

Dunkeld & Birnam Community Council

Ordinary Meeting

Monday, 14 May 2018 — 7pm at Birnam Institute

Minutes

Reports

Attendance

Those present: David Levy, Helen Taylor, Stuart Paton (chair), David Fox, Johann Goree, Matthew Gerrie, Councillor Anne Jarvis, Councillor Grant Laing

Apologies: Councillor Ian James, Graham Rees, Lorna Birse-Stewart

Members of the public present: A. Wylie, N. Douglas, J. Pepper (from 1930)

Minutes of prior meeting

These had been distributed by email prior to the meeting.

16 April 2018

Proposed by: HT

Seconded by: SP

Treasurer's report

Graham Rees sent a report of the balances of our accounts.

Account	Balance
Primary	£434.38
Griffin Microgrant	£3946.79

Matters arising and items for discussion

1. HT attended a meeting in Pitlochry to discuss CC participation in the P&KC Community Action Partnership scheme. HT provided feedback to Keith McNamara, to whom additional feedback may be sent.
2. JG supplied feedback to a consultation request concerning licensing revisions in Perthshire. He also recommended that the consultation be widened.

Policing

There had been five thefts in recent weeks, possibly by the same perpetrators. DF spoke with Sgt. C. McNaughton who explained that police were investigating the crimes. The police also passed on an alert regarding “doorstep crime” such as solicitations to do work.

Environment/Planning

The topic of the Certas automated petrol pump by Young’s Garage was raised again. The original retrospective planning permissions application by Certas had been withdrawn in favour of a new application that proposed operating hours from 7–11 daily. It was generally agreed that these hours were still too long since the basis of residents’ objections is that the lighting prevents reasonable hours of sleep. While this retrospective application was solicited, P&KC had also sent some residents a curious letter in which it was claimed that no restrictions could be made on the operating hours of the petrol station since, historically, there had never been such a constraint. N. Douglas found the letter confusing when so much time had already been spent on planning applications. Cllr. Laing made the point that the issue is not the *operating hours* of the petrol station, but the *lighting* that has been installed and the impact it has on the residential amenity of those nearby. On the one hand, the letter is moot since no objection has been made to operation, but rather the lighting coincident with operation. On the other, if it is irrelevant, why send it and why solicit a planning application? **Action:** HT to send additional letter confirming the CC’s objection to the proposed lighting and operating hours.

Community Funding/Funds

Microgrants

An application from Plastic-free Perthshire for £350 had been approved but was no longer needed. The CC asked that the money be returned.

Servite applied for support in the purchase of barbecue equipment with which it could host barbecues that would also be open to non-residents of Servite House. There was general support for the application but some question about the amounts requested. **Action:** SP to get further details on the amounts.

J. Pepper discussed a prospective application to support the development of a co-working space in the Dunkeld and Birnam area, perhaps at the train station. (A co-working space permits renting of shared office space on a fine-grained basis, e.g. two half-days a week.) There was universal and enthusiastic support from the CC for a co-working space. Unfortunately, the microgrant application in prospect was of a structure that the CC historically had not supported. It was suggested that if an alternative structure for the microgrant could be conceived, support was likely. Support was also offered for other, greater sources of funding for the co-working initiative. **Action:** SP to discuss an alternative microgrant structure.

Griffin Windfarm Fund

MG confirmed that an endowment fund to save windfarm benefit funds had been set up and was now being endowed. This will enable windfarm benefit funds to continue on an annuity basis after the 25-year life of the current fund.

Transport

A9 Dualling

The Co-creative process is underway at the end of so-called stage 4. The final step is to take account of community voting to arrive at a set of “whole route options” on which the community can vote in stage 5. These options will be decided on May 17th. The final vote on a “preferred option” from these “whole route options” will occur on June 23rd. A. Wylie advised that in stage 4 there had been over 1000 votes on some aspect of the dualling A9, for example the junction at The Hermitage. This was believed to amount to approximately 330 individual voters, each of whom had voted on at least one aspect of the route. The results of voting would be presented on May 15th at 7pm.

It was agreed to postpone discussion of those contributions to the A9 Co-creative process that were judged out of scope to the CC meeting on June 11th. Comments on these contributions will be collected by DF. **Action:** All to send comments to DF.

SP attended a discussion with Transport Scotland in which it was agreed to make a traffic survey on the A9 to consider whether an interim roundabout might prove useful.

Highland Mainline and D&B Station

Scotrail confirmed they are committed to closing timetable gaps in the Dunkeld & Birnam timetable, at least during the period of the dualling of the A9. They hoped to send a revised, draft timetable in early June.

Road Safety and Parking

A. Wylie asked whether any monitoring had been undertaken on the effectiveness of the 20mph light/sign by Telford Bridge. Had it had an effect on speeds? No one was aware of baseline measurements or recent measurements.

Agreement to move from LBS to SP the action to send a letter to Daryl McKeown asking why after several emails, a visit to Dunkeld, we are many months later with zero progress on any of our requests and no idea of the status of these requests? The letter will mention that we have put our concerns to Cllrs. Laing and Jarvis. **Action:** SP.

HT wrote to Willie Mahoney about the concerns with the Glen Quaich road being used in Winter. HT was advised that no plans were in place to block the road but that signs would be put in place to indicate the road was closed at some times of the year. HT agreed to monitor how well this worked this Winter. **Action:** HT.

Windfarms

No report.

Resilience Preparedness

It was noted that B. Turvey had applied to the SSEN resilience fund for emergency equipment in Butterstone. DF advised that John Handling of P&KC had supported Kenmore CC in a “tabletop exercise” of their resilience plan. **Action:** DF & JG to plan a “tabletop” exercise to test our resilience plan.

Broadband

No report.

Correspondence/Website

- DF advised that a SEPA flood risk had been posted for forthcoming weather.
- GDPR requirements become effective May 25. No action required at present while we await advice.
- PKC Community Greenspace co-ordinator for footpath improvements would like to address the CC. He's been invited.
- Complaint about speeding on Telford Bridge re-directed to Sgt. McNaughton.
- Feedback requested on the scheme of establishment for Community Councils, due by the end of June.

Community Engagement/Facebook

No report.

Any Other Business

Cllr. Laing advised that Telford Bridge and the Perth Road from St. Mary's Road to the A923 would be re-surfaced later this year.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm, Monday, 11th June at the Birnam Institute. Members of the public are most welcome to attend.