

Meigle and Ardler Community Council

Approved minutes of the Meigle and Ardler Community Council Meeting held in the Kinloch Hall Meigle on Monday 9th May 2022 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT

Rae Taylor (RT) Chair, Karen Barton (KB), Kenny Archer (KA), Peter Menzies (PM), Ruth Mutch (RM), Edith Christie (EC).

Councillor Colin Stewart (CS)

IN ATTENDANCE

8 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

Ian Shaw (IS), Barrie Starck (BS), Jacqueline Starck (JS), PC Gavin Munro

1) WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

RT welcomed the attendees and noted the apologies.

2) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3) MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising that would not be covered during the meeting.

4) PERTH & KINROSS COUNCILLORS REPORT

Councillor Colin Stewart (CS) reported that the electoral results had been declared on Friday. All new councillors have been issued with IT equipment and email addresses today (09/05/22) so can now be contacted.

First meeting to appoint Lord Provost and other roles is scheduled for 25th May but this may be held earlier. Decisions to be taken as to who will form the administration and plans to be made for new council. In Press Release statements – SNP form the largest group and will form a minority administration. The independent group will vote for this so that the biggest group leads the administration but will not form a coalition. The SNP leader has announced that the SNP will not use the council to debate party politics as there are other arenas for this – but will deal with council related issues. A 5-year plan – which is a strategy of what officers should be doing will be decided upon – all parties will feed into this plan.

CS reported that he has not had the opportunity to follow up the outstanding items from April's meeting due to the elections. However he has spoken to the Public Transport team regarding Ardler bus issues. He mentioned that the Coupar Cabs service only runs one day per week on a Thursday @ 1pm. There is also a Patient Transport Service for those attending GP's, hospital appointments etc. PKC are currently talking to Angus Council about extending current services jointly e.g. Forfar to Coupar Angus via Ardler. CS is will proactively support increasing options from East to West.

EC asked about the extension of the 20mph area in Ardler and CS reported that he will follow this up as part of a list of roads infrastructure issues.

5) SECRETARY'S REPORT

BS in a paper note reported that he had received 31 pieces of external communication which he had distributed as appropriate.

RT reported on an email received from a resident requesting that minutes from a previous meeting were amended. He stated that he had reported to the December meeting that the resident had advised MACC that PKC had visited the property and advised that no regulations had been broken as there was over 1.1 metre clearance for the footpath. This level of detail had not been included in the minute. However RT also reported to that meeting that MACC had never suggested that there was a breach of the regulations but merely passed on requests from other Meigle residents who requested that they trimmed their overhanging plants. He had already confirmed this in writing to the resident in an email of 15 November 2022. This email also made clear that any suggestion that any member of MACC in breach of the code of conduct should be reported to PKC, together with the relevant evidence to support that assertion.

As a follow up to a resident's query about the Christmas Tree in the square – an informal request has been made for the removal of the Christmas tree.

6) TREASURER'S REPORT

EC had sent an email confirming the current financial situation as being:

Date		Expense	Income	Amount
11.04.2022	Balance B/fwd			£9089.95
04.05.2022	Resilience equipment for Meigle Church Hall	£103.00		
04.05.2022	Mobile phone bill	£16.21		
04.05.2022	Senior's lunch and coach hire	£816.70		
04.05.2022	Items for benches	£450.06		
08.05.2022	Materials for benches	£256.38		
08.05.2022	Kinloch Memorial Hall – donation for outside area	£750.00		
	Total expenditure	£2392.35		
09.05.2022	Balance Carried Forward			£6697.60

EC confirmed that all these items were funded from Covid funding. PM reported that SSEN and Foundation Scotland were not specific about the distribution of remaining COVID related funds.

7) PLANNING ISSUES

Meigle – MACC received notification today (09/05/22) from Champion Homes Ltd about the proposed development of PKC LDP2 site H69 – the field bounded to the north by Forfar Road, to the west by the rear of properties on Dundee Road (as far as and including the Kinloch Memorial Hall) and to the east by the former railway line. A dedicated website www.championhomes.com/meigle-consultation is now live and 2 public consultations are planned for 2pm–7pm in Kinloch Memorial Hall on 25/5/22 and 21/06/22 (timings to be confirmed). KB to put information on Facebook for residents to view.

No planning applications and no approvals for Ardler.

8) POLICE REPORT

No Police reports affecting our areas had been received during the last month. PC Gavin Munro is taking voluntary redundancy and will leave in July. No replacement to date has been nominated.

9) MACDT

Kevin Stirling (KS) provided an update on the recent work by MACDT.

- In Ardler, discussions have been had with the remaining hall committee with regards work to developing the ex-hall space into a functional community space.
- MACDT have been awarded funding for improvements to the paths in the area – linking in with Mind Scotland.
- Conversations have been had with Dundee City Council regarding paths in Belmont Woods including clearing them and adding hardcore.
- Work has been going on with local businesses regarding recovery following COVID.
- Bowling club – work is still ongoing regarding obtaining the lease for the space. Ongoing delays with solicitors. PM asked KS why the lease was not concluded when a lease accepted by both parties was in place last year. KS advised that MACDT had engaged a solicitor to finalise the lease, but things were taking time.
- Historic Environment Scotland – discussions regarding how MACDT could help Historic Environment Scotland increasing footfall and tourism opportunities. PM queried how Historic Scotland could increase footfall as the museum was not open because till now he regularly witnesses Museum visitors arriving only to leave confused on finding it closed. KA noted that there's no sign up advising potential visitors that the museum is closed, however there is a notice on Facebook.

PM asked KS what was happening regards to the continued maintenance of the greenspace at hospital corner and the bowling club. KS reported that as MACDT do not yet have the lease for these spaces that nothing was currently planned. PM suggested that hospital corner area would require maintenance very soon if all the work done to date by members of the community to reclaim the area was not to go to waste and the area become unmanageable again very quickly. KS intimidated MACDT might pay a contractor to maintain the area. PM commented that MACC was given permission to work on and use the Bowling Club Grounds by Hamish McFarlane, Meigle Bowling Club secretary.

Discussion was had with regards to linkages between MACC and MACDT. PM enquired about the roles that MACC councillors would have – KS reported that the intention was to form closer working relations between MACC and MACDT. RT has been invited to attend monthly meetings as MACC chair so that there is a community voice.

PM enquired about Community Resilience and lack of response by MACDT during recent power outages during storm Arwen when half of Meigle experienced three days of power cuts. MACC members and volunteer members of the community opened up the church hall to provide some support to the community. KS reported that MACDT is taking forward resilience work but are having trouble getting space for the container to be sited. It is most likely that this will be put at the Bowling Club once the lease is agreed. PM requested if MACDT are not serious about Community Resilience that the responsibility was handed back to MACC as it was important to the community. PM further asked if any resilience equipment had been purchased? KS commented that equipment list had been modified but could not be purchased until a container was in place as equipment could not be stored in garages. PM advised that only the petrol-powered equipment could not be stored in the Kinloch Hall, most of the equipment such as flood prevention equipment etc. could all be safely stored in the hall.

It was agreed that KS would make the suggestion to the trustees that RT attend monthly meetings, with another MACC councillor deputising if he is unable to attend – next trustee meeting is 31/05/22
KA agreed that he was happy to be part of the greenspace sub-group.
MACC to come back to MACDT with regards to a representative being part of the bowling club sub-group.
MACC proposed to KS that PM (with KB as deputy) link with the resilience group.

10) TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES

Nothing to report – BS to follow up Lewis Simpson with regards to any progress that he made prior to the election

11) QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS 2.6-5.6 2022

KA to follow up KB initial contact with Peter Drummond regarding possible tree planting in Victory Park.

12) PARKING ARDLER ROAD AND THE SQUARE

No update since last meeting.

13) VILLAGE ENTRANCE SIGNS

No update since last meeting.

14) GALA DAY – 6th August

KS to speak to Hamish McFarlane re using the Bowling Club space for this event. KB to check with BS that MACC Public Liability Insurance from PKC as provided for Gig on a Truck will cover this event.

15) SENIORS LUNCH

PM reported that 26 residents from Meigle and Ardler attended the senior's lunch and that a good time was had by all. It was also noted that risk assessments were in place for all activities.

16) HUSTINGS MEETING

A hustings meeting for candidates for the local council elections took place in the Kinloch Memorial Hall on Thursday 14th April. All seven candidates attended, and PM chaired the event. It was agreed that this had been a success and that it was something that we would organise again in the future. CS reported that it was the only one that held in the ward.

AOCB**17.1 Benches**

Refurbished benches have been returned from the Payback Team at PKC and will be positioned at the bus stop across from the road leading to the Care Home and in front of the grassed area in Glebe Drive. Wrought Iron benches will be placed opposite both the Spar in Meigle and The Tav in Ardler. BS has sought approval from PKC regarding siting of the benches and ensuring no services are damaged when installing ground anchors.

One of the wrought iron benches has been installed opposite the Spar today (09/05/22) and one of the benches returned from the Payback Team

required sanding and painting, which has been carried out by BS and PM. PM and BS have also repaired 2 of the existing wooden framed benches in Meigle ready for the Community Payback team painting 4 benches in Meigle and 7 in Ardler in the next few weeks. The 2nd wrought iron bench and the 2 returned benches will be installed in the agreed locations in the next few weeks following authorisation from PKC.

17.2 Community Speedwatch

PM reported that dates have been given for Community Speedwatch training by PC Campbell and have been forwarded to those who applied by BS.

17.3 Belmont Estate Boundary Wall.

PM confirmed that he and BS will meet with DCC Officers on site on the 30/31 May to discuss what remedial work to the walls can be achieved.

17.4 MACC Facebook Page / Smart Village / Minutes

Despite it being made clear that the official communication route with MACC is via meigleardlercc@gmail.com individuals continue to pose questions on the MACC Facebook page which is not moderated by the MACC secretary. MACC Facebook page already does not accept external posts (anything to be posted is moderated first) and, as the system does not support comments to existing posts being individually moderated, it was reluctantly decided that comments will also not be permitted. Residents should contact MACC via meigleardlercc@gmail.com

Minutes will continue to be posted on the Smart Village website and links to minutes on Google Drive will be tested on Facebook in the coming month.

17.5 New PKC Councillors.

PM requested that all PKC Strathmore Ward Councillors are invited to future meetings.

17.6 Litter Pick / Litter / Dog Fouling

KB thanked all volunteers who helped with the MACC litter pick over the last few days. 24 full rubbish bags were dropped off at the Civic Amenity Site along with many other larger items that were collected. Also thanks to those who made / provided refreshments. It was agreed that the start of May was too late in the year, and that we need to return to March Litter Picks, on a

Sunday to try and get more people involved. RM plans to investigate the possibility of obtaining signage to encourage people to put their litter in the bin. EC mentioned that an Ardler resident had reported dog fouling in the Ardler Playpark – it was agreed that this would be followed up with the dog warden. CS mentioned that PKC was planning to remove red dog waste bins and asked for opinions on this. It was agreed that, as long as they were replaced with litter bins, nobody had an objection to this.

17.7 – War Graves Week

RT reported about War Graves Week from 21-28th May. He will be carrying out tours of Kirriemuir Cemetery on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC). Places are free and can be booked through the CWGC website. RT to provide KB with further information to put on Facebook.

RT thanked all those who had attended the meeting which closed at 19.55.

The next meeting will be held in the Kinloch Hall in Meigle Monday 13th June 2022 at 18.30.