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| Present |  |
| Katharine Huggett | Vice-Chair |
| Irene McLaughlan | Treasurer |
| Alison Dawson | Community Councillor |
| Bob Watkinson | Community Councillor |
| Iain Paton | Community Councillor |
| Councillor Tom Gray | PKC Councillor |
| Councillor Crawford Reid | PKC Councillor |
| 3 Members of the Public |  |

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| **Item** | **Subject** | **Action by** |
| 1. | The Chair welcomed those in attendance.  Apologies:- Councillor Murray Lyle, Janet Law, Bett Illand. |  |
| 2. | Minutes of the meeting of 29th September 2018 were read and approved.  Proposed AD, seconded BW. |  |
| 3. | **Matters arising from previous meeting:-**  **Road Repairs.** The repair to the road at the entrance to Blackford for any vehicles crossing the A9 was carried out but another problem is arising. KH will email about the problem.  **A9 at Blackford.** IP gave an update and KH pointed out that the revised planning consent for HS Railyard development would permit third party collection of containers from the site, potentially negating the volume of lorry traffic that the development is expected to reduce.  A short discussion followed between all present, including the PKC councillors. The following points were raised:-  When the bypass was constructed, we estimate there was approximately 4000 vehicles/day going through the village, based on information gathered from residents in the community who lived here before the by-pass was completed. We now have 25,000 vehicles passing the village each day, 5,000 more than in 2013, and this is going to increase further according to the traffic assessment made AECOM for Transport Scotland.  As car technology has improved, there may be less serious accidents where the police are not called out as drivers exchange details. Therefore only the insurance companies have a more comprehensive list of accidents on the A9.  At peak flow times in can be hard to enter and exit the village.  One short term measure for safety improvement would be no right turn from the village for HGV's except buses, which would force all the lorry traffic to go to the Loaninghead junction to access the southbound carriageway. When constructed, an HGV could fit in the middle of the road but 40 years on lorries are bigger and longer and don’t always fit.  Perhaps a stop line instead of give-way lines would make it clear to road users that traffic coming into the community takes precedent over traffic leaving the village trying to access the southbound carriageway.  **Twinning.** Councillor Reid advised his daughter and her husband would be able to assist the Twinning Committee with translation if required. IM thanked him for this offer.  **Newsletter**. Articles for the newsletter are being collated. | **KH** |
| 4. | **Chair’s Report.**  No report.  **Correspondence.**  Various correspondence has been emailed to the CC’s. |  |
| 5. | **Treasurer’s Report.**  Treasurer’s Account - £1251.96.  Savings Account - £1.08.  Blackford Community Funds Panel met on 23rd October. All applicants were successful. At 30th September, the value of the fund was £413,868.87.  There is still a vacancy on the Panel and a poster will go up on the noticeboards shortly. Application forms available online or from the Village Store, to go to Foundation Scotland. |  |
| 6. | **P&K Councillors’ Reports.**  Highland Spring will contribute money towards a road entering from the east but PKC will not. Should the road go in, Network Rail has expressed concern about the additional traffic crossing the railway line. It is estimated this could be around an additional 200 vehicles/day crossing it if the road is built.  TG will continue to take the discussions forward. | **TG** |
| 7. | **Strathearn Community Rail Partnership.**  NG advised there will be a meeting on 8th November. The leaflets for the local walks are progressing.  HS will only be allowed 2 trains/day, the site will be able to export up to 68 containers The revised layout will make a station difficult to build as it cannot be close to a level crossing, should the opportunity arise.  The director of Scotrail has said without new trains there will be no new timetable.  An hourly service from Arbroath to Dundee is due in December, facilitated by the release of diesel units from the Edinburgh to Glasgow line once the electric trains are in service. |  |
| 8. | **Planning Report.**  **Rail Yard**. KH advised the work happening at present is the preparatory work by Network Rail. Therefore it is not covered by the planning consent for the railyard.  No notification has yet been received for the corepath diversion. |  |
| 9. | **Police Report.**  No report. |  |
| 10. | **A.O.C.B.**  No other business. |  |
| 11. | **Date of next meeting.**  Tuesday, 27th November 2018.  Venue – Moray Institute, Lower Hall, at 7.30pm. |  |