

Meigle and Ardler Community Council

Approved minutes of the Meigle and Ardler Community Council meeting held in the Kinloch Memorial Hall, Meigle on Monday 11th September 2023 at 6.30 pm.

PRESENT.

Rae Taylor, Chairperson (RT), Barrie Starck (BS), Jacqueline Starck (JS), Karen Barton (KB), Tanja Waaser (TW), Edith Christie (EC). Kenny Archer (KA). Kenneth Mitchell (KM).

IN ATTENDANCE.

13 members of the public.
Councillor Colin Stewart.
Councillor Hugh Anderson.

APOLOGIES.

Councillor Grant Stewart.
PC Robbie Blackhall.

1) WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES.

RT welcomed the attendees, noted the apologies and advised that Stephen Bailey had been approved by PKC to become a coopted member of our Community Council with effect from today. He further advised that we have an opening for one more coopted member.

2) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record.

3) MATTERS ARISING.

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

4) PERTH & KINROSS COUNCILLORS REPORT.

Councillor Stewart advised that following the summer recess the Council was back in full swing. CIF funding applications had closed, and a meeting had

been set for next week to score these. Applications amount to £63K for a budget of £53K.

Our four ward Councillors met with the Road Safety Team last week to discuss signage and road speed issues. No new issues for Meigle and Ardler were raised other than those already recorded. Advice was received that some new team workers had been recruited and this programme continues.

CS advised that there used to be a six-monthly Planning Meeting Forum meeting with Planners, Councillors and Community Councillors to discuss processes, experiences etc. This is to be re-started from October 2023 and RT was nominated to represent us at this meeting.

CS further advised that Council Assets are being determined to maximum use of these.

A Health and Social Care partnership survey has been distributed to review local GP Practices and Services. A link to this will be posted by KB on our Facebook page.

Councillor Hugh Anderson advised that the Planning Department were now at full staff levels and should be available to discuss planning applications locally.

In addition to advice from Councillor Stewart he said that the meeting with Brian Cargill and Daryl McKeown confirmed that approval for reduced speeding limits was still awaited from the Scottish Government. He reiterated that police speed controls had been reduced due to a lack of manpower.

5) SECRETARY'S REPORT.

BS confirmed that he had received 71 pieces of external communication which had been shared with Community Council members as appropriate.

He updated attendees on issues previously raised under AOCB:

- a) **Belmont Estate Directional Sign.** No response received to previous email. Sign not replaced to date, reminder sent to Dundee Forestry Team.
- b) **Benches.** BS emailed Rae Taylor's letter to the PKC Chief Executive. His secretary responded that this had been passed to the Executive Director of Communities to respond. No response received to date, so reminder sent. CS advised that this was in the hands of Brian Cargill, and he would chase him for a response.
- c) **Street Cleaning Meigle and Ardler.** BS has written to Gair McRostie to ask for future schedule of road sweeping in Meigle and Ardler.
- d) **Seniors Vouchers.** Credit balance £130. No costed spending proposals received.
- e) **Demolished Bus Shelter Meigle.** Bus shelter replaced. BS has chased real time panel information. This will be installed later by a different contractor.
- f) **No legitimate suggestions in Meigle Suggestion Box.** It was reported that replacement slips had repeatedly been disappearing. TW said she had placed two suggestions in the box. BS advised that as there were no contact details, these had not been considered. Discussion took place on the effective use of suggestion boxes and it was unanimously agreed that their use be discontinued. Villagers wishing to make suggestions are to be encouraged to attend our meetings.
- g) **Spar Bins.** Spar have re-sited their bins to the side wall of the shop resulting in the PKC bin becoming overflowing with refuse deposited from peoples' cars. Steve Tattersall said he would speak with Spar on this issue. KA queried the supply of two bins in the Community Garden and BS confirmed that they are required to minimise throwing of litter around the garden.
- h) **Ardler Bins.** PKC went to install a bin at the entrance to the Water treatment plant but were stopped by a neighbour who said it was her land. EC will speak with this lady.
- i) **Rats Strathmore Place.** Environmental Health referred this to the Cemeteries Team. No action so the Environmental Health Team have sent a reminder to the Cemeteries Team.

6) TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer's report is shown as appendix 1 to these minutes.

7) PLANNING ISSUES MEIGLE AND ARDLER.

Meigle: Applications None.

Ardler: Applications None.

Meigle: Approvals None.

Ardler: Approvals None.

Rejections Meigle: Extension to Kinloch House and Outbuilding

8) POLICE REPORT.

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

No report received from PC Robbie Blackhall.

9) FORFAR ROAD DEVELOPMENT.

No further updated advice. BS will chase to receive a copy of the Archaeological Report for wider distribution. Councillor Anderson was unable to offer any further advice.

10) PARKING IN THE SQUARE AND GLEBEWAY. WRITTEN PERMISSION TO SITE BENCHES.

Councillor Stewart advised the following:

Adoption of the Square. No cost centres received from PKC Officers to date. He will chase to receive these.

Glebeway Parking. List received of agreed projects excluding Glebeway. There had been no consultation with local Councillors, and he is following up on this. The Housing Budget for North Perthshire was only £50K and the process of prioritising requested works is unclear.

Benches. CS is aware that Brian Cargill has been tasked with contacting us on this issue and suggested that we invite him to complete a site visit to show him where the benches are planned to be sited. TW asked what the issue here was and it was clarified that our CC did not expect to pay £145 per bench for approval to install them. A member of the public advised that he had documentation that indicated that we also required planning consent

which he would send to Councillor Stewart. BS requested that he share this with us but he declined.

11) TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES MEIGLE.

BS had chased Frank Mills for an update and has received this response:
“Afternoon,

Regarding the speed cushion we are in the process of arranging with the contractor who installed the cushions to reinstate the one removed at the top of the Dundee Road. We will also get them to check over the remaining cushions / traffic islands. We do not have any dates at present, as the installation contractor will need to organise Traffic Management, and suitable dates have to be agreed with our Network Team.

An engineer from the Roads Maintenance Partnership checked signs on the Dundee Road and could find no issues - however if you contact him directly with some more detail he will carry out a further check. His name is Stewart Sanderson and his contact number is 07782310471.

In respect of the VAS - this is one of a number of sites which we do not have a confirmed timescale for completion. We are liaising with our electrical team who are dealing with power supply issues!

Road markings - I understand that this has now been carried out, although I have not personally been back on site to confirm this!

Regards

Frank Mills | Technician”

Discussion followed on the suitability of the speed cushions as an effective speed reducing mechanism. Alternatives were discussed but no follow up agreed at the moment. KB reminded community councillors that living in a rural community we must consider use of the road by farm machinery before contemplating any changes.

KM asked that we request again the installation of speed strip measuring to ascertain current speeds in this area. BS will do this.

12) MACDT Update.

Bob Ellis (BE) advised that the next Newsletter being compiled by Peter & Dianne Hogg will be distributed in October/November. This will include a loose-leaf update on resilience from MACDT.

Planners are still insistent on the inclusion of a toilet in the proposed hall building. MACDT do not support this on the basis of cost, so are investigating an alternative structure in the form of a Ranch Style Bandstand Pavilion.

A successful Greenspace event had recently taken place with walkers from Ardle and Meigle meeting half-way. Around 13 directional posts are required to be installed and volunteers are invited to offer their services.

Tayside Contracts have agreed to complete some pathway work in Belmont Woods. This should be completed shortly.

A member of the public asked if the Ardler Tavern was to be a Resilience Hub. BE confirmed this and spoke about revised arrangements for the installation of the generator provided by MACDT. This member of the public asked if there were residual funds from the original £19000 resilience grant which could be used in Meigle. BE confirmed that there were.

Ron McNiven asked if the pathways work would preclude boy racers in the improved path/roadway area. BE confirmed the width would be no greater than now and if sufficient funding was available improvements to the boggy path area would be initiated.

BS again reminded BE that MACDT minutes have not been updated on the Smart Village Website.

13) Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils.

Rt reported that he had (on a personal basis and not as chair of the CC) raised a number of suggestions in response to the Review of the Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils.

Christine Grant clarified that a resignation takes effect on the date stated in the resignation and then this must be minuted at the next CC meeting, meaning that on the date the resignation is stipulated as taking effect from the member, they are no longer a community councillor from that date.

She explained that it has always been the case if a community council is unable to hold it's AGM in the month of October, they can, with the permission from the Council, hold their AGM either the month before or

after, basically as soon as practicable. RT suggested that this be made explicit.

Declaration of Interest. Christine Grant stated that "the onus is on the individual to decide if they feel their interest in the item would impact on their decision or could be perceived to have impacted on their decision." RT suggested that he thought this guidance was not satisfactory.

Discussion followed resulting in the decision for Community Councillors to declare their interests in local organisation. KM suggested these be emailed to BS as secretary. KB suggested that TW produce a spreadsheet sample for consideration for the recording of this information. She agreed to do this.

14) Meigle Burn Embankment.

TW said that over a number of years the bank of the Meigle Burn had deteriorated, and the pathway had narrowed. She understood PKC monitored this deterioration and asked if Councillor Stewart could obtain copies of these. RT advised that the Meigle Burn Group continued to monitor the burn, and this was led by Peter Grewar Senior, working in collaboration with SEPA. Ron McNiven suggested greater concern of the burn flooding should be targeted at the possible collapse of the old railway bridge where chunks of this had fallen into the burn.

15) AOCB.

15a) TW said that she had been asked by some residents of Glenluie Green Estate to raise the issue of friction between residents and asked the Community Council to fund mediation consultation at an estimated cost of £100 per hour. Questions were asked by community council members as to the involvement of the Glenluie Green Management Committee, the Factor and the Housing Association and that no details could be discussed in an open forum.

15b) TW asked if Community Council property previously held by Peter Menzies had been handed over. KA confirmed that it had.

The next meeting will be held in the Kinloch Memorial Hall in Meigle on Monday 9th October 2023 at 18.30. And this will include an Annual General Meeting with Chairman's Report.

The meeting closed at 20.20 hrs.

Appendix 1 Treasurer's Financial Statement 18.08 -11.09

| Date | PAYEE | ADMIN | GENERAL | AED | COST OF LIV | SPEEDWATCH | BALANCE |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|----------|---------|----------|-------------|------------|----------|
| 14.08.23 | Opening balance | £491.26 | £822.76 | £1357.80 | £130.00 | £200.16 | £3001.98 |
| 22.8.23 | Kinloch Hall Hire From Oct 2022 - August 2023 | -£250.00 | | | | | £2751.98 |
| 20.08.23 | B Starck Stationery | -£119.91 | | | | | £2632.07 |
| 30.08.23 | E Christie Stationery | -£11.95 | | | | | £2620.12 |
| 11.09.23 | Closing Balance | £109.40 | £822.76 | £1357.80 | £130.00 | £200.16 | £2620.12 |