

BIRNAM TO BALLINLUIG A9 COMMUNITY GROUP
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (Zoom)
27th Aug 2020

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies – Stuart Paton, Bill Melville, Sarah Walker, Ken Davis
Present – Alasdair Wylie, Mike Wolfe, Sophie Cade, Garth Ponsonby,
Duncan May, Alison May, Linda Wolfe, Alan Wolfe, Sue Atkinson, Neil
Graham, Anne Graham, Dorothy Lewin, Alison Bryden, Martina Wolfe,
Thomas Wolfe, Tom Woodstone

Welcome to our first Zoom meeting and AGM (delayed because of
lockdown) from Alasdair.

2. MINUTES OF 2019 AGM

Alan Wolfe proposes these minutes are accepted, seconded by Garth
Ponsonby. Any matters arising to be discussed in community meeting after
AGM business is completed.

3. COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Alasdair ran through report. (full report available on request)

Cabinet Secretary Michael Matheson's visit last July; our "Closing the Gap"
paper (thanks to Mike Wolfe) addressing concerns about the way the Pass of
Birnam to Tay Crossing Preferred Route assessment was going; and
subsequent meetings with TS/Jacobs, led to the series of six workshops
together.

No further update from TS since June on design timescales they are working
towards. Have received detailed information from Jacobs on the
commencement of seasonal surveys in August and September.

Minutes from the October to January workshops were edited by TS/Jacobs
and contain new points that have not yet been agreed. We are seeking to
finalise the minutes with TS as soon as possible, after which they will be
made publicly available.

Local Economy Assessment : Prof. Lennon conducted a study, last autumn
but we have yet to see any results of this. We believe that he has submitted
the report to TS and Jacobs but this has not been shared with the Community
Group.

Thanks to Alex Kettles for putting up the new display of the Community Preferred Route and relevant information in the Birnam Arts Centre last year. Would like to think about other ways in which we can keep this information visible to the public.

Thank you to Core Group committee for their valuable work and Community Group members for their support and attendance at meetings and workshops through the year.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Alasdair spoke to the report. At end March there was £3569.91 in the account

Payments to Survey Monkey were stopped, as no longer using the service.

Funds from the PKC Community Investment Fund grant (for community engagement and equality of participation) currently unspent – extension to deadline for spend of these was given by PKC pre-lockdown and another request to extend now until end of this financial year is with PKC.

We also gratefully received a further microgrant from the Community Council which paid for our meeting room hires and related costs for the year.

Dorothy Lewin – did we get feedback on why our application to SSE Griffin Fund was rejected? AW – no further information was received. Would be helpful to bear in mind in case we need to apply for funds in the future.

Thanks to Ken Davis for the Treasurer's Report and thanks to Bob Lindsay for examining the accounts.

Garth Ponsonby proposes to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Sue Atkinson. The group agree that Bob Lindsay continue as examiner of the accounts if he is able.

5. **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

- Coordinator, Deputy Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer

Garth Ponsonby proposes Alasdair Wylie as Coordinator, seconded by Alan Wolfe.

Alasdair Wylie proposes Mike Wolfe as Deputy Coordinator, seconded by Dorothy Lewin.

Alasdair Wylie proposes Sophie Cade as Secretary. seconded by Alison Bryden.

Ken Davis has stood down as Treasurer. Garth Ponsonby is going to check with Ken what is required and will take on the role if he can. Linda Wolfe proposes Garth as Treasurer, seconded by Alison Bryden.

6. A.O.C.B

None.

7. Date of next AGM – 27th May 2021

A9 Community Group Meeting

1. Discussion on future of Community Group

Mike – this is all predicated on what happens next, the outcome of DMRB2. Difficult to know what we will need to do until we get an indication of which direction it is heading.

Garth – likely to be a continued need for the A9BBCG certainly to deal with issues that may arise during DMRB3 and also in the lead up to and during the construction phase in terms of dealing with issues arising from contractors' work on the project.

Dorothy – at last DBCC, did we get a feeling that they feel our group is still useful and should carry on? AW – yes, did have a chance to brief DBCC in July and they showed appreciation and enthusiasm for the work of the community group still. Has asked Stuart Paton if he will make time amongst DBCC members for them to openly discuss what they think about the future role of the A9 BBCG.

Duncan May – question on process... if the outcome of DMRB is not satisfactory, when does a PLI happen? Garth – DMRB3 deals with the detailed design and the legal and land issues and the publication of the side roads orders and then objections to these orders can trigger a PLI.

Dorothy – there will need to be community involvement in DMRB3 and most likely heightened interest during this stage when more detailed designs and consultations are brought forward.

Sue – is interim safety measures for junctions within remit of this group? AW – no but DBCC were supposed to be following this up with BEAR and TS after a safety assessment last year. No further information available at this point but would be good to raise the point again with DBCC for them to pursue. Members of the community should write to the Community Council and ask them to pursue this with TS.

Alison – is there any merit in our group taking on this issue and pursuing it with TS/BEAR/PKC? Garth – not sure we're really the people to do that.... Think Stuart should continue to lead on it.

ACTION: AW will write to DBCC to inform them that discussion of concerns continues and there is widespread concern within the community about the safety of the A9 junctions and what can be done in the interim.

Mike – problem that is getting worse in terms of volume of traffic. More modest safety measures may even reduce the need for dualling. Alison – near misses are not counted, they only count serious crashes, we must pursue this as a community.

Dorothy – agree that more pressure could be exerted and this may be a timely opportunity given that elections are coming up next year.

Duncan – could work at the station be prioritised in the road build so that we don't have to wait for years before upgrades to the station are made? Garth – unlikely as access within the station is separate to the project. Network Rail accepts that there are issues with accessibility at the station but that they will not commit to doing anything until they know what is happening with the A9 dualling design. Still reason to press Network Rail, TS and Joh Swinney about the community need to improve access to the station.

2. AOCB

Many thanks to Alasdair and the committee for continued work.

3. Date of next CG meeting – tbc

End of September