

MONIKIE AND NEWBIGGING COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING : 4th April 2018

Members / Councillors Present

Iain Richmond, Hamish Evatt, George Winslow, Betty Winslow, Dave Anderson, Caroline Richmond, Cllr Brian Boyd, Cllr David Cheape.

Iain welcomed Donald McNeill, Angus Council Communities Officer.

Apologies

Cllr Mark Mc Donald.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes were approved by Iain Richmond and seconded by Caroline.

Councillors Questions and Answers

Denfind Brae:

Iain was concerned as to the state of the steep section of this road leading from the quarry houses to past the water works. It has deteriorated since the snowfalls and subsequent clearing and with the fencing broken, earth verges damaged and the precipitous drops on either side he raised real safety issues for road users.

Discussion took place about the various options for a solution and it was agreed that a metal barrier and repair to all the edges would be the only appropriate solution.

He had sent photos to Councillors in advance and Cllr Cheape agreed to take up this issue voicing the concerns raised.

Kerbstones:

Caroline reported that the plastic kerbstones had been damaged by the necessary snow clearing work in Monikie during the winter and a brief discussion took place as to the resilience of this type of kerbing. She will forward the photos to Cllr Boyd who will report this to the roads department.

She also commented on the state of the roads with the increase in dangerous potholes and photos and locations of these should be sent to Councillors who will pursue action on this subject.

The general feeling of the meeting was that the condition of our roads was a major priority for the council and surprise was shown that a project in Arbroath which will use a significant part of the budget had been passed when safety on the roads should be a priority.

Guilty Corner:

Bad weather and farm activity have affected any action on the road conditions here and Cllr Cheape will attend to this issue.

Parking Restriction:

The double yellow lines restricting parking outside the main park entrance are now in place.

Some concern was expressed that visitors to the park especially over the Easter period still parked with little regard to the safety of pedestrians especially on pavements where walkers had to step onto the road and the advice was to inform the Police when this happens by using the non-emergency number and bringing this to their attention.

Fly-tipping:

Hamish raised the issue of the asbestos which is still at the curling pond area. He brought to our attention a leaflet from Angus Council which seemed only applicable to streets but Cllr Cheape agreed to look further investigate this.

It was suggested at a previous meeting that erection of a sign with information about disposal of waste and the consequences of fly-tipping could be helpful and Cllr Boyd will look into this.

Planning:

In light of a recent appeal on a planning issue where the DMRC (Development Management Review Committee) granted planning permission when the Planning Department had rejected it on 3 points which did not comply with the plan for Angus, concern was raised that village development could be affected if the Plan for Angus could be readily circumvented.

A letter will be sent to Kate Cowey indicating our concerns.

There is also concern that areas of land in the centre of the village have lain vacant over several years despite the submission by respective owners for planning permission.

Specifically, the area opposite the shop has been subject to a re-issue of planning application in the past.

It was agreed that George would contact planning for an update on this particular site.

Opinion was expressed that “land banking” was the reason for land being left undeveloped which was detrimental to communities.

General discussion took place as to how information is passed to C/C re planning appeals and a letter from planning helped to clarify the situation.

Planning:

George reported 3 current applications:
18/00170/FULL
18/00159/LBC
18/00127/FULL

All other planning issues were dealt with in Cllrs questions.

Police Report:

On 21st of the month a newsletter is now sent to the C/C outlining the previous month's police activity and the relevant details are conveyed to the meeting.

A copy of the relevant page will be included in the minutes put in the telephone box.

There was no reported crime in the Monikie and Newbigging area.

Treasure's Report:

Hamish reported that the annual grant is still to come and current balance is £463.24.

He informed the meeting that he had applied to the Links Committee for the grant to replace the community notice boards.

Community Officer:

The chairman welcomed Donald McNeill, Community Officer, who briefly described his role in community liaison supporting the community, schools and local groups.

He highlighted various local projects involving adult learning, men's sheds, job clubs, adult literacy, woman's groups, youth groups and garden projects.

As the Monifieth access office has moved to the library premises the old access premises is now the community hub and Police office.

He is based as Community Officer in Access Offices at 26 High St , Carnoustie DD7 6AP.

AOCB:

Hamish met with the organisers of the Triathlon event to be held on 7/8 July 2018 to confirm that the Police report would allow the children's event and the resulting road closure on Saturday 7th between 9am and 11.30 am.

He emphasised to them that, although the C/C were in full support of the event, the organisers would be responsible for informing the affected householders of the road closure and they agreed to mail-shot houses concerned.

Defibrillator:

Iain reported that he is cooperating with Denfind Stone regarding the installation of this in the telephone box at the village hall and will give an update soon.

Winter Weather:

Caroline reported that the Monikie mums were concerned that there may be some isolated older members of the community that may find difficulties in severe weather conditions and informed us that a few of them had responded to efforts by the government to alert people to check on vulnerable people.

They thought it worthwhile investigating the possibility of setting up more opportunities for contact and activities and wondered if there was funding available for this.

Donald McNeill, Communities Officer said he would enquire as to funding links and ideas for this.

Date of Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 2ND MAY 2018