

**Dunkeld and Birnam Community Council
Ordinary Meeting – Monday 13 September 2021**

MINUTES

1. Attendance

a. **Present: Community Councillors** - Andrew Cave, Caroline Robinson, Stewart Pritchard, Laura Graham, Chris Claydon, Lachlan MacEwan, Calum Martin, Helen Taylor,

PKC Councillors – Anne Jarvis,

Members of the public – Ramsay Beattie (Heartland), Ashleigh (Heartland), David Tripney (DB Sports and Leisure Hub), Paul Cargill (PA), Campbell Hall (PKC)

b. **Apologies** – None

2. **Minutes of the last meeting – approval** – Stewart proposed and Andrew seconded.

3. Treasurer’s report – Stewart Pritchard -

Main operational account balance is £703.79 – with around £100 pending for zoom account costs.

Grants a/c balance is £12,980.21. There has been one transaction in last 2 months - £500 grant to Chapter House Museum Trust (for The Archive), and there is one pending payment of £500 grant to Breadlbane Canoe Club

Funds available to DBCC

- SSE Griffin microgrants £4,000 (to end of December)
- SSE Covid grants £6,161

Remaining funds are held on behalf of other community groups etc.

Finally, the new RBS digital bank accounts have been opened and funds will be transferred. This will bring to an end payment by cheques.

Stewart has approached someone to do a formal audit of the account – hope to get it done before the October AGM. Andrew thanked Stewart for all his efforts.

4. Sports and Leisure Hub MUGA project – David Tripney

David outlined the Sports Hub current facilities. Importantly the Club has no staffing and very low running costs. David explained that he is an architect and has been a member of the Sports Hub for 12 years. He was asked to look at how the facilities could be expanded to provide a greater range of sports on the site. Through consultation the MUGA was identified as a good option, with putting it on the existing car park and using the land between the burn and the doctor’s surgery as the new car park. Also looking farther down the road to the clubhouse and other facilities.

As the climate tends to impact on our activities and makes it very seasonal. Hence a covered MUGA is felt to be the best option. David showed examples of other MUGAs in Scotland.

David showed an architect's presentation of what the proposals would look like. Explained how the ambition is to have the school regularly using the MUGA during the school week, but also after school kids club. Other sports such as netball, football, fitness etc. And also available to visitors.

As of now the project has secured the funding for the project. The core MUGA is just over £300,000. There is a shopping list of potential options which we are considering. But we have the funds for the Project. £200K from the SSE Griffin and Calliachar Fund, £50K Sports Scotland, £70K from Gannochy Trust and funds from the club itself.

Survey works have been completed. Full planning submission has been lodged. Pre planning was favourably received by PKC and no particular concerns, thought it was a good fit for the site.

The preferred contractor has been selected, and the Sports Hub are in a position to award the contract. About to start specialist design works, which will then feed into a building warrant application. Ambition is to start in Spring next year. Completion is approx. 12 weeks from start point.

Various questions were put to David, including about the visual impact, the car parking, affordability for users. David explained that the facility would be free to all local children under 18, and that unwaged members, as they are at the moment, would pay a reduced membership rate.

There was also discussion about the access to the Sports Hub along the road, and the lack of pavement.

It was agreed that Andrew would send a letter of support to PKC for the Planning application.

5. Affordable Housing 'solutions' discussion – with PKC Officer Campbell Hall (Affordable Housing Enabler)

Caroline reminded us of our discussion of the affordable housing issues at our previous meeting, and the knock-on impact that this has – for example on the local Fire Service.

Caroline has been in discussion with Campbell Hall at PKC on what sort of solutions might be available. Caroline has also written to all the other PKC Community Councils to see what they are experiencing in relation to affordable housing.

Campbell explained his role as an affordable housing enabler. Helps to deliver mostly social rental housing across PKC, but also works with developers, and leading on PKC's affordable housing design guide.

Affordable housing could be social rental, or various other different models.

There are some mechanisms to ensure that the home stays affordable as well.

The funding environment for affordable housing is very healthy at the moment, so a lot of money available. PKC's target is 150 new homes each year, although not

much sees its way to Highland Perthshire – constrained by availability of development land. Rural Housing Fund?? A lot of money available but not a huge take up. £24M available between now and 2026, so money is available. The Rural Housing Fund is available to communities and private organisations. PKC prefers to work with partner agencies as they have a specialist knowledge and a proven track record of delivering projects. Housing needs and demand assessment study can be done to explore what is needed. They recognise that the housing market has been changing quite rapidly so need to do this sort of assessment to get relevant up to date data.

Community Housing Trust are specialists in doing housing needs surveys. This would ferret out what the real issues are, and identifying who the housing is for, i.e. age group etc, and develop a survey from this.

Campbell said that he could put the Communities Housing Trust in touch with the CC and the PH8 Action Plan group which are going to be taking forward the housing theme.

Chris raised concerns about the allocation of the existing Council housing, in that properties which come available are allocated to people from outwith the community. However Campbell is not involved in the allocation but will pass on the comments. He recognises that there is an issue of people not putting themselves on a Council house waiting list due to the perception that there is not much point due to the lack of housing.

Campbell has been in touch with Atholl Estates and will keep doing so to see if there is something that they could get involved in.

6. **PH8 work** – Andrew reported on the meeting which was had with John Gilruth and other PH8 people and some of the Community Councillors who are not on the PH8 Group. A useful discussion was had and it was agreed that there has to be some connectivity between the working group/s which goes forward and the Community Council. What format this takes is one of the things which is up for discussion at the PH8 discussion day on the 2nd of October. Caroline said that it would be good to have members of the CC along on the day on the 2nd. There will be timed discussion sessions, so it would be good to have CC members to attend some of these. The idea is not to have the discussion totally rigid, so that people can talk about the issues that they are interested in at any time of day.
7. **Public Procession notification process** - Letter was received from PKC about the Orange March. Lachlan attended the licensing meeting with PKC. Reported that each person had 5 minutes to make their case. The Orange order application was not requesting permission, but rather that it was just a notification that the event was happening. So there was no way that PKC were going to stop the march from taking place. Only the police would have the power to do that.

Since the meeting Lachlan has spoken to Rev Fraser Penny and he would like to come and speak to the Community Council at a future meeting. Council requirements in relation to the march were around numbers, stewarding and timing. There were 4 police in attendance.

Andrew said that it would be good to get Fraser Penny along at the next meeting and perhaps John Gilruth as he has some ideas around making the day a wider event.

Stewart also attended the licensing board meeting. One aspect which was noticeable was the weakness of the risk assessment process. So we could ask the council to sharpen up this part of the process.

8. Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust - Core Path SPIT/113 Murthly (Back of Sawmill) – request for letter of support. PKCT are seeking funding to carry out remedial work on this path. Meeting agreed that a letter of support will be sent – **Helen to action.**

9. Planning – The only significant item was the MUGA which Andrew will write a letter of support. Lachlan asked about the retrospective planning application for the Atholl Arms. Helen said that as no-one had raised any issue with this consequently comment was made. Lachlan also reported that with reference to the Craft Diner at the station there were some local people concerned about some of the aspects of the planning permission not being adhered to, namely around the location of an advertising sign at the entrance to the car park. Andrew is going to look at these concerns about and speak to the Council Planning team.

Chris raised her concerns about PKC planning decisions and suggested that it would be good to have someone along to speak to the CC. Chris is to invite PKC planning to come to our next meeting to explain to us about planning decisions.

10. Police Update – none available.

11. Interim election, AGM and the secretary role and Griffin Panel role

Helen explained the advice received from PKC in relation to the requirement for an interim election as a result of the number of elected councillors being less than 5 following her resignation effective from the end of September 2021. PKC will set in train the election process but in the interim it is fine for the Community Council to continue operating as normal. All the co-opted members of the Council will have to stand for election and there will be a total of 6 places on the Community Council to be filled. There was no volunteer to take on the role of Secretary, however Chris Claydon indicated that she would be willing to take on looking after the correspondence email account as an interim measure. Helen will put together a handover note including the passwords for the two email accounts she is monitoring. Helen will also prepare the agendas for the AGM and the October ordinary meeting.

12. AOB -

Andrew reported that he had been contacted by the Fire and Rescue Service requesting a letter of support for recognition for an award for Drife's 43 years of community fire service. He was happy to do this, and supplied a letter.

Caroline raised a concern about packaging, and the increase in the use of vegware packaging by local businesses in the community. Concern that this packaging is not compostable and is not collected for composting. Request for the CC to write to PKC regarding the collection and composting of this material. Apparently Vegware is not compostable in brown bins. Caroline happy to write to PKC on this issue and also write to local businesses to ask what they are planning to do. The meeting agreed to this action.

Laura asked about the speed recording device instructions - Calum said that he now had them so Calum and Laura are going to action a strategy with Officer Karen and the speed detector.

Laura is going to contact to ask about what is happening with the new charging bays at the North Car Park.

Lachlan asked about sending a letter to Transport Scotland re the A9 junctions from the Community Council. Lachlan will circulate the letter to the CC before sending.

Lachlan also informed the meeting that Santa Day is not going to happen again this year due to the risks being too high.

Chris raised that the refreshed yellow lines at the Cross have not been done. Also a bit missed at the top of Brae Street. Chris will email PKC to find out what has happened.

Chris has received a complaint about A boards on the pavement – will chase this up again with PKC.

Chris had heard from a visitor who had concerns about the fire safety of the Royal Hotel. Advised to tell the person to contact the Health and Safety Executive.

Lachlan raised that there is an issue with smell in Dunkeld from some hens being kept near the smokehouse. Advised to raise it with Environmental Health.

13. Date of next meeting AGM 11th October 2021

End of Community Council meeting

Griffin Micro Grants

- **Dalguise Village Hall – approved**
- **Ballingluig Football Club - approved**
- **Dunkeld and Birnam Unplugged - approved**