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| Present |  |
| Janet Law | Chair |
| Katharine Huggett | Vice-Chair |
| Irene McLaughlan | Treasurer |
| Alison Dawson | Community Councillor |
| Iain Paton | Community Councillor |
| Councillor Tom Gray | PKC Councillor |
| 2 Members of the Public |  |

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| **Item** | **Subject** | **Action by** |
| 1. | The Chair welcomed those in attendance.  Apologies:- Bett Illand, Bob Watkinson, Ann Gaunt, Neil Gaunt, Richard Beith, Councillor Murray Lyle, Councillor Crawford Reid |  |
| 2. | Minutes of the meeting of 26th February 2019 were read and approved.  Proposed KH, seconded AD. |  |
| 3. | **Matters arising from previous meeting:-**  **Twinning Fundraising.** Query to Foundation Scotland. IM reported that a reply had been received from FS and that, following a discussion, she and JL had agreed that JL should now take this correspondence forward.  JL proposed that an application should be considered along with other sources of funding, and planned to do this in consultation with KH and AD. This was agreed by the CC’s.  **LAP Funding for Blackford.** The applications for theBlackford Study Group and the Community Council were successful. IM will confirm the cupboard conversion with Live Active and organise the work to be done before the tables are ordered. However there is a lack of paperwork from PKC, only guidance is an email IM received after querying why the CC is to distribute the monies without relevant paperwork. TG to bring this to the attention of the relevant committee.  **Newsletter.** This will be printed in the next few days, then distributed.  **Community Investment Fund.** TG advised the next round of funding will be available in May.  **School Crossing Patrol and Auchterarder Recycling Centre.** JL reported that she had emailed Strathallan Ward Councillors to seek information about the effect of the recent PKC Budget on Blackford School Crossing Patrol and Auchterarder Recycling Centre and how Councillors voted on these matters. JL received the following replies:-  *Email from Councillor Murray Lyle:*  **Auchterarder Recycling Centre**: to remain open and the hours remain unchanged.  **School Crossing Patrol**. “The budget decision to make the saving was made in February 2017, and this has been funded by slippage since then. However, the practicalities of delivering the savings are now being made. The Blackford crossing patroller won't be removed until a full assessment is carried out and any recommendations implemented. Depending on the outcome of the assessment, the school and parents will be involved with officers to ensure road safety training is carried out before the school crossing patroller is removed.”  *Email from Councillor Tom Gray.*  **Auchterarder Recycling Centre**: to be retained.  **School Crossing Patrol**. Offering support for opposition to the removal of the post.  *Email from Chair of Blackford Parent Council:*  Parent Council and Head Teacher understand that the assessment of the Blackford crossing is a priority for PKC. They will keep CC informed.  **School Crossing Patrol.** JL proposed that she write to Councillors again on behalf of the CC, expressing concern about the policy being pursued across PKC stressing concerns of Blackford residents due to traffic, in particular HGVs associated with local businesses, and for rural areas in general i.e loss of local employment, disadvantage to working parents, and potential increased car use. The CC’s agreed. IP queried who would do the assessment. It was thought it may be the Traffic department of PKC.  JL has also been asked whether white lines and zebra crossing can be re-painted. JL understands this is to be part of the assessment process.  **Arnott Road Parking.** A letter is being sent to PCK Housing Department. The Tenant Participation Officer considers it to be an ideal project. | **JL**  **JL,KH,AD**  **IM**  **TG**  **JL** |
| 4. | **Chair’s Report.**  JL was very pleased to be invited to the Blackford Study Group’s unveiling of their ceramic panel to commemorate the Centenary of Women's Suffrage. Jl expressed congratulations for the organisers’ work to secure funding and to devise a project which engaged with over 50 participants - mostly women from Blackford with an age range from 3 months to 85 years. The panel will be a long lasting memorial to the women whose wide range of work and achievements are commemorated in the panel. JL encouraged everyone to take time to look at the detail.  **Traffic Calming for Moray Place.** JL contacted PKC. Their response is  “*We have assessed the parking and travel patterns along Moray Place. Currently, Moray Place has on-street parking which acts as a natural traffic calming measure. Speed bumps or cushions may not be appropriate due to the additional noise and vibration that they may generate. An official priority system could be installed but this Is unlikely to be effective due to the low volume of traffic and absence of oncoming traffic. There are no reported road traffic collisions or casualties, and the subject has not been raised with us by Police Scotland.*  *We do not consider traffic calming measures necessary or appropriate at this stage. However the next time we are undertaking traffic surveys in the Blackford area, we will arrange for a counter to be installed on Moray Place so we will then review this position.”*  JL proposed to put this information into a letter to Moray Place and Arnott Road residents which MMcL will help distribute.  **20mph Limit**. JL reported that residents had again approached her to ask about the possibility of a 20mph limit for Blackford. JL reported that PKC are conducting a pilot scheme and conducting trials of 20mph limits in different locations. JL suggested that Blackford residents who want a 20mph limit introduced should start to press for this now to help secure Blackford’s place in the queue if PKC have a list for those areas to be considered following the trials. JL advised residents could approach their PKC Councillors directly. However there is nothing to prevent the CC asking for a 20mph limit to be considered, in the same way as is done for anything else.  **Correspondence.**  **Email from Roseanna Cunningham’s office re STPR2**. *“..now heard from Transport Scotland who have indicated that consultation is likely to take place over Spring and Summer 2019. Hopefully we will start to hear more about the detailed plans for this in the coming months.”* - forwarded to IP  **Response from Murray Lyle to email from JL re Blackford Rail Yard** **- Circumstances in which Planning Consent would be needed for use by companies other than Highland Spring.**  *“...it is a condition of the grant from Transport Scotland that Highland Spring must allow third party use of the rail yard to qualify for the substantial government investment.*  *In the lengthy conditions attached to the planning consent any third party using the rail yard would be required to submit an operational traffic management plan indicating how they would minimise the impact on the local community. This document would also have to demonstrate consultation with the local community and should address any concerns raised by them. There are further conditions which limit the maximum number of containers which may be exported or imported from the yard and there are also further restrictions on the hours of operation to protect the amenity of local residents.*  *In brief, there is scope for third party use of the site but any other user must comply with the consent and be accompanied by an amended traffic management plan.”* - forwarded to KH  **Additional information from KH.** "Currently there is no capacity for outside users of the 2 trains that will be arriving each day and there are no spaces in the schedule to permit an additional train coming in, The site is locked to no more than 68 containers in total a day. HS have stated if they get a third train they will also be filling it themselves. The only thing we may see is occasional bottling plants, owned by HS further north, may bring water in to go south."  **Reply from Luke Graham MP re A9 at Blackford.**  Luke Graham says*, “Thank you for your letter of 31st January 2019. I am still in negotiations with the Treasury. As I have stated before, it is extraordinary for a Scottish MP to secure funding for a slip road, as roads are the responsibility of the devolved administration in Edinburgh. I have written to Transport Scotland and supported the efforts of my colleagues on Perth &* *Kinross Council to try and secure this funding, but this has been refused by Edinburgh. Furthermore, I**have lobbied the Chancellor of the Exchequer**directly on this issue, however roads are devolved, and Scotland's spend per head is already approximately £1.7k higher than other parts of the United Kingdom, and so the power for such decision making is devolved and adequately funded.*  *I realise that the above doesn't deliver what the community wants i.e. an affirmative commitment to a new slip road. However, I have been in regular contact with Highland Spring, the Treasury, Department for Transport and Perth & Kinross Council to push forward our case and will continue to do so.”* - forwarded to IP and CR.  **Email from Roseanna Cunningham’s office in response to forwarded correspondence re threat to School Crossing Patrol, asking if there is any action we would like Roseanna to take.**    **PKC info re Resilient Communities Fund.** Sent to KH  **PKC Winter Maintenance Letter 2019:**  ***Previously circulated to Community Councillors by email:***  **Luke Graham’s Surgery Timetable for April**  **PKC Community Empowerment Infographics**  **Email correspondence between LG MP and PKC re Blackford traffic issues**  **UK Parliament Scottish Affairs Committee: Access to Financial Services in Scotland Consultation**  **PKC: New Scheme of Administration for Community Councils**  **PKC: Solheim Cup Proposed Exemption Order Consultation**  **PKC: Community Learning and Development Plan 2019-22**  **Land Commission: Review of Scale and Concentration of Land Ownership https://landcommission.gov.scot/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Report-to-Ministers-Scale-and-Concentration-Land-Ownership-FINAL-20190320.pdf**  ***Available from JL***  **Bid writing workshops information.** Edinburgh 13th June  **Breeze Champion Training.** Opportunity for women to train as cycle ride leaders and lead cycle rides for women as part of the Breeze Cycling Participation Programme from British Cycling and Scottish Cycling. Free, 28th April, Perth College.    **PKC: Scottish Government Consultation on Draft Revised Guidance for Licensing Boards** | **JL**  **JL/KH** |
| 5. | **Treasurer’s Report.**  Treasurer’s Account - £1743.53. £700 is due to the Blackford Fiddle Group for the LAP Funding for the acoustic survey.  Savings Account - £1.08.  **Blackford Community Funds Panel**. Next round of funding applications will close on 10thApril with the Panel meeting in May.  IM asked for expenses forms to be completed and returned by the end of the week from any CC’s due expenses in relation to CC business. |  |
| 6. | **Planning Report.**  **Railyard & Footbridge.** KH contacted Dave Stubbs, PKC, re concerns with the footpath to the bridge. Path is muddy and the drainage is poor. Trees have also been damaged today by vehicles on site. TG will follow this up.  KH met with Highland Spring last week. The issue of lorry noise was raised again. Before works starts on the Railyard, landscaping is to be done and barriers erected. The traffic management plan cannot be arranged until the contractor has been agreed. Information re drainage and toilets is on the planning portal.  The undercutting of the banking will be monitored. The Flood Team is still working on surveys.  Blocked drainage at the Slackdale road and the destruction of the grass verge has been reported to PKC.  All repairs reported to PKC have been carried out except for the road to the cemetery.  There are problems on the Bardrill Road. Mud on the road is an offence per the Road Traffic Act. KH will follow this up. | **TG**  **KH** |
| 7. | **P&K Councillors’ Reports.**  **A9.** IP had a phone call from Ramsay Green, vice-chair of the Dunning CC. Councillor Reid had apparently spoken with him a few days ago about setting up a small task force comprising a couple of representatives from Dunning, Auchterarder and Blackford Community Councils, to try to move the A9 situation along. I said that I was sure that we would be interested in participating in such a group. | **IP** |
| 8. | **Strathearn Community Rail Partnership.**  No report. |  |
| 9. | **Blackford Paths Group.**  JL reported that she had passed on to Ann Gaunt some photos of a potential alternative starting point for the cycle route to Gleneagles Station identified in the Cycle Paths Feasibility Study.  JL had also followed up on the request by the Paths Group for support for a Green Route from Blackford to the Orchil Road by contacting PKC who responded that they would be drawing up a draft plan as part of their work in 19/20, which would indicate what had been discussed on the ground, and that there would then be formal consultation on a Traffic Regulation Order. It was suggested that Blackford would have the opportunity to be ahead of the game with our support.  JL found the following information about Green Routes in Perth and Kinross:-  http://www.pkc.gov.uk/media/33590/15-11-11-Item-8-15-527-/pdf/15-11-11\_-\_Item\_8\_(15-527) |  |
| 10. | **Police Report.**  No officer present. |  |
| 11. | **A.O.C.B.**  KH reported the following vandalism at the Gwest Clubhouse, security arrangements have been changed.  **Loss of Public Liability Insurance Cover for Hall Hire with Live Active.** IM advised of the changes. No longer will a group be able to secure public liability insurance from Live Active by paying an extra 10% on top of the hall hire costs. This will be extremely onerous for small groups with no reserves and minimal income. TG will make enquiries. | **TG** |
| 12. | **Date of next meeting.**  Tuesday, 30th April 2019.  Venue – Moray Institute, Lower Hall, at 7.30pm. |  |