

Dunkeld and Birnam Community Council
Ordinary Meeting – Monday 11th January 2021 – 7pm – by Zoom
Minutes

Attendance:

Community Councillors: Stuart Paton, Chris Claydon, Stewart Pritchard, Andrew Cave, Calum Martin, Lachlan McEwen, Laura Graham

PKC Councillors: Anne Jarvis

Members of the public present: Alistair Smith (Heartland), Ramsay Beattie (Heartland) Rachel Unwin, Caroline Robinson, Euan Robinson, Atholl Estates (Mark Richardson, Andrew Bruce Wooton, Claire Spencer-Churchill)

Apologies: Grant Laing, PC Steve Band

1) Minutes of the last meeting – approved

- a) **Action items** – Police report being put on Facebook – Stuart did that
- b) **Road Safety Issues** – Stuart Paton has contacted Brian Cargill from PKC – and once there is a date he will circulate that to see if others want to attend. – see below
- c) **Meeting with PKC CEO** – Andrew Cave attended – appreciated the connection and worthwhile making the contact.
- d) **Local Action Partnership meeting** - Stewart Pritchard – things are planned for action in January – updating the Local Action Plan etc – to be finalised by April.

2) Co-option of Caroline Robinson onto the Community Council - paperwork approved by the PKC. Welcome to the Community Council Caroline.

3) Treasurer's Report

Main Griffin Account - £15,043 – of that £6,661 from SSE Covid relief fund. Remainder is money we are currently holding for other groups such as the PH8 resilience group.

In 2020 we awarded 9 Micro grants £4,400 – 5 awards from the SE Covid fund £4,440

CC operational account - £701 – just been topped by the PKC – for the running costs of the CC.

Will report on the grants for 2020 to SSE and will request a new lot of £5K.

PKC requested an updated form for insurance. Requirement for risk assessments. Cost of insurance will be advised.

Stewart is still battling against RBS. Stewart has done a sterling effort but he was recently told that all his efforts of the last year are for nothing as the internet operation facility is not available for our type of account. Stewart has now lodged a formal complaint with RBS.

4) Police update – PC Steve Band submitted a written update – listing a number of calls to the police since the last meeting. Including a domestic assault which has been detected and a missing person who was found but a theft from a motor vehicle remains undetected. Re Covid the numbers visiting Highland Perthshire during this lockdown has clearly reduced and the vast majority of people are adhering to the rules/guidance. They only occasionally encounter someone who has no legitimate reason for being in the area. As always, they use the 4 E's approach – Engage, Explain, Encourage, Enforce –

with Enforce being the last option. HMRC Scammers in operation again with an elderly lady in Highland Perthshire being duped into buying a large amount of Google Play Vouchers having received an unsolicited call pretending to be from HMRC. HMRC will never do this! **Action Point** – Chris will post the HMRC scam message on Facebook.

- 5) **Planning.** Short discussion about the Merryburn planning application. Helen advised that it was not a significant application as the external changes relate to replacing windows and reslating the roof.

Chris suggested that the Dunkeld House staff accommodation application could be posted on Facebook (**action point Chris**). Helen to send the note about how we deal with the more contentious applications to Caroline. (**action point Helen**).

Proposed new EV point at North End Carpark – **Action Point - Chris** - Chris will put this application up on the Facebook page too.

At last meeting we agreed that we would buy the two Phone boxes – one in Birnam and one in Dunkeld. BT have taken the phones away and we are awaiting to get the bill for £1 each. New, non permanent, free standing shelving will be put in for the food bank. As the phone boxes are now owned by the CC we will have oversight of the management of the boxes. Stewart Pritchard raised the issue of maintenance and painting of the phoneboxes, form indicated that there could be layers of lead based paint. Our assumption is that they now have no power. Lachlan intimated that Dave Amos is interested in helping maintain the phone boxes. Stuart Paton will contact Dave to discuss. (**Action Point Stuart**)

- 6) **COOP closure** – closing from 17/18th January for major refurbishment of the building. The intention is still for this to go ahead. Behind the scenes there are things going on. PH8 and food shop owners have been in discussion. Coop have offered to provide a delivery service from Pitlochry several time a week from Pitlochry. Details still to be firmed up. Local Shops have prepared to take on a service (Deli, Butchers, Mike Smith, Best One and Post Office) they are going to try to up their service asap and an emergency Bridge edition is going to be published to publicise what each shop is going to offer, details of the Pitlochry COOP offer and the PH8 Group offer for those shielding. Stuart will post up the Bridge copy onto the CC Facebook page as soon as it is available – probably on Thursday (**Action Point - Stuart**). Stuart commented that the timing of this is not ideal but the local shop holders are stepping up well and the Pitlochry phone offer being helpful. Stuart and Anne Jarvis felt that we have done what we can to ameliorate the issue. Refurbishment due to be finished by the beginning of April. PH8 delivery service users have all been contacted again and the volunteers helping on the PH8 group have been asked if they are wanting to get involved again. Discussion about the Coop closure not being clearly signposted at the shop itself – but the emptying shelves are a signal. Calum Martin – he expressed his worry about the closure about the Coop at this point – that there is likely to be higher risks of infection. He felt that John Swinney should be asked to intervene. Also flagged up that the FM's hints that Click and Collect may be banned would adversely impact on this community.

7) Atholl Estates Presentation

Andrew Bruce Wooton introduced Atholl Estates representatives and the projects that Atholl have done in the area – including the Cally Sawmill and things like the Logierait rural employment hub. The Estate is interested in exploring the opportunities and land use needs in the area. Haughend is the site – it is outwith the settlement boundary and not allocated in the Local Plan. It has no planning status. Atholl Estates has no intention of submitting a planning application at the moment. This is land which may or may not have potential. Atholl Estates would welcome being part of the Community Action Plan – they are keen to see if the site could be of interest for future amenities, infrastructure, employment space, housing, transportation, energy etc. Haughend is a large site – 40 acres. Atholl keen to let the community know that there is a bit of land there which could be available if an idea develops which the land could be useful. Calum Martin explained a bit about the Community Action Planning project which is being worked on. The object is not to be place based but to explore what people like about the community, what they feel the problems and what they would like to see developing in the community. Lachlan indicated that the initial survey will be the starting point – and then we can start building and making a plan –PH8 group are looking to get an 80% return on the survey.

Caroline highlighted the need for housing in the community and different solutions for housing, and important to consider community led housing initiatives. The meeting welcomed the Estate bringing this area of land to the attention of the community and flagging it up for consideration when the results of the survey are known so as it can be included in the development of the plan. The early engagement with the community on this was particularly welcomed. Thank you, Atholl Estate.

Going forward – keep in touch over the coming months when the Community Action Plan develops.

8) Road Safety Sub Group update

Stuart proposes an ad hoc meeting prior to any meeting with Brian Cargill at PKC – to get agreement of what are the quick wins and what the longer-term objectives are. Andrew reported that the PKC CEO agreed that we should try to make good connections with key people in the PK Council. Calum suggested inviting Jess to the meeting with the PKC on transport. Anne Jarvis suggested that it might be helpful for her to attend the meeting too. (**Action Point – Stuart to call ad hoc meeting**). No update from the A9 group – but there is a meeting fairly soon.

9) AOB

- Lachlan asked about the appearance of two bike racks in Dunkeld and Birnam – was there local engagement? Calum responded - Yes, there was local engagement – and then there was the usual gap between planning and action. The one in Birnam was put in the wrong place – it should have been in outside the Best One shop. They are designed to be temporary. Paid for from the Sustrans Covid money.
- Lachlan said that he felt that Community Council emails should be sent out round all the Community Council. Stuart said that he felt that most were sent out to

everyone. Laura highlighted that people should always send reply to all when replying to emails. This was agreed should be adopted as the normal practice.

- Calum has now possession of the two pop up policemen. The policemen come with chains and padlocks and need to be taken in each night. Laura can put one up at the North End Car Park. Calum said that they need to be shared around. Lachlan suggested that they need to be moved around the place for best effectiveness. Stuart suggested that Laura (and Caroline?) could maybe have a thought about where to put them and then feed those ideas back to the Community Council Road Safety Sub Group. (Action Point – Laura) Laura to liaise with Calum. Calum has chased the traffic monitoring equipment again.
- Community Archive – Stuart said that they have said that they don't want to change the hours any more. Chris said that when the advert application comes through, we should discuss this as a Council. Chris to chase this up with the Council.

End of main meeting

10) Griffin Grants

a) Micro grants –

2020 Griffin applications

Date	Amount Awarded (£)	Organisation & Project
08/04/2020	500.00	Corbenic Camphill Community – Community events
21/05/2020	500.00	RS of Dunkeld Partnership Group – Programme of school/community engagement events
07/07/2020	500.00	D&B Tourist Association - video
30/09/2020	500.00	Tayside Trails Association – Start-up & equipment
02/10/2020	500.00	The Birks Cinema Trust – Drive-in event
05/10/2020	400.00	D&B Community Orchard
17/11/2020	500.00	D&B, Royal British Legion – facilities improvements
03/12/2020	500.00	Servite Home residents - Christmas event
28/12/2020	500.00	D&B Defibrillator Fund
28/12/2020	500.00	D&B Paths Group
10 awards		
Total value	£4,900.00	

SSE Covid relief fund –

Final 2020 applications -

- Defibrillator grant – fund for maintenance of the defibrillators.

- Dunkeld Paths Group – A few things have been raised over the recent years about paths and we lack a local group to progress work on the paths. The path round the Cathedral and the link walk from the Hermitage to the Inver Road Car Park. Don't anticipate that the paths group would do much physical work themselves but it would be a valuable group to have to be able to keep an eye and sort out small things. Should be looking at not just the surface of the path but also the nature around the paths too. The idea of the money was to have it in the bank to get PPE and equipment to be able to do stuff. Lachlan passed on to Stewart the mobile number for the NTS. Calum pointed out that Kat Brown has put a group together to do some path repair.
- **SSE Covid relief fund –**
 - Heartland FM - £1000 –** Grant approved.
 - Breadalbane Academy - £500 for Duke of Edinburgh –** grant approved.

b) Griffin Endowment Fund

Members to review the documentation and get back to Stuart with their views asap.

**Next meeting: - Monday 8th February 2021 – 7pm probably by Zoom –
email Dbcc.correspondence@gmail.com to register for attendance
Members of the public are most welcome to attend**