

MONIKIE AND NEWBIGGING COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING : WEDNESDAY 6TH MARCH 2019

Members/Councillors Present:

Iain Richmond, George Winslow, Betty Winslow, Alison Binnie, David Morrison, David McGovern, Cllr Mark McDonald, PC Steve Wilson

Apologies:

Cllr David Cheape, Cllr Brian Boyd. Caroline Richmond

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes were approved by David Morrison and David McGovern

Matters Arising:

ROADS: Pitairlie Brae:

Cllr McDonald reported that there was no update as yet and Betty was asked to write to Andrea Strachan who did the site visit and raise this again, expressing the view of the C/C that the dangers posed by the condition of the verges was of great concern given that there are sheer drops on both sides of this road.

The damage sustained last year during winter clearance of snow added significantly to the problem and as this road is the main route to the village in severe weather we regard it a matter of urgency that the problem should be addressed.

Parking at hall:

This is ongoing and Betty will ask roads department for an update.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

The meeting welcomed local residents Kevin Martin and Iain Stephenson.

Kevin gave a presentation on the problems experienced by residents in the area with telephone and broadband provision and a possible solution to these.

These problems have been discussed at length at C/C meetings and more information has now been gathered from residents in the area.

In providing the background he emphasised that potential house buyers are now looking for up to date superfast fibre broadband which is lacking in the area.

He cited 2 communities which have successfully installed their own broadband system, a group in Yorkshire and the Balquhiddar Project in Stirling.

The BT Community Fibre Team informed him that there exists in the village outside the entrance to the park, a box from which connection could be made to houses in the village.

The government plan to provide fibre broadband to all areas in Scotland is behind schedule and now BT is rolling out Ultrafast Broadband which puts us even further behind the technology which will soon be available .

Kevin outlined what would be involved in taking control of the upgrading in the village.

Basically the scheme involves building your own network.

The Government issues grants of £500 per household and £3000 per business which if pooled would be used to create the infrastructure to provide the network to the village

A Team Community Interest Company would organise and run the enterprise on a model already used by other areas and guided by the BT Community Fibre Team.

There will be a Public Meeting in the Village Hall on Tuesday 12th March 2019 which will be advertised locally and at which the interest will be gauged.

A representative from BT will attend.

The C/C welcomed this initiative and will receive an update from Kevin at the next C/C meeting.

Councillors' Questions and answers:

Cllr McDonald gave an update on the issue of recycling centres.

The proposal suggested by our Cllrs Cheape and Boyd for a new full recycling centre for South Angus which does all was rejected and so Carnoustie and Monifieth will not take general waste and residents will have to attend Arbroath for this service.

Mark informed us that since Angus has no landfill site there is a joint agreement between Dundee and Angus.

The chairman was particularly interested in the overall cost of recycling given that there are now so many different vehicles involved and no landfill and after a discussion on this Cllr McDonald agreed to supply figures to help our broader understanding of this.

Parking :

A report is expected on the new parking issues in Angus.

Police Report:

Constable Wilson gave his report on the area and informed us that a new Community Constable, Nikki Harrison, will be our liaison officer.

Although there had been few significant crimes he emphasised the need for vigilance.

He reported a theft at Pitairlie Garage and a break-in in nearby Balumbie estate.

Unfortunately he said that there had been a worrying number of road traffic accidents where the driving conditions had not been bad and speculated that low winter sun may have been a factor.

“Pop-up Jims” have been used recently to help curb speeding and there are 2 employed in Angus. They will be implemented on a temporary basis in various locations on a 24 hour stint.

There is a school input to Monikie Primary, and Carnoustie High by local Police who are involved in various projects.

He reported that Carnoustie and Monifieth have recently been hit hard by disturbances caused by youths and this was an area of concern for all.

We thanked Steve for his attendance and report.

Planning Report:

George reported that there was one application for a Certificate of Use.
REF: 1900090/CLU

As this is not a planning application there was no reason to comment on this.

Curling Pond:

This issue is in the hands of the Forestry Commission and an update is expected soon.

Identification of sensitive sites:

Mark is still awaiting an update from Kate Cowie as to the inclusion of provision within the new development plan for Angus.

He will send George the relevant e-mails and George will seek information on this.

Treasurer’s Report:

Alison reported that the balance is £3078 which includes the grant for Noticeboards due to be paid soon.

A.O.C.B.

C/C Projects:

Noticeboards:

Iain had circulated members with the design of these which was accepted and he will confirm the details with manufacturer.

War Memorial:

Iain had not received a reply from the hall committee to our request for a contribution towards the cost of adding the names of the fallen in WW2. He will contact them again.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 3rd April 2019