

## Blackford Community Council

### Approved Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 28th November 2017 in the Moray Institute, Blackford.

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|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Present                  |                      |
| Janet Law                | Chair                |
| Katharine Huggett        | Vice-Chair           |
| Irene McLaughlan         | Treasurer            |
| Bett Illand              | Community Councillor |
| Alison Dawson            | Community Councillor |
| Iain Paton               | Community Councillor |
| Bob Watkinson            | Community Councillor |
| PC Murray Westwood       | Police Scotland      |
| Lesley Ann Cain          | Network Rail         |
| Michael                  | Network Rail         |
| 11 Members of the Public |                      |

| Item | Subject  | Action by |
|------|--|-----------|
| 1.   | The Chair welcomed those in attendance.<br>Apologies:- Councillor Tom Gray, Councillor Murray Lyle, Richard Beith.   |           |
| 2.   | Minutes of the meeting of 31st October 2017 were read and amended at the following places:<br><br>7. Strathearn Community Rail Partnership. No meeting to be changed to October meeting.<br>11. AOCB. 3 <sup>rd</sup> paragraph. Fire hydrant to be changed to manhole cover.<br><br>The minutes were then approved. Proposed IP, seconded BW.   |           |
| 3.   | <b>Matters arising from previous meeting:-</b><br><br><b>Speed Awareness Signs.</b> As well as Police Scotland monitoring the awareness of the signs, KH will also observe awareness.<br><br><b>Minutes of Cycle Paths Steering Group.</b> JL advised the minutes are on the CC website on the Paths Network page.<br><br><b>Burnfoot East Windfarm.</b> KH advised the application for additional turbines was successful.<br><br><b>Abercairney Place Manhole cover</b> -The area will be reassessed during the next scheduled inspection.<br><br><b>Lighting Fault.</b> PKC advised street lighting is not intended to light steps and paths in gardens.<br><br><b>Carsebreck Bridge.</b> KH advised Sarah Dooley is awaiting a response from Network Rail. | <b>KH</b> |
| 4.   | <b>Chair's Report.</b><br><br><b>Cycle Paths Feasibility Study:</b> The Report is published and available on the Blackford Community Council website on the Paths Network page. Press releases were sent out to all local papers and copied to all those who had given their email addresses to receive information, the Blackford Paths   |           |

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| <p>Group (BPG), contacts of the Community Council, Community Councillors, members of the Cycle Paths Feasibility Study Steering Group, and PKC contacts.<br/>Anyone who wishes to see a copy of the report, contact JL or KH.</p> <p>Crispin Hayes Associates work for the CC is completed with the exception of the handover of responsibility for negotiation with one landowner. Contact details for landowners and MOUs will be passed on to the BPG for their information. JL happy to continue to work with BPG where requested.</p> <p>Thanks to Crispin for all his work on behalf of the Community Council.</p> <p><b>Road at Salt Depot.<br/>PKC response.</b><br/>Maintenance: "An order was issued a few weeks ago to improve the safety and walking surface at this location.....anticipate, depending on weather, that we will have made some in-roads to the work by Christmas."<br/>Regarding road layout, signing etc. "it is recognised that the works are not an answer to a longer term solution".</p> <p><b>HGV Parking.</b><br/>Police response: "...numerous checks have been carried and will continue to be carried out and the trailers and vehicles at this location have all had the legal marker lights thereon and been parked in the clearly signed and road painted designated parking area. They have been legally taxed and insured and no obstruction under the legislation to other road users has been committed. No offences have come to light."</p> <p><b>Tree Charter.</b> CC has received a copy of the Charter for display.</p> <p><b>Correspondence.</b></p> <p><b>RE-DETERMINATION OF FOOTWAY FOR SHARED USE AT MORAY STREET.</b><br/>It is recommended that the Committee approves the legal process for the promotion of a Redetermination Order under Section 152(2) of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 to allow the footway identified in Appendix 1 to be converted to shared use for pedestrians and cyclists.</p> <p><b>Local Development Plan.</b> Correspondence forwarded to CC's.</p> <p><b>Bus Timetable Changes</b> – affecting Auchterarder and Dunning services. Also, a member of the public has contacted JL regarding new timetables displayed in bus shelters which now give less information making journey planning more difficult.</p> <p><b>Rail User Express.</b> Available by email to anyone interested.</p> <p><b>Strathearn and Strathallan Decide.</b> Poster forwarded to CC's.</p> <p><b>South Perthshire and Kinross Locality Health and Social Care Newsletter.</b> Forwarded to CC's.</p> <p><b>Blackford Primary School.</b> Karen Yearsley, Learn Wild "Christmas Wreath Willow Weaving Workshop for Adults" free, on Sunday 10th December,</p> |  |
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|                           | <p>2pm to 4pm (in the new outdoor classroom, so dress warmly!)<br/>Contact Brenda Simpson Primary School Support Assistant Blackford Primary School 01764 661390.</p> <p><b>Copy of letter from Transport Scotland to Roseanna Cunningham</b> - tabled.</p> <p>Letter refers to a collaborative consultation on the Strategic Transport Priorities Review (STPR).</p> <p>JL to write to RC expressing concern that there may be further delays re the upgrading of junctions on the A9 between the Broxden and Keir roundabouts. KH suggested working with Auchterarder and Dunning CC's with regards to the Tibbermore junction.</p> <p><b>Scottish Rural Action Youth Transport Survey.</b> Forwarded to CC's.</p> <p><b>Strathearn and Strathallan Decide.</b> Application Form &amp; Poster forwarded to CC's.</p> <p><b>Poster for information, regarding Local Development Plan.</b> There are information Drop-ins in Auchterarder &amp; Crieff.</p> <p><b>Minutes of Strathearn &amp; Strathallan Partnership.</b> October meeting tabled.</p> | <p>JL</p>       |         |                           |          |  |
| <p>5.</p>                 | <p><b>Treasurer's Report.</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Treasurer's A/c</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£269.33</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Business Bank Instant A/c</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1189.28</td> </tr> </table> <p>IM confirmed the Blackford Community Fund was continuing to perform well. At the Panel meeting the previous month, just under £11,000.00, received from Windfarms, was paid out to various groups who had applied for funding.</p>  | Treasurer's A/c | £269.33 | Business Bank Instant A/c | £1189.28 |  |
| Treasurer's A/c           | £269.33  |                 |         |                           |          |  |
| Business Bank Instant A/c | £1189.28   |                 |         |                           |          |  |
| <p>6.</p>                 | <p><b>P&amp;K Councillors' Reports.</b></p> <p>No report.</p>  |                 |         |                           |          |  |
| <p>7.</p>                 | <p><b>Strathearn Community Rail Partnership.</b></p> <p>NG attended a meeting in October. There will be an hourly bus service between Crieff and Stirling, the number 57 will become number 15, Comrie to St. Fillans.</p> <p>The Dunning bus will not now go the Gleneagles Hotel.</p> <p>NG will raise the problem of the bus timetables.</p> <p>The noticeboards have been removed from Gleneagles which advised how to reach Auchterarder.</p> <p>It may be possible to solve the problem with the height of the platform at Gleneagles by lowering the line.</p> <p>The Men's Shed is moving forward.</p> <p>Electrification of the Edinburgh to Glasgow line will lead to more trains stopping at Gleneagles.</p>  |                 |         |                           |          |  |
| <p>8.</p>                 | <p><b>Planning Report.</b></p> <p><b>Extraction of Sand and Gravel at Milton of Panholes.</b> KH advised the</p>   |                 |         |                           |          |  |

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|     | <p>application is recommended for approval. However there will be 16 conditions attached to the approval. JL will forward the link to all CC's. Any comments, please send within 48 hours. It was recommended the CC requests extra passing places and that the road is upgraded before the extraction commences.</p>  | JL |
| 9.  | <p><b>Police Report.</b></p> <p>Police Scotland are monitoring the effectiveness of the speed awareness signs.</p>   |    |
| 10. | <p><b>Post Office Working Group.</b></p> <p>No report.</p>   |    |
| 11. | <p><b>Network Rail Presentation on Panholes Crossing.</b></p> <p>JL asked Network Rail to give their presentation at the start of business.</p> <p>Introducing NR, JL said,</p> <p>“The Study to identify cycle routes from Blackford to Auchterarder concluded that there are serious constraints to moving around the Blackford area without using a car. The constraints identified are primarily the A9 trunk road and land use patterns, and in particular large and increasing areas used for golf. There were 150 responses to the consultation, reinforcing what we know about how important access to the countryside and good paths for cycling and walking are to Blackford residents.</p> <p>The Panholes Level Crossing is on a very popular route which gives access to green space and quiet roads. Network Rail came to a Community Council meeting in March 2016 and told us that this crossing is to be closed, but that a bridge is to be built to replace it. This bridge is vital as it is one of only a couple of routes that residents of Blackford have to the lovely countryside around the village without having to cross the busy A9, where traffic travels at 70mph.”</p> <p>JL reported that HS have told the CC that, in order to fulfil Condition 20 of their Planning Consent for the Rail Yard which requires the diversion of the Core Path, they will construct a path from the existing track past the sewage works to the bridge and back on the other side of the railway to the Red Brae. HS intend to build this path to a good standard. There is also a requirement to keep the Core Path open during the Rail Yard construction phase.</p> <p>JL invited NR to give a presentation to be followed by questions. KH had asked to make comments and ask questions following the presentation.</p> <p>The presentation and discussion then took place. At the end, JL thanked Network Rail for attending.</p> <p>Notes taken by KH are attached – see addendum.</p> |    |
| 12. | <p><b>Future of Parkdale Care Home, Auchterarder.</b> TG contacted JL to advise the matter is in the hands of the Integrated Joint Board. IM suggested looking at different ways of using the home e.g. being able to book a couple of hours care, rather than a whole day. A member of the public queried the</p>   |    |

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|     | possibility of using the home to transfer patients from St. Margaret's Hospital there for a short period before sending them home. The CC will send comments on the matter and ask why closure is being considered.  | JL |
| 13. | <p><b>Blackford Community Fund Review of Governing Documents.</b></p> <p>JL confirmed all the CC's had seen the revised paperwork. IM asked for the updated paperwork for the Endowment Trust and the Charitable Trust to be accepted and signed. This was proposed by IP and seconded by BW.</p> <p>IM then asked that the updated TOR be ratified. This was proposed by KH and seconded by AD.</p> <p>JL thanked IM for all her work in scrutinising the documents. IM thanked KH for all her assistance in carrying out this task.</p>  |    |
| 14. | <p><b>AOCB.</b></p> <p><b>BCC Website.</b> JL thanked Andrew Sinclair for his work on the new website and advised she would consult with the CC's about who would take on uploading information. BW offered to do this and the CC's agreed.</p> <p>The possibility of a charge for using the brown lidded bins was raised by BI.</p> <p>A member of the public advised PKC is looking for volunteers to salt pavements in the area. It was the opinion that the cost of the Christmas light switch on in Perth would have been better spent on salting pavements in the communities.</p> | BW |
| 15. | <p><b>Date of next meeting.</b></p> <p>Tuesday, 30th January 2018.<br/>Venue – Moray Institute, Lower Hall, at 7.30pm.</p>   |    |

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#### Addendum.

\*The flood maps for the location were looked at.

\*Despite the suggestion on SEPA maps that this area and a lot of Blackford flood on the once in every 5 years risk, as residents we are only aware of one incident in the 1960's following an excessively large snow event.

\*Inaccuracy may be based on the old mill lade that is in now filled in with no watercourse running along it.

\*Surface water may exist but it is usually short term.

\*Water courses all straightened in 1800 to facilitate the construction of the railway, rail foundations were extensive to rise rail above possible bog and wetlands at the bypass end of the Allan Water (by Highland Spring).

\*This is an historic route pre-dating the railway construction.

\*The proximity of the new path to the watercourses and railway was discussed.

\*Various other possible locations and bridge layouts and solutions were suggested by the meeting including underpasses, bridging all the water courses and the rail, slinging a path under the green bridge. One suggestion of it being closer to the old station was suggested but on examination of the railyard plans following the meeting, this is the area the crane will be operating in and therefore not viable.

\*NR made it clear they would not fund ramps but would include a wheeling ramp for bikes which is better than the original plan. The steps would not be a single flight but 8-10 and then a rest platform for the entire height climbed which is nearly half the height of the crane. The ground on both sides of the rail line is lower than the rail (more so on the Panholes side).

\*Access roads will be needed in the short term to facilitate construction, meeting suggested working with the land owner, roads will be being constructed for the Quarry and the Railyard construction and they could possibly be used for the bridge as well.

\*The conditions of both the Quarry and the Railyard consents make it clear that the Core path has to remain open (but may be temporarily diverted), during construction, so the timing of the bridge may be critical to this happening, to ensure the funding for the new path has not already been used before the bridge is installed.

\*It was made clear that the bridge is the only option available, nothing else will be permitted due to an incident at this crossing last year when a dog walker walked out in front of a train.

Following the meeting KH has looked at various maps and the plans to the point that they are currently available for both the Rail-yard and the Quarry. It looks like it would be possible to fit the bridge at that location, without impeding the progress of either site. As the Rail itself and the train it would carry is of considerable weight there is going to have to be some piling to prevent bank collapse. Even if the bridge was not going in they will need to do something to protect the rail line causing a collapse of the banking. Piling the bridge foundations will also help prevent spread. The bridge will be very close to the line, It's the access that will need looking at carefully but based on the information JL and KH have seen there are ways to make this work.