**Blackford Community Council**

**Approved Minute of Meeting**

**Tuesday 28th May 2019, 7.30pm**

**Lower Hall, Moray Institute**

**Present:**

Janet Law Chair

Katharine Huggett Vice Chair

Irene McLaughlan Treasurer

Bet Illand Community Councillor

Alison Dawson Community Councillor

Councillor Tom Gray Perth and Kinross Council

Councillor Crawford Reid Perth and Kinross Council

1 Member of the Public

 **1.Apologies:** Iain Paton, Bob Watkinson, Richard Beith, Ann Gaunt, PKC Councillor Murray Lyle

**2. Minutes of the meeting of 30th April** approved. Proposed: KH, Seconded:JL

**3. Matters Arising**

**Fundraising for Trebsen travel:** IM reported that funds banked following the Ceilidh amounted to £947. Expenses have still to be deducted.

JL reported on some general principles emerging from discussions with KH and AD with regard to Community Council funding for Trebsen delegation in September:

1) If an organisation offers to send delegates who will self fund, it would still be open to the CC to ask them to form part of the delegation.

(JL added that she thought it to be likely that the Twinning Committee would consider that the Games Committee and the Fiddle Group as well as the Community Council should have representatives in any delegation this year. )

(TG and CR raised the possibility of funding from PKC which could be investigated) **JL**

2) There had been a suggestion that the Community Council could help fund a small number of core participants, eg one from each of a small number of organisations. If any additional funding was available, any representatives from other organisations might have their names drawn from a hat.

3) Constitutionally it will be necessary to minute who is getting a financial contribution towards costs of travel toTrebsen, although discussion can be in private.

JL reported that the new Chair, Iain Paton, was aware of the need for a private item on the agenda of the June meeting.

JL read from an email from Foundation Scotland (previously circulated to Community Councillors) which reported on the recent meeting of the Funding Panel including this item from the Draft Minute:

*“5. Twinning Project*

*“The Panel discussed the Community Council’s submission with regard to a prospective application to Blackford Community Fund for support for Twinning related activities. The Panel was very supportive of efforts being made to link with Trebsen where it was shown to provide relevant and meaningful learning and engagement opportunities for Blackford community groups and their members. To this end it was felt important to consider applications from specific groups keen to explore twinning activity or initiatives that were driven by groups and their members and that would be open to all of their members and potentially also the wider community.*

*“The Panel expressed support for the efforts by the Community Council to develop this opportunity for the Blackford Community and understand the value of the Committee visiting Trebsen initially to facilitate connections. However the Panel did not feel it was appropriate to use the Fund to assist travel for selected individuals at this stage and for which the direct community benefit was very limited. In addition the Panel felt it was important to support Blackford based twinning activity that was open to the wider community and that a larger number of residents and groups could benefit from. To show their support ,the Panel agreed to donate £200 towards the costs of the fundraising ceilidh currently being organised and which was considered to be a ‘community enabling gesture’ by the Panel.”*

JL reported that the covering email from Foundation Scotland indicated that the Community Council had to agree to accept the donation. JL proposed that this donation should be accepted. Seconded: KH

**Other matters:**

JL expressed thanks to TG for taking up a number of issues from last meeting and referred to emails on the following subjects : Footbridge completion and paths to it, Traffic calming in Abercairney Place and Moray Place, Foot way at A9.

JL also noted response from KH to query re acoustic barrier, previously circulated

JL reported that IP has asked McNaughtons Garage if they would be prepared to give us figures with regard to smaller accidents at the junction to which they had been called out. This will be monitored from now on.

**4. Chairs Report**

KH Reported that the Easterton development of holiday accommodation is to be discussed at a PKC Planning Meeting on 4th June, There are still concerns about light pollution.

**Correspondence**

***Previously circulated to Community Councillors on email***

Poppy Appeal: Help with Poppy Appeal at Highland Games

Luke Graham: May Surgeries

PKC: Nominations for Honours

PKC: Short term Lets consultation

PKC: Young people Event and Funding Alert

PKC Solheim Cup Community Fund

PKC Scottish Government Investing in Communities Fund

***Available from JL***

Rail User Express: May 19

Strathearn and Strathallan Action Partnership: Minutes of Meeting of April 2019

BEAR Scotland NE: Newsletter May 2019

Strathearn and District Forum of Community Councils: Minutes of November 2018

**5. Treasurer’s Report**

IM reported that funds held in the Community Council’s bank accounts amount to £3164.08. This includes £1338.41 from the Local Action Partnership for tables for the Moray Institute and conversion of a storage cupboard for them, £947 from the Ceilidh before expenses are deducted. (Final sum after expenses ring fenced for costs of travel to Trebsen for residents of Blackford in relation to Twinning) leaving a balance of £841.12 for administration purposes. IM proposed thanks to auditor, seconded JL

**6. Planning Report**

JL reported that Highland Spring have still to appoint a contractor for the Rail Yard development

Paths: KH reported that she had not had any response to recent queries to PKC Access Officer. KH to send details to TG and CR to follow up **KH, CR, TG**

**7.Perth and Kinross Councillors Report**

**A9 Improvements**

CR asked if IP would continue to be his point of contact for A9 issues. This was confirmed.

CR reported that he had sought information from Transport Scotland regarding a recent fatal road accident on the A90, and explained the similarities between the junction concerned and the Blackford junction.

CR has also spoken to Alan Campbell of BEAR who have responsibility for maintenance of the A9.

CR commented on the recent accident at the A9 junction for Tibbermore.and reported that he has information which demonstrates that the A9 from Broxden to Keir is not engineered to required standard, but that he has been told that reduced speed limits cannot be introduced for the junctions. All suggestions which have been passed on by CR to date have been knocked back by Transport Scotland. The proposal for lighting at the Dalreoch junction would require evidence that accidents relate to the lack of lighting.

CR reported that he has engaged the interest of the PA and the Courier in the need for A9 improvement, and that he plans to work with the Community Councils of Blackford, Auchterarder and Dunning to collate their views and take them back to Transport Scotland.

CR reported that Councillor Alaistair Bailey had proposed that PKC adopt a new system for monitoring incidents on the A9, to include near misses. IM reported an incident when a car had stopped on the A9. JL asked if the CC could help to promote the new system for monitoring. CR reported that incidents should be reported to the Police by phoning 101.

JL asked if Councillors could press for information about how soon the consultation promised as part of the Strategic Transport Projects Review would take place as this might help clarify future plans for grade separated junctions or new slip roads.

KH asked if PKC had plans to put cameras on more of the traffic lights in Perth. **TG, CR**

**8. Strathallan Commnity Rail Partnership**

TG reported that the Partnership is to meet week beginning 3rd June.

**9.Paths Group**  No report

**!0. Police Report** Nothing relating to Blackford in particular in recent reports

**11. AOCB**

 BI asked if someone could see if the hedge at the exit from the drive to St Margaret’s Hospital Auchterarder could be cut back to improve visibility for drivers..CR agreed to follow up. **CR**

KH proposed that the Community Council should buy new clocks for the Moray Institute. This was supported by IM. JL proposed that the CC should consider whether this would be a legitimate expense for the admin budget as the CC had no other funds available. KH agreed to approach Live Active about repairing the clock.

JL reported that she had been reminded by discussion at the recent meeting of the Strathearn and Distirct Forum of Chairs of Community Councils that Community Council funding from PKC could only be spent on administration. JL suggested that this would apply to the proposal to a recent meeting of the CC to meet any shortfall in the purchase of tables from CC funds and that the CC should consider seeking funding from donations for any such shortfall.