry out its own consultation process.

As Chairman of the Isla Primary School Parent Council, LD updated the meeting on events. Diane Ramsay's timescales had created problems for the Community Council and she had then approached the Parent Council again. The CARES adviser had made a presentation regarding the process to be followed by the Ramsays in order to apply for a loan. The Parent Council had spent a lot of time considering this and agreed that LD should talk to the Community Council. No formal application had been made as yet and the pre-application notification had elicited the information that it would be unlikely that approval would be recommended. An approved CARES loan would cover funding for an application and any subsequent planning appeal. If the application were approved, interest on the loan would be payable by the Ramsays, however in the event that planning approval were not forthcoming the loan would be written off by CARES. Diane Ramsay had originally approached the Parent Council who had wished to maintain a neutral stance as there were concerns about community benefit monies going direct to the school. It was felt that asking parents to vote on such a matter would be divisive especially given that the school is new. The Parent Council therefore would like to ask the Community Council to consent to being named as a beneficiary on the understanding that they could apply for the funds on a first refusal basis.

IG pointed out that such an arrangement would not be legal as the Community Council is a statutory body for planning purposes. Should a community council consent to receiving a benefit dependent on the outcome of a planning application this would be an inducement and expose councillors to the possibility of being sued. IG recommended that prior to any decision being made advice be sought from Angus Council Law & Administration department and he suggested that LD get in touch with them.

IG said that currently the interval of eighteen months to two years after planning approval has been granted and prior to construction is the time to discuss community benefits.

Nether Craig Caravan Park – Extension. No planning application has been made to Angus Council as yet following the pre-application enquiry and the process would need to be started again.

4.0 Community Police Report

PC Bell's written report is attached to the minutes. It draws attention to the new non-emergency telephone number – 101. Items of particular note were thefts in Lintrathen and Kilry. Consultation is currently being undertaken regarding rural policing plans. It was generally thought imperative that the current coverage by our community police be kept.

5.0 Finance

Current balance is £2,803.49 with a £55.00 cheque waiting to be cleared leaving £2,748.49.

6.0 Members' Items

LH asked about the road closure following the land slip at the Den of Airlie. RP said that it was likely to remain closed for a minimum of eighteen months as a land purchase would be required to reroute the road further to the east.

Uplifting of recycling in rural areas is being considered by Angus Council. JG said that costs associated with this are large but that ways are being looked at. The timescale is likely to be at least two years before a decision is made. It was agreed that in the meantime bins for recycling paper would be useful and should be considered.

A consultant had confirmed that the leaning beech tree on the Kilry to Glenisla road should come down. Ken Barclay, the forestry contractor will speak to the landowners, Brian and Oona Ivory.

TR said that whilst the ditches in the glen had been worked on it had been ineffective because the blockages had not been properly cleared. Councillor Proctor asked to be advised of the locations and would follow this up with the Roads Department. RC reminded everyone that the ACCESS office was the most effective way of telling the Council about problems with the roads.

RC said that the Derries road is in a very poor state. RP pointed out that it is not possible to repair potholes properly in winter. The successful snow clearing in Kirriemuir had been challenging and the roads department are now playing catch up.

7.0 BT

RC reported that several properties in Kilry had experienced lengthy problems with BT lines, raising the question that the local infrastructure and number of engineers are inadequate. Open Reach is a separate company operating the maintenance contract. BT's call centres are being re-sited in the UK. Refunds for lack of service lasting over three days are available but need to be fought for. To obtain a refund the fault needs to have been reported and recorded. RC found that involving The Courier resulted in action being taken about a refund. RC will ask Open Reach to come to the next meeting.

8.0 Correspondence

SSE's Perth Depot will take part in the Open Doors Day on 6th March at 2.00 pm.

SB tabled correspondence from:

- ∴ Special Olympics Great Britain Tayside, Scotland advising that any support the community council could give for the National Summer Games being held 27th August to 1st September would be gratefully received.
- ∴ Angus Council regarding Engage Winter 2012, the local community planning team newsletter, which may be downloaded from www.angus.org.uk/localarea.cfm.
- ∴ Keep Scotland Beautiful regarding Climate Challenge Fund (CCF) grants for community councils to reduce their carbon footprint and improve facilities.
- ∴ Tayside Biodiversity Partnership newsletter "From Summit to Sand".
- ∴ Angus Council Community Resilience & Emergency Planning Guides for community groups

9.0 Community Questionnaire

RC had received a questionnaire regarding priorities and actions for preparation of the new community action plan. Councillor Iain Gaul will ask for the consultation process to be made more appropriate for the rural nature of the area. A copy will then be sent to each area.

10.0 Planning

Carrach wind farm proposal. The appeal by the developers had been refused by the Reporter who had upheld the decision made by Angus Council Development Standards Committee.

Bamff and Tullymurdoch wind farm applications will be considered at the same Development Standards Committee meeting of Perth & Kinross Council on 27th March. The agenda and papers will be available on line one week prior to the meeting. RC said that it was worth residents attending the meeting to underline interest in the case. There was discussion about the procedures followed by Perth & Kinross regarding speaking at the Committee meeting.

Macritch wind farm proposal. The exhibitions have been moved again so that they will take place from 12.00 noon to 8.00 pm on Thursday 11th April at Kingoldrum Village Hall, between 12.00 noon and 8.00 pm on Friday 12th April at Kilry Hall and between 10.00 am and 6.00 pm on Saturday 13th April at Kirriemuir Town Hall. The application will be decided by the Scottish Government due to the size of the proposal. SS remarked that the Carrach proposal had eventually been decided by the Reporter on behalf of the Scottish Government. It was thought that construction would raise contamination issues for the Backwater and Lintrathen reservoirs. Access to the site would also be challenging.

11.0 AOB

There was no other business.

12.0 Date of next meetings:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 30th May 2013 in Kilry Hall at 7.30 pm.