

DUNKELD & BIRNAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Ordinary Meeting

Monday, 12 March 2018 – 7pm at Birnam Institute

Minutes

Reports

Attendance

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

Apologies: Councillor Ian James, Lorna Birse-Stewart, P.C. S. Band, P.C. J. Elder.

Members of the public present: L. Wolfe.

Minutes of prior meeting

These had been distributed by email prior to the meeting.

12 March 2018

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

Treasurer's report

Graham Rees reported the balances of our accounts.

Account	Balance
Primary	£506.32

Matters arising and items for discussion

None for discussion.

Policing

There were no crimes to report. It was noted that there were some cars that seemed to drive unsafely in Birnam and some with rather loud exhausts. The Police noted that a loud exhaust was unlikely to be illegal and that unsafe driving should be notified to the Police by the normal means. Police resources in our area were again subject to revision by Police Scotland, so it was important to report all incidents if sufficient resources were to be assigned to our area.

Environment/Planning

1. *Dunkeld Post Office* A revised application with many more details was submitted in respect of the proposal to convert the Dunkeld Post Office shop into a take-away food establishment. Concerns were expressed about the feasibility of the proposal, for example whether the building flue was of a suitable quality; whether there was sufficient capacity to manage the waste internally; the noise of the exhaust fans; and the possibility of late night opening. These concerns would be noted in a letter to P&KC planning. **Action:** HT.
2. *Birnam Autopoint* A revised application for the block of flats has been submitted, which is reduced in the number of flats proposed and the land used. The design is more conventional than the previous design. The height of the design appeared somewhat reduced, now between two and three storeys. Concerns about drainage were addressed through extensive drainage built into the driveway to the parking, which was also now more conventional. While there were mixed views, it was agreed that the CC would take no action.

Community Funding/Funds***Microgrants***

An application from Butterson Village Hall was rejected, in part for parity with an application along the same lines from Amulree Village Hall the month before. There was a renewed discussion of the application by Linda Wolfe, who lives near the stairs down alongside the Chemist at the Dunkeld end of the bridge over the Tay. Mrs. Wolfe had proposed to volunteer her and her husband's time to improve the state of the railings and the pointing on the stairs. She had applied for a

microgrant of £204 to cover the costs of materials associated with this. Checks had been made with the National Trust regarding their view; and for an owner of the stairs who had not been identified. This grant was approved.

Griffin Windfarm Fund

No news.

Transport

A9 Dualling

A member of the public has approached the CC seeking support for an at-grade roundabout at the junction of the A923 and A822 (Dunkeld junction) to be installed this Summer, or in advance of the A9 dualling in any case. We are waiting to hear whether Transport Scotland is willing to consider such a development, as we had not heard that they did support it.

The Co-creative process is underway between so-called stages 2 and 3. This is the stage during which the “raw” ideas from the community are “normalised” into comparable formats with commentary about agreed, uniform areas of importance. The results of this process will be available for review later in March during some drop-in events at the Birnam Institute. In addition, “out of scope” ideas produced by the process will be passed to the CC for processing and consideration.

Highland Mainline and D&B Station

DL reported that the public meeting in Pitlochry on March 1st to discuss the new Highland Mainline draft timetable had been postponed due to weather. DL will seek to attend when it is re-scheduled. **Action:** DL.

Road Safety and Parking

It was agreed that a letter would be sent 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:** ??

Separately, HT will write to Willie Mahoney about the concerns with the Glen Quaich road. **Action:** HT.

Windfarms

No news yet regarding the Dullatur proposal.

Resilience Preparedness

The Resilient Communities grant scheme is again open, closing in May. Consideration has been given to applying for funds to buy a generator for the local Resilience Group. There is also an idea of conducting a “tabletop exercise” to test the resilience plans for an extreme weather event.

Broadband

GR reported on a conversation with a British Telecom technician working on the Butterstone Exchange. The technician claimed that the exchange was already capable of much higher speeds than customers were experiencing. Apparently, it just needs to be uncapped. It was not clear how much credence to give this report or why it has not yet been uncapped if it can be.

Correspondence/Website

- H. Patel wrote regarding deer management issues. Response sent.
- Atholl Estate forest plan received with invitation to attend briefing on 16 March. DL to attend. **Action:** DL.
- Notification of a new disabled parking space on Perth Road in Birnam.
- Consultation notification from Forestry Commission regarding the replanting on the bank between the A9 and the Tay River.
- Estates Based Initiative (EBI) notification of walk around on 20th March. Redistributed via email and Facebook.
- Correspondence concerning proposal for new shops and flats opposite Royal Dunkeld Hotel received.
- Positive feedback from N. & F. Turner regarding last CC meeting, acknowledged by email.
- Correspondence from Mr. & Mrs. Dalgleish in favour of proposed developments at Birnam Autopoint, acknowledged and redistributed to CC members by email.

Community Engagement/Facebook

We have 73 followers.

Any Other Business

Linda Wolfe asked, on behalf of D&B in Bloom whether the CC owned the noticeboard on the Telford Bridge, which it was agreed was now quite dilapidated. The CC affirmed its belief that the CC does not own the noticeboard and agreed that it might profitably be replaced. It was suggested that the cost of replacing it might be met through an application to the main Griffin windfarm

fund.

The meeting closed just after 9:00 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for 7pm, Monday, 16th April (the third Monday, exceptionally) at the Birnam Institute. Members of the public are most welcome to attend.