

Blackford Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 31st May 2016 in the Moray Institute, Blackford.

Present	
Janet Law	Chair
Katharine Huggett	Vice-Chair
Irene McLaughlan	Treasurer
Andrew Sinclair	Community Councillor
Bett Illand	Community Councillor
Councillor Ann Gaunt	Perth & Kinross Council
Councillor Tom Gray	Perth & Kinross Council
5 Members of the Public	

Item	Subject	Action by
1.	The Chair welcomed those in attendance, following on from the AGM which had been chaired by Councillor Gaunt, when the above CC posts had been confirmed. Apologies:- None	
2.	Minutes of the meeting of 26 th April 2016 were read, some amendments added by JL, then approved. Proposed KH, seconded AS.	
3.	<p>Matters arising from previous meeting:-</p> <p>JL read out an email received from Chris Livingstone, Highland Spring, with an update on the Rail and Expansion plans. Rail: planning consent had been received and HS is reviewing the finite timing which has to be balanced with other activities within the business. No decision has yet been taken to go ahead with it. HS will inform the CC when a decision has been made and look at steps to consult local residents on key points. Factory Expansion: HS are still awaiting planning consent which is taking longer than anticipated. They are working closely with their teams to expedite it,</p> <p>Possible 20mph speed limit – JL had received an email from a member of the public enquiring about it. AS will follow this up when appropriate. He is currently following up our previous requests for speed awareness signs with PKC.</p> <p>IM emailed thanks to Grant Sinclair, Royal Mail, for ensuring the plates on the post-boxes now have the correct information. Hadn't had the opportunity to contact Tullibardine re the reversing lorries.</p> <p>KH spoke to Frances Berry at PKC re footpath signs. There is money to mark the core path network but Brookfield House (formally known as Cecilmount) is not a core path but does remain a footpath. KH had also contacted Bear Scotland re the trees obscuring the signs for Gleneagles Station.</p>	KH
4.	<p>Chair's Report.</p> <p>JL had received an email from Nicola Quinn of Wind Prospect Developments Ltd advising of the proposed extension to the Burnfoot windfarm and the information sessions. KH is due to receive posters from Nicola.</p> <p>JL was aware of the continuing problems due to the loss of the village postal services. IM updated the CC regarding the loss of the Post Office in Blackford. The staff on the van, which comes once a week, had advised another van was to be purchased to provide an improved service across the whole area it covers but as yet they have no date for receipt of the van.</p>	

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	<p>She had received an email from a member of the public enquiring if the CC was still looking into the situation. JL had been in touch with Tasmina Ahmed-Sheik's assistant in February (see minutes of 23/02/16) and Tasmina had hoped to lodge a Parliamentary Question on the subject of the provision of rural post office services. AG has had no feedback from other communities. Iain Paton had been asked by Blackford Parish Church Kirk Session to continue to be in contact with Tasmina on their behalf, although he is no longer Interim Moderator. JL is willing to work to help establish a working group who will look further into this and make contact with other communities similarly affected. The Post Office is only offering a single contract to provide services, irrespective of whether or not this is a feasible option in all rural areas. KH suggested joining up with other CC's who are part of the Strathearn Forum. AG to get contacts. Janet Law, Ann Gaunt, Richard Beith and Iain Paton are all willing to meet to consider the best course of action.</p>	JL,AG,RB,IP
5.	<p>Treasurer's Report. Treasurer's Account: £554.11 CIR Account: £1188.33 plus approx. 5p interest.</p>	
6.	<p>P&K Councillors' Reports.</p> <p>AG had nothing to report, TG advised there are 3 major housing applications before PKC including Bertha Park and Bridge of Earn.</p>	
7.	<p>Community Rail Partnership.</p> <p>Better use of the premises at Gleneagles station is being looked at. There is the possibility of joint publicity for the train and bus timetables. A leaflet is also to be prepared to advertise bus and cycle routes to the station. Noticeboards for all timetables are being considered. Ideas are being sought from other CRP websites and Facebook pages. Councillor Gray advised a room at the station may be available for business purposes. Contact John Yellowlees, Scotrail. RB advised an hourly service between Arbroath and Glasgow is promised, for every train stopping at Gleneagles, commencing in two years' time.</p>	
8.	<p>Planning Report.</p> <p>KH had been contacted by Frances Berry re the Netherton Farm planning application for change of access. This would lead to the closure of the centre reservation at Netherton on safety grounds. As this is part of the core path network, KH queried the proposed pedestrian access would put pedestrians at risk due to the speed of vehicles exiting and accessing the A9. She has requested a raised pedestrian surface be included in the road plans. PKC have accepted this comment. JL thanked KH for this.</p> <p>KH advised there will be a meeting in the Moray Institute, Blackford on 16/06/16 with information boards about the proposed Burnfoot Windfarm extension.</p> <p>Gwest car park – PKC has granted consent with the condition more lighting information is required. Lighting should be low-level lighting and therefore not visible above the edge of the car park.</p>	
9.	<p>AOCB.</p> <p>IM thanked KH for ensuring the refurbishment work at the Moray Institute included a new sign with the building having the correct name i.e. Moray Institute, instead of Blackford Village Hall. IM has secured the booking of the Lower Hall for the Community Council till the end of June 2017. IM and AS attended a meeting organised by T in the Park in May. The organisers are confident new transport arrangements this year will prevent the travel disruption caused last year. This year's pick up and drop off area</p>	

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	<p>will mean a walk of approx. 1 mile to reach the site but will have toilets, welfare, stewards, litter-picking etc. to prevent last year's problems arising. The path to and from here to the festival site will be lit at night, fenced in, and stewards will be along the route to ensure people's safety as will police on mountain bikes and quad bikes. Festival goers are urged to use the bus transport but this must be booked in advance and only allows for one trip each way. A shuttle bus service will not operate. The organisers know everything needs to work this year to ensure holding next year's festival on the site.</p> <p>IM attended the Auchterarder Network meeting the previous week. Various training courses are available, the Community Engagement events were mentioned, Meal-makers are recruiting people to make meals and people who would like to have meals provided, and Live Active is able to provide activity classes in the Moray institute if there is demand. IM now has posters which will be put up in Blackford. Anyone interested to contact IM.TG advised Community Planning events will be led by Jim Valentine. PKC councillors will attend.</p> <p>KH mentioned there is a deep pot-hole in Stirling Street beside the Blackford Inn. There is a lot of bank erosion near the site for the proposed Network Rail bridge and also erosion on the banks of the Danny burn at Danny Cottages. As this erosion could impact on the ability of the Scottish Water sewage lorries to access the sewage works, both AG and JL will contact Scottish Water.</p> <p>AS and AG met with Andrew Clegg of PKC and representatives of Robertson's Homes, re the community payback scheme. Unfortunately, it is too late to change the site of the proposed MUGA (multi-use games area) from the latest housing area being built to the school playing field. There is talk of a Community Sports Association required to maintain it. AS queried is there community payback due for the Waulkmill development. He believes community payback should be a community decision. This was the consensus of the other community councillors. AG will check the progress of the planning sections for Blackford to see what other community payback is due.</p> <p>The following Community Councillors will continue with the following roles:-</p> <p>Planning and Rights of Way – Katharine Huggett Blackford Community Funds Panel CC Representative – Irene McLaughlan IT and Website – Andrew Sinclair</p> <p>Other roles filled by members of the public:-</p> <p>CRP (Community Rail Partnership) – Neil Gaunt COBRA – Richard Beith</p> <p>The above roles were confirmed by general consensus of all Community Councillors.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IM</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AG JL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AG</p>
12.	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>Tuesday, 28th June 2016 Venue – Moray Institute, Lower Hall, at 7.30pm.</p>	

The above minutes were approved at the meeting of 28th June 2016.