

Dunkeld & Birnam Community Council

Ordinary Meeting – 7pm Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Birnam Institute

Minutes

**1. Those present:**

David Levy, Helen Taylor, David Fox, Matthew Gerrie, Lorna Birse-Stewart, Stuart Paton, Cllr. Barbara Vaughan, Cllr. Grant Laing

There were also two members of the public present.

Apologies were received from Na'an McLure, Graham Rees and Fia Selmer.

**2. Agreement of minutes**

The meeting minutes for 12th December 2016 had been previously distributed to members by email.

- Proposed by: Helen Taylor
- Seconded by: Matt Gerrie

**3. Treasurer's report**

In Graham Rees' absence, David Levy advised the meeting that the CC account balance stands at £448.03. The Griffin micro-grant account currently stands at £9.65.

No new micro-grant bids had been received, however David reminded members of the previously-approved award of £500 on behalf of the A9 Community/Working Group, which will be paid on the receipt of 2017 grant.

**4. Matters arising and subject updates**

**a) Roads**

Stuart Paton reminded everyone of the existence of the Birnam to Ballinluig A9 Working Group, which encourages local people or anyone with an interest in doing so to sign up to the working group newsletter

by emailing the following:

[dunkelda9workinggroup@gmail.com](mailto:dunkelda9workinggroup@gmail.com)

David Levy has recently attended two meetings of the A9 group with Transport for Scotland. Negotiations continue to define the proposed 'co-creative' process, which will support improved community engagement and the subsequent selection of local A9 dualling options. There are proposals to include an independent facilitator to support the negotiation process.

It was noted that the TFS preferred route for the A9 'Tay crossing to Ballinluig' stretch had now been published and available to view on The Bridge website.

**b) Windfarms**

As the CC representative for the forthcoming Dullater Windfarm inquiry, Stuart Paton informed members that he is in the process of collating relevant papers and will write an article for the February edition of The Bridge, in order to provide an update.

The Dullater Inquiry will take place at the Birnam Institute over four days, in March 2017. The inquiry will include an opportunity for community questions, during a meeting at 7pm on 28<sup>th</sup> March. Attendance and the pre-submission of public questions will be coordinated through the Lunan Valley Protection Group.

**c) Correspondence/Website**

Perth & Kinross Fair-trade steering group - David Fox reminded the meeting of the receipt of a letter from the Perth & Kinross Fair-trade Steering Group, requesting CC support in their bid for Fair Trade Zone status across the whole of Perth and Kinross. Each ward has an elected representative, ours being Cllr. Grant Laing.

Grant provided an update as to the principles and objectives of the 'Fair-trade' group, to which members indicated their support unanimously.

Royal Garden Party nominations – The annual nomination process for attendees of the Royal Garden Party, at The Palace of Holyroodhouse on 4<sup>th</sup> July, has been announced. The CC is requested to submit details of deserving individuals who play an active part in and for the community. David Fox has circulated the documents for information of members and will submit the supported nominations once received.

A number of articles and items of correspondence have been forwarded for publishing on the website.

**d) Community Resilience**

Lorna Birse-Stewart updated members as to ongoing development work, to prepare and publish a local community resilience plan and to create an associated group, to discuss and support preparatory

arrangements for local emergencies.

Our 'Local Resilience Plan' is now in place. It has been shared with the PKC Community & Business Resilience Group (CBRG) and has been forwarded for publishing in The Bridge.

There will be a meeting of the Dunkeld & Birnam Emergency Preparedness and Coordination Group on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017, at The Birnam Institute. The meeting will commence at 6pm and all are welcome to attend.

**e) Culture & Events**

Na'an McLure could not attend. There were no items of note.

**f) Policing**

The weekly Police 'Commander's Bulletin' is routinely forwarded for publication on The Bridge website. There have been no other local incidents of note, mentioned on the bulletin.

All residents are advised to report any ongoing suspicious activity to the Police using the emergency 999 number. Any non-urgent information can be passed to the Police through their single non-emergency number on **101**, or should the caller wish to remain anonymous, via '**Crimestoppers**' on **0800 555 111**.

David Fox will request Police Scotland to recommence their speeding-enforcement activities in the Dunkeld & Birnam area, following the Christmas & New Year period.

**g) Environment/Planning**

Helen Taylor had reviewed the recent planning applications. Three such applications were discussed, for which it was agreed that the CC would make no comment. There were no other issues of note.

**h) Broadband**

The Lunan Valley broadband project, incorporating the Strathbraan/Trochry/Amulree areas has progressed towards invitations to tender. Stuart Paton represents the Strathbraan/Trochry/Amulree communities on the Lunan Valley broadband group. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of 2018, due to funding deadlines.

David Levy informed members that it was now possible for residents of Dunkeld and Birnam to place orders for a fibre-broadband service.

**i) Road Safety and Parking**

As previously communicated, Lorna Birse-Stewart has prepared a review of road safety and parking within the Dunkeld and Birnam area.

Community consultation and engagement has taken place over recent months, in order to identify areas of concern and to capture suggestions and recommendations for improving the current situation.

Following the community engagement process, members discussed the feedback, in order to identify and prioritise some achievable recommendations for submission to PKC. David Levy has subsequently drafted a letter to PKC, which he shared with members who agreed its content. David will now submit the letter to PKC (who will coordinate formal community consultation, before making recommendations and ultimately decisions as to any remedial work to be undertaken).

A discussion took place with regard to the limited parking for disabled people in the Dunkeld and Birnam area. It was agreed to approach local hotels and licensed premises to request their consideration for the creation of dedicated (public) disabled bays.

## 5. A.O.B.

### **BT - proposed closure of public telephone kiosks**

David Levy informed members that his recent letter to PKC, regarding the planned closures of local telephone kiosks had been acknowledged by PKC and forwarded to BT for their information. In the letter, the CC had requested the local purchase of three kiosks (for alternative use) and had objected to the closure of one kiosk in the centre of Dunkeld.

### **Amulree Hotel**

The Amulree Hotel was discussed. Members were unclear as to the intentions of the owners of this property, which has the potential to be a real asset to the local community. It was agreed that Helen Taylor will make enquiries to establish the owners of the hotel and draft a letter, which David Levy will send on behalf of the CC, requesting information as to their intentions and any relevant timescales for completion of work to the property.

The meeting closed at 8:20 pm.

**The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm, Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February at the Birnam Institute – Members of the public are most welcome to attend.**