

# **Meigle and Ardler Community Council**

Approved minutes of the Meigle and Ardler Community Council meeting held in the Kinloch Memorial Hall, Meigle on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> of February 2024 at 7.00pm.

## **PRESENT.**

Rae Taylor, Chairperson (RT), Barrie Starck (BS), Jacqueline Starck (JS), Mark Churches (MC), Steve Bailey (SB) Tanja Waaser (TW).

## **IN ATTENDANCE.**

9 members of the public.

Councillor Hugh Anderson (HA).

Councillor Colin Stewart (CS).

## **APOLOGIES.**

Edith Christie.

Kenneth Mitchell.

Karen Barton.

Kenny Archer.

Bob Ellis MACDT

## **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 as a true record.

**3) MATTERS ARISING.** No matters arising that will not be covered within the meeting.

## **4) PERTH & KINROSS COUNCILLORS REPORT.**

Councillor Anderson advised that councillors are currently focussed on preparation of Budget proposals in light of the Scottish Government having advised councils that no increase is acceptable this year. He further advised that Scottish Water will be increasing their costs in excess of 8% as they are not restricted from doing this. He added that, unlike the water companies in England, Scottish water are not required to disclose discharges of untreated sewage from their sites.

Councillor Stewart suggested that there will be a lot of speculation in the local press on areas of spending cuts in light of there being no increase, but nothing will be decided until the final budget meeting currently scheduled for 28<sup>th</sup> of February. This may be deferred until after the UK Budget on 6<sup>th</sup> March when Scottish Government funding allocation will become clear. Responding to a question as to whether PKC is considering

increasing Council Tax, he advised that this would be impracticable due to constraints that would be imposed by the Scottish Government. His team would be pushing for continuation of funding of the Community Investment Fund.

At the Environment and Infrastructure meeting last week it was agreed that consultation be entered into on wastewater. It was also recommended that a legal duty be placed on SEPA to update flood risk areas and that local knowledge be included in planning applications. Currently planners are making planning application decisions based on out-of-date SEPA flood risk maps.

A member of the public queried why lessons are not being learnt and things changed as a result of experience. Councillor Stewart advised that the perimeters for the approval of planning applications are quite tight and PKC officers will keep reminding committee members of these.

## 5) SECRETARY'S REPORT.

BS advised that he had received 106 pieces of external correspondence during the month, which had been shared with Community Council members as appropriate. He further updated member of the public on issues previously raised under AOCB:

- a) **Belmont Estate Directional Sign.** Following further email reminders advice received that this had been installed today whilst the team are working in Belmont Woods
- b) **Street Cleaning Meigle and Ardlie.** No Change.
- c) **Grey Bins.** Surplus grey bins had been uplifted.
- d) **Gullies.** BS reported that gullies had been cleaned again week commencing 29.01.2024 and he was awaiting advice from Brian Milne on any blockages that had been identified during this process Members of the public reported that there are gullies on the Forfar Road that are still blocked and queried whether blockage between gullies had been checked. BS will report this to PKC. Concern continued to be expressed on the flow of surface water down the Forfar Road when we experience heavy rainfall. We have been notified that gullies on the Dundee Road and in the square will be excavated from 4<sup>th</sup> March for 5 days when the road will be closed.

## 6) TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer shared current expenditure and a statement is attached as Appendix 1 of these minutes.

## 7) PLANNING ISSUES MEIGLE AND ARDLER.

**Meigle:** one Planning Application in retrospect.

**Ardler:** No Planning Application

**Meigle:** Planning application for residential development in principle East of Kilkenny on the Alyth Road was rejected.

**Ardler:** Approvals None.

### **8) POLICE REPORT.**

Meigle and Ardler. No issues reported to the secretary from the Commander's weekly report.

A scam meeting addressing the issue of scams took place in the Meigle Church hall on 11<sup>th</sup> January led by PC Blackhall and Melanie Smith from Trading Standards. Six members of the public attended. A further meeting will be arranged later in the year when we have lighter evenings. Melanie Smith has provided her email contact details should anyone wish to contact her to raise any concerns they may have.

### **9) FORFAR ROAD DEVELOPMENT.**

BS advised that he had received no response to his emails to the Meigle Primary School Headteacher. He read out an email received from the Community Greenspace manager advising on the PKC policy of maintenance and upgrade to play parks. This indicated a life expectancy of ten years, subject to use and condition. Bi-monthly inspections are carried out to check this. Upgrade of facilities could be considered for implementation with a 50% community contribution. A recent upgrade had cost £300K.

### **10) PARKING IN THE SQUARE AND GLEBEWAY.**

Councillor Stewart advised the following:

**Adoption of the Square.** A planned meeting still to be rescheduled.

**Glebeway Parking.** CS will endeavour to have this project included in the Housing Budget for FYE 2025. TW queried whether this had been discussed with residents. RT advised that this request came from residents to upgrade existing parking space to provide easier access. Councillor Stewart advised the PKC Officers would consult prior to implementation.

### **11) BENCHES IN MEIGLE.**

BS advised that as agreed he had advised the Greenspace Team that we would maintain the new benches going forward. One bench has been installed at Belmont Place and the others will be installed time and weather permitting. The damaged bench has been uplifted to be refurbished by the Community Payback team and be returned to us if required.

### **12) TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES MEIGLE.**

BS advised that the VAS sign on the Coupar Angus Road coming into the village had now been activated. The re-installation of the half speed cushion and inspection of the

others will be contracted to the original installer but to date we have no confirmation as to when this will take place.

Councillor Anderson had emailed us to suggest we hold a drop in event with a Road Safety team Representative and PKC Councillors in attendance. This would be to discuss local traffic problems including speeding, dangerous traffic situations and various possible solutions in respect of the A94 and Dundee Road. Councillor Stewart expanded on this to advise that an element of funding, ring fenced from another project no longer coming to fruition, and CTRL funding could be made available to fund this. The concept was to standardise road safety conditions across the A94 in the lead up to the opening of the CTRL. Following discussion, it was agreed BS liaise with Frank Mills on a date in early March for such a meeting on the proviso that the Road Safety team come with plans including their recommendations and advise on the introduction of the 20 mph zoning of the Forfar Road through the village.

### **13) MEIGLE BURN FLOODING.**

Bs advised that he had again written to Scottish Water concerning the re-siting of the "Top Hat" on the sewage pipe crossing the Meigle burn.

### **MACDT UPDATE.**

Bob Ellis emailed the following in respect of MACDT

I am sorry about this but I am not feeling too good and will have to give my apologies for tonight's meeting.

Everything is on track with the Trust. I have spoken with Grace Wolmer who is a Historic Environment Officer with PKC and there is still some post excavation research to be done. The results of this works will then be included in a final publication on the Site. All finds will be then submitted to Treasure Trove and once claimed by them they can be allocated to an accredited museum. It is hoped that Meigle will apply.

I have also spoken with Mike Hay of Campion and he didn't realise that the bit between the Bowling Club and the Hall belonged to the Trust. He thought it belonged to the Hall. He is to get back to me with dates for a meeting but I have been waiting now for over a week!

This is my update.

### **14) AOCB.**

- a) **Contamination Forfar Road.** This issue has now been reported to SEPA and we have a report number. BS had received advice that SEPA were to inspect the site and has emailed to ask for a finding report.
- b) **Wrap Around Childcare.** A Meigle resident had emailed us to ask for support in implementing Wrap Around Childcare in Meigle. BS had emailed ECS Childcare to

ask what was planned for Meigle or available close by. He read out the response from Shona O'Connor confirming no expansion in facilities is planned. Following discussion, it was agreed that BS invite Shona to a meeting as suggested by her, to explore opportunities for the community. Councillor Stewart advised that he had had earlier correspondence on this issue, and he would follow this up by asking what "local" facilities were currently available.

- c) Dundee Road Cut Out.** A Meigle resident raised the issue that in dark wet weather with approaching vehicles it was impossible to see the Dundee Road cut out and asked that this be illuminated. Councillor Stewart advises that he had experienced similar problems. BS will contact The Road Safety team on this issue.
- d) Defibrillator.** Having confirmed the latest expenditure on replacement defibrillator pads, RT said that in light of the cost we consider whether we hold a spare set when these can be ordered and delivered within a few days. Various opinions were expressed including using out of date pads. This will be held over for further discussion at a future meeting and in the meantime following advice from Councillor Stewart that the British Heart Foundation may supply defibrillators and/or pads to Community Councils free of charge BS will contact them to confirm this.
- e) Litter Pick.** BS advised that Karen Barton had offered to organise a village litter pick on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. Details to follow.

**The next meeting will be held in the Kinloch Memorial Hall in Meigle on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 19.00 hrs.**

**The meeting closed at 20.45 hrs.**

#### **Appendix 1. Treasurers Report 11.12.2023-08.01.2024.**

Date	PAYEE	ADMIN	GENERAL	AED	COST OF LIVNG	SPEEDWATCH	BALANCE
08.01.24	Opening Balance	£696.30	£622.76	£1239.18	£130.00	£200.16	£2888.40
26.01.24	Defibrillator pads			-£65.94			
12.02.24	Closing Balance	£696.30	£622.76	£1173.24	£130.00	£200.16	£2822.46