MONIKIE AND NEWBIGGING COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING: WEDNESDAY 3RD APRIL 2019

Members/Councillors Present: Iain Richmond, George Winslow, Betty Winslow, David Morrison, Caroline Richmond, Cllr David Cheape, Steve Wilson

Apologies: David McGovern, Alison Binnie, Cllr Mark McDonald, Cllr Brian Boyd

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Minutes were approved by David Morrison and Caroline Richmond

that introduction of waiting restrictions would not be appropriate.

Matters Arising:

Roads:

Betty had received a reply from Andrea Strachan of the Roads Dept. regarding parking at the hall.

These concerns were previously discussed at Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Forum.

This forum includes various Angus Council departments and divisions and Police Scotland, all of whom have an interest in road safety and traffic management. The group concluded that there was not a significant parking issue in this location and

A speed survey carried out at the time the matter was first raised recorded an average speed of 31.0mph and an 85th percentile speed of 42.3mph. The group agreed that there was not a significant speeding issue at this location and that further action was not required.

The meeting were disappointed that the parking issues were not considered an issue and Betty will convey this to the roads department.

Pitairlie Brae:

Betty had not received a reply from the roads dept. regarding this issue but will follow this up with another letter.

Telecommunications:

Kevin Martin was not in attendance and so no update was available on this issue. The problem of interrupted telephone calls, bad lines and internet service persists in the area.

Councillors' Questions and answers:

Recycling:

Cllr Cheape gave an update on the issues surrounding this and confirmed that there is still no general waste facility at Monifieth and Carnoustie and that there is pressure on the Council to enter into dialogue with Dundee Council to allow use of the site at Baldovie which borders on Angus.

He gave advice on arrangements for domestic refuse during the intended strike by council employees. This information can be read on Angus Council website and Iain will put the link on C/C facebook page.

Householders should continue to put bins out on the correct day and if not uplifted put out on next week with extra bags on top.

General waste skips will be reinstated at Carnoustie and Monifieth for the duration of the industrial action.

Parking:

A meeting is to be held next week to discuss this topic. Suggestions will be made for the introduction of a cash facility at the machines and also the issue of having to enter car number plates before parking.

Police Report:

Constable Steve Wilson reported that there had been no major incidents in the immediate neighbourhood but reiterated the precautions he recommended in previous reports regarding household and car security measures.

He specifically mentioned 3 incidents:

On 23rd March there was a disturbance in Drumsturdy Road and on 24 th a small fire at Ashbank.

Flytipping is becoming a major problem all over Angus with an incident occurring on 23rd March at Westhall Farm in Kellas where the farmer witnessed from a distance a flatbed lorry tipping a load and driving off. This proved to be a major incident which created a danger to traffic. Unfortunately no number had been obtained for the vehicle responsible.

Iain reported incidents of car accidents near Kirkton of Monikie and had passed on photos of the corners concerned to Cllr Cheape. A suggestion was made that warning devices could be used on these corners.

Steve informed the meeting that, with the lighter nights now, Police would be using hand held speed cameras to monitor speeds and apprehend motorists.

Iain asked if lack of Police officers in Angus was a problem and Steve reported that it was a Scotland wide problem.

Constable Wilson was thanked for his contribution to the meeting.

Planning Report:

George reported that there were no relevant planning applications at present.

Cllr Mark McDonald had forwarded the e-mails he received from Kate Cowey and Ciara Gray as a result of his discussions and George raised points for discussion from the content of these responses.

In the first instance Kate Cowey was quite clear that within the review of the Development Plan for Angus the identification and conservation of sensitive sites would be considered as a requirement as would the recognition of issues of local amenity.

Both of these issues would involve discussion with local communities.

Reference was also made to aspects arising in relation to the old marshalling yard in the centre of Monikie which currently remains on sale and which has been the focus of application for 5 dwelling houses although the failure to progress in this respect over several years has culminated in the expiry of planning consent in 2017. Having been a marshalling yard the area is characterised by stretches of concrete levelling and upstanding constructions.

This failure to progress is in probability a consequence of the costs involved in preparation and landscaping of the site in accordance with council requirements.

The C/C applied for a tree protection order along 2 sides of this triangular area – namely Panmure Road and Kirkton Road – but was successful only in respect of the former.

George reiterated that, in his view, in rejecting protection status the authority had unfairly bracketed the Kirkton Road strip of trees with the unviable central area. He will contact the planning department and express the view that the trees which constitute this strip are of good quality and that new growth is evident and worthy of protection.

Protection of this sort would comply, he reasoned, with issues of amenity in the centre of the village as raised by Kate Cowey as well as preserving the "green corridor" between the village and the park.

In raising the issue of amenity Kate Cowey expressed a wish to consult with the C/C as to proposal they might suggest for this site and the matter will be raised as an item on the agenda at the next meeting.

Curling Pond:

George reported that the Enforcement Order remains in place and the deadline for reinstatement of the natural habitat has passed – 1st March 2019.

A meeting took place between the Forestry Commission and the owner which according to Graeme Dey , who made enquiry at George's request , was productive and we await further information.

Treasurer's Report:

Alison Binnie had reported that she was waiting for the bank to process the change of office bearer forms.

C/C Projects:

Noticeboards:

Iain reported that the new noticeboards would be delivered on 23 April 2019. When they have been installed an opportunity will be arranged for photographs to be taken in order to thank the Golf Links committee for the grant which made this project possible.

Cllr Cheape outlined the new constitution for the Golf Links which will include opportunities for all organisations within the political area to apply for grants. He explained the new points system which will determine grants based on need.

War Memorial:

Iain had had no reply from the Memorial Hall contact about this and Betty will contact Karen Harbison. Funding for this project was discussed and Caroline suggested crowd funding. We will await the response from the Hall committee before taking any other action on this.

A.O.C.B

Half Marathon at Monikie:

Many residents had used the Facebook page to complain about the road closure information on this.

Graveyard:

David Morrison informed the meeting that the graveyard at Monikie Church was at capacity level and requested information about the procedure needed to find alternative sites.

This could be an item for community input into a future local development plan and Betty was asked to write to planning for information and advice.

Date of Next Meeting: WEDNESDAY 1ST May 2019