

Dunkeld & Birnam Community Council

Ordinary Meeting – 7pm Monday 8th October 2018

Birnam Institute

Minutes

1. Those present:

Stuart Paton, David Levy, Helen Taylor, David Fox, Matthew Gerrie, Graham Rees, Johann Goree, Cllr. Ian James

The group were also joined by Nigel Turner a resident of Birnam and a candidate for co-option to the Community Council. There were no other members of the public present.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Anne Jarvis and Grant Laing. The Police had also offered apologies

2. Co-option of Nigel Turner to Dunkeld & Birnam Community Council

Stuart Paton informed members that Nigel Turner's co-option documentation had been completed, submitted and approved by PKC and it was now for elected D&BCC members to consider his co-option. There were five elected D&BCC members present who all supported Nigel's co-option. Stuart congratulated Nigel and welcomed him to our membership.

For all following agenda items, Nigel contributed as a D&BCC member.

3. Agreement of minutes

The meeting minutes for 10th September had been previously distributed to members by email.

- Proposed by: Johann Goree
- Seconded by: David Levy

4. Treasurer's report

Graham Rees advised the meeting that the CC account balance stands at £604.06 The Griffin micro-grant account currently stands at £2,797.56.

5. Matters arising and subject updates

a) Environment/Planning

Helen Taylor informed members that there were no current planning applications of note.

Nigel Turner spoke about his ongoing correspondence with Certas Energy and PKC Planning, regarding the operating hours, lighting issues and experience of local residents at the petrol station on Perth Road, Birnam. Nigel said that, despite agreement that the petrol station lights would be extinguished, and the facility would close at 11pm each evening, the pumps and gantry signage were being left on. In the original discussion with members of the public, concerns were raised that users of the petrol station were throwing their rubbish around the forecourt, relieving themselves in adjacent areas and disturbing residents with requests to use their toilets. These concerns were discussed again to consider whether progress had been made in this regard. It did not seem that the situation had improved, and it was suggested that these concerns too should be raised with Certas in person or in correspondence. Nigel is in contact with PKC enforcement regarding these issues and will report back in due course. Nigel will also make arrangements for a representative of Certas Energy to attend a future D&BCC meeting, which they had agreed to do during the planning review process. **Action Nigel Turner**

It was agreed that Nigel's ongoing correspondence with Certas and PKC may be conducted on behalf of D&BCC. All members were in full support of continued correspondence, to ensure that Certas operated within agreed times and conditions

b) Policing

The Police had not provided any information for the meeting.

Johann Goree mentioned two recent incidents, where local commercial properties had been broken in to. No further information was available.

Several members indicated that there appeared to have been an increased number of local crimes and incidents over past months and, whilst this didn't compare to such incidents in Perth, it raised a question regarding any possible link to the reduction of Police funding and resources. David Fox agreed to ask the question of the Police. **Action David Fox**

c) **Community Funding**

Griffin Windfarm (Main) Fund – Matthew Gerrie represents the Community Council on this group. He informed the group that bids continued to be received and supported for a range of local initiatives

Griffin Microgrant Fund – A Microgrant bid had been submitted by a local musicians' group, to support the printing and binding of sheet music. £500 was approved.

A Microgrant bid had been submitted by organisers of this year's Santa Day event, to support event logistics. £500 was approved.

d) **Community Resilience**

David Fox spoke to the group about a recent meeting he had attended, with members of a local voluntary support group, entitled 'Gien a haund'; the focus of which is to support the elderly (and potentially vulnerable) members of our community. Also at the meeting was John Handling, Chair of the Perth & Kinross Community and Business Resilience Group. A fruitful discussion had taken place, regarding the mechanism through which local community emergency coordination could partner with specific volunteers, to identify and support potentially vulnerable people, in the event of an incident which warranted it (e.g. extreme weather event, loss of power etc.).

David and Johann will ensure that contact details of volunteers are retained, to support activation when necessary. Seasonal weather-related advice and information will also be uploaded to the D&BCC Facebook page, included within forthcoming Bridge articles and shared via email with community contacts.

David Fox is also planning to attend a multi-agency 'Ready Weather' planning event on 10th November, following which he will update members and circulate any learning or advice from the event.

e) **Correspondence/Website**

Johann Goree informed the group that correspondence had been received from the 'Neil Gow Memorial Group' regarding their proposals for the siting of a statue on the Dunkeld area. A meeting will take place at The Royal Dunkeld Hotel on Tuesday 16th October, to discuss the selection of sculptors and potential locations. Johann will respond to the group and promote the meeting locally. **Action Johann Goree**

f) **Community Engagement/Social Media**

The 'Community' for our Facebook page continues to grow and is fast becoming an excellent way for the CC to inform and collaborate with local people to capture their concerns or comments.

The Facebook page is regularly used to post information about local events and any relevant information from the Police bulletins. It will also be a useful communication tool in the event of the activation of a Community Emergency Coordination Group, where information can be passed quickly and local volunteers and resources brought together.

g) **Transport**

A9 Dualling – The next public meeting of the A9 Community Group will take place on Thursday October 25th, where the agenda will include a discussion on how best to present and maintain community support for the preferred A9 dualling option.

Road Safety – Stuart Paton informed the group that he is considering a proposal for a 'Road Safety' sub-group, which could oversee a range of initiatives and maintain a closer relationship with key partners. For discussion in due course.

Road Improvements – The group discussed a number of local improvements, which had been agreed by PKC Roads. They include the removal of yellow lines in Brae Street and the provision of a disabled parking bay outside the chemist shop on Bridge Street. Cllr. James agreed to liaise with PKC Roads for an update on planned works. **Action Cllr James**

Rail Services – David Levy said that he had been informed by Scotrail, that the proposed new rail timetable (including some additional services), which had been planned for April/May 2019 would not now be introduced until December 2019, due to reconsidering the risks of new timetables in the light of recent difficulties in England. However, with effect from December 2018, some of the new High-Speed Trains (HST) would be introduced to local services, albeit on the current timetable. From May 2019, approximately 50% of local rail services would be provided on HST trains, which would provide more seats and greater ticket availability.

h) **Windfarms**

No items of note

i) **Broadband**

Stuart Paton informed the group that he had written to John Swinney MSP, regarding Broadband Services. The R100 vendor procurement process is underway, with the winning contractor being announced in July 2019.

6. A.O.B.

Dangerous stone Wall in Dunkeld

It was noted that some wall repairs are being carried out by, or on behalf of individual residents, however it remains unclear what and how and when PKC intends to complete any repairs it may be responsible for and to ensure that the full length of the wall is safe for pedestrians and road users. Cllr. James agreed to liaise with PKC accordingly. **Action Cllr. James**

Deer Management Forum

Stuart Paton attended a recent meeting of the local Deer Management Forum, which is seeking financial support in respect of costs to host group meetings. D&BCC members agreed to provide support to the group in principle, precise costs and timings to be confirmed. **Action Stuart Paton to confirm**

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm, Monday, 12th November at the Birnam Institute – Members of the public are most welcome to attend.