

# **Meigle and Ardler Community Council**

Approved minutes of the Meigle and Ardler Community Council meeting held in the Kinloch Memorial Hall, Meigle on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 6.30 pm.

## **1) PRESENT.**

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

## **IN ATTENDANCE.**

16 members of the public.  
Councillor Hugh Anderson (HA).  
Councillor Colin Stewart (CS).  
Kevin Stirling (KS) MACDT.

## **APOLOGIES.**

PC Robbie Blackhall Community Police Officer (RB).  
Peter Menzies (PM).  
Councillor Grant Stewart.

## **2) WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES.**

RT welcomed the attendees and noted the apologies.

## **3) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.**

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. However, a member of the public advised that earlier advice that the Sculpture at the Kinloch Memorial Hall had been funded by the village was incorrect as it was funded by a grant.

## **4) MATTERS ARISING.**

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

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

CS advised that the normal cycle of PKC committee meetings had resumed. The Scrutiny Performance Committee had looked at the Planning Department performance and found areas for improvement, particularly in relation to targets and engagement with local communities. The last full Council meeting focussed on Climate Change and Sustainability. Nothing raised was of local significance.

Currently budget preparation is taking up a lot of time. The process involves looking at the proposals from Council Officers which now appear in local media prior to decision making by Councillors. These may have some worrying headlines which may not come to fruition. CS is leading on retention of Community Investment Funding (CIF) and looking for cash savings that does not affect front line services and will keep any Council Tax increase to the minimum. The route for the proposed Gran Fondo Cycling World Championships is under discussion, particularly how it would adversely affect the flow of traffic around Perth.

At that point a member of the public raised a question on Nursery provision in Meigle School. CS advised that this will be included in Budget negotiations.

RT queried whether penalties previously imposed on Councils exceeding suggested levels of council tax increase would apply for 2023/24. CS explained that this was not the case however, the Scottish Government have said that they will recoup funds if councils reduce, for example, teacher and teaching assistant numbers though he noted that there has been a reduction in pupil numbers.

HA supported the comments of CS on keeping the level of Council Tax increase to the minimum. He further advised however that ring fenced areas by the Scottish Government restrict flexibility by PKC. HA advised that a planning submission for a Solar Energy Farm in Coupar Angus will go before committee during February.

## **6) SECRETARY'S REPORT.**

BS advised that he had received 85 pieces of external correspondence during the month which had been shared with Community Council members as appropriate. He further updated members of the public on issues previously covered under AOCB:

**Belmont Estate Wall.** Further tree work in hand but no funding available to repair the damaged wall. The sign to the woods at the lodge will be replaced.

**Potholes Treeback.** Information from a local resident has questioned our assumption of ownership. This needs to be clarified before any progress can be made.

**Local Development Plan 3.** An open public meeting is planned to take place in the Kinloch Memorial Hall on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March from 1-4pm. BS confirmed the dates and locations of other face to face meetings, and these will be published on our Facebook page. RT queried the “Big Place Conversation” title as being inappropriate and CS concurred with this.

**HSD Bus Stop.** BS shared an email he had received from HSD explaining that only two families have children who use the HSD bus service and, in light of complaints they had received from parents, they would revert to the original bust stop arrangements from 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023. They will review this if use of the bus service increases.

**Pathway along Belmont Estate Wall.** BS has received advice from the Greenspace Team that this is not their responsibility so he will contact the roads team for assistance.

**Gullies Meigle.** Some work has taken place to clear gullies, but we need to keep this under review if we have heavy rainfall.

**Benches.** CS confirmed he is awaiting receipt of written confirmation that we do not require planning permission to site the benches we have in our possession.

**Street Cleaning Meigle and Ardler.** BS asked if anyone had seen the motorised street cleaner in our villages. Having received a negative response it was agreed that he again contact Gair Rostie to enquire when it is expected that this will take place.

**Community Council Asset Register.** This is being finalised and will be shared with CC members when finalised.

## 7) TREASURER’S REPORT.

EC confirmed the financial situation as being:

Date		Expense	Income	Amount
	<b>Balance B/fwd 16.01.2023</b>			<b>£4209.50</b>
	NO EXPENDITURE DURING THIS PERIOD			
<b>13.02 .2023.</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>			<b>£4209.50</b>

## **8) PLANNING ISSUES MEIGLE AND ARDLER.**

**Meigle** – One Planning Application for Meigle to build a porch on the Old Manse. No Approvals for Meigle.

**Ardler** – No Planning Applications or Approvals for Ardler.

## **9) POLICE REPORT.**

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

PC Robbie Blackhall sent a report which is attached to these minutes as appendix 1. A "Coffee with a Cop" meeting took place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February with twelve members of the public in attendance. This will be repeated during the year.

BS advised that he had written to PC Connor Lees to ask for an update on Police Speed Checks in Meigle

## **10) FORFAR ROAD DEVELOPMENT.**

BS confirmed that had received a response to his email to the Large Developments Planning Officer which he read out to members of the public. This confirmed that no date had been set to go before the Planning Committee and that he could not comment on the issues we had raised. We will be notified when the planning application is due for consideration and can attend and present our case.

## **11) MACDT UPDATE.**

Please see the Appendix 2 to these minutes.

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

Outstanding issues remain:

- 1) Modify the VAS sign entering the village from the Newtyle side to record actual speeds and number of vehicles exceeding the 20mph limit.

- 2) Relocate VAS sign on the Coupar Angus side of the village.
- 3) Widen the pathway on the Dundee Road from the school up to the Kinloch Memorial Hall.
- 4) Install temporary speed measurement strips to evaluate any change following introduction of additional speed cushions.
- 5) Introduction of 20mph zone on the Coupar Angus to Forfar Road through the village.

HA had written to Daryl McKeown on these issues and was advised that 20mph limits on trunk roads are currently under discussion and re-siting of the VAS sign will not be considered until all other installations had been completed.

BS advised that Frank Mills is currently on sick leave, but a meeting will be arranged on his return to work. A member of the public had suggest installing clearer road markings to restrict larger vehicles blocking the entrance to Treeback.

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

CS advised this is still on his to do list and will be addressed following conclusion of budget negotiations.

### **AOCB**

1. **Spring Fair Table.** KA asked if the CC would like to book a table at the Spring Fair taking place on 1st April 2023. This was agreed. ( a table was booked following the meeting) A member of the public asked if the School PTA could use the CC gazebos for this event.
2. **Coronation Event.** BS asked whether the village ladies were planning an event for the Coronation. This is being considered.
3. **Burn Flood Monitoring.** BS asked KS if MACDT had had any discussion with Robert Walsh as he had asked to attend a CC meeting to advise on flood monitoring of Meigle Burn. RT suggested that this was more of an issue for MACDT and it was agreed that BS would direct Robert Walsh to them.
4. **Spar Grants.** TW produced literature on grants which may be applicable to providing something for the younger generation in our village to alleviate boredom. This was again considered to be a project for MACDT and KS took the details to pass on to the MACDT fundraiser. BS asked if MACDT had the details of the demography levels in the village from the

old MACDT survey. A member of the public advised that this requires updating to include occupants of the Glenluie Green Development. TW also mentioned that PC Robbie Blackhall had agreed to investigate opportunities from the AYP (Alyth Youth Partnership). KS advised that BAM funding may be available to support these activities.

5. **Glenluie Green.** Residents expressed concern over children skateboarding down Drumkilbo Road onto the newly constructed ash pathway and considered this an accident waiting to happen. It was suggested a barrier be installed at the end of the permanent pathway. Funding for this was an issue as it was on private land and to date the development roads and pathways had not been formally adopted by PKC, and no Factor had been appointed. KM suggested that the first port of call should be Hadden as their contractor has created a health and safety issue and as such would be liable should there be an accident caused by their works. He also suggested the installation of a self-closing gate which has dampers fitted to deaden any closing noise as an alternative to widening the path to accommodate offset barriers. RT invited the Glenluie Green residents to suggest a preferred method of restricting the access to the path to propose to the contractor. It was suggested that better facilities for children could be developed in Victory Park. A resident confirmed that this is a village facility and does not belong to Meigle Cricket Club, but is administered by Victory Park Management Committee.
6. **Gala Day.** KS asked if our CC was planning to hold a Gala Day this year. It was confirmed that we do not have the capacity to do this. KB offered to share her experience with MACDT if they were considering taking this over.
7. **Pelican Crossing in the vicinity of the Spar Shop.** KS asked whether consideration had been given to installing a Pelican Crossing in the vicinity of the Spar shop. He was reminded that this had been discussed previously with the PKC Roads Team and the advice we had received was that this was not logistically possible.

**The next meeting will be held in the Kinloch Memorial Hall in Meigle on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 18.30.**

**The meeting closed at 20.05.**

## Appendix 1

### Notes from PC Blackhall



# Community Council Meeting

Meigle & Ardler, Perth and Kinross

February 2023

We do apologise for not being able to attend in person, however, please see a list of local incidents which are worthy of note and their results since the last meeting.

Should you have any questions, or any issues, you wish to address please feel free to contact us by calling 101 and asking for Constable Robbie Blackhall D1648 and we will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible.

### Crimes of note (since last meeting 16/01/2022)

DATE	OFFENCE	RESULT

**\*\*There are no crimes of note since the last meeting\*\***

### Road Policing

Roads Policing (RPU) officers carry out regular patrols in the Meigle/Ardler (and surrounding) areas and where possible will carry out speeding checks. There have been no specific incidents of speeding reported to Police Scotland in the past 4 weeks. There is a day of action planned in the coming weeks by RPU officers in the Blairgowrie area which will incorporate the Meigle and Ardler area.

### **Officer Comments**

From 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023 there have been a small number of calls to Police Scotland from the Meigle/Ardler area and 3 crimes recorded on Police systems however nothing of note. I had the pleasure of meeting some of the local community at a Coffee with a Cop event held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2023 where local issues / concerns were discussed. I will be looking to do this every few months with the support of the Community Council where possible. I believe it is a good way for the community to know who I am and have a familiar face to discuss their concerns with. As stated above, RPU officers have a day of action planned for the general Blairgowrie area which will incorporate Meigle and Ardler. If there are any specific concerns don't hesitate to get in touch and I can pass these on to the RPU.

If there is anything you wish to discuss prior to the next meeting please feel free to contact myself. If you have been the victim of a crime and require an urgent Police response call 999 however if it is not urgent please call 101. Any community related issues don't hesitate to contact myself. Thanks, Robbie.

### **Appendix 2**

#### **Notes From Kevin Stirling Chair of MACDT**

Please find below a short update regarding the current work activity of the development trust.

#### AGM



We held our second AGM on 26th January 2023. Our accounts were presented as part of this meeting and they were approved - thanks once again to Edith for her work in this regard. We now have 13 trustees and as part of this meeting they were all elected into positions which will drive our core activity over the next year. I was re-elected as Chair which is a real privilege.

### Resilience

Since the last update we have held a successful public meeting where we were able to recruit new members of the public to join our local resilience team. We now have around 13 people who are a part of this resilience team which is great news. Over the next four weeks, it was agreed this group will draft a flyer which will be delivered to houses in our local area so that we can raise awareness of the work of this group, identify those who might have additional requirements that will need to be managed during adverse events and to create a registry of privately owned equipment that might be utilised in an adverse event. We will look to recruit further volunteers to this team over the coming months.

We are hopeful that later this month we will have signed a lease to redevelop a hut at the Belmont site which will allow us to create resilience and training hub for our local area.

We are also in the process of applying for further funding to renovate this hut and to purchase other pieces of equipment.

### Ardler Hall site

We held a public meeting in January to discuss the results of the survey which was circulated to houses in Ardler prior to Christmas. In total, 14 people attended this meeting. A working group from Ardler has now been formed and the intention is that group will be working on site later this month to begin to map out what this redeveloped site might look like.

### Community Connector

Susie continues to make excellent progress with the Ardler Hall committee and also working on the local heritage path. Funding for this position runs

out at the end of March so we are looking to see how we can secure funding to continue this role.

### Heritage path walk

Work is progressing in relation to the development of this path. Events are being planned for International Women's Day to highlight some of the local heritage in relation to this celebration. We continue to undertake work to promote engagement in this work and to drive this project forward.

### Bowling Club

Our solicitors have now received the title deed from the solicitors representing the Bowling Club. This is being reviewed with the intention that this process will conclude later this month. There is additional areas of land which the Bowling Club own which will transfer to the Trust. These areas of land include envelopes of land which run from the Kinloch Memorial Hall to the centre of the village.

We hope to appoint a trustee to lead on this work in the near future.

Once this legal process concludes we will aim to hold a public meeting to map out the redevelopment of this site.

### Belmont Camp

We have had productive discussions with Scottish Outdoor Education Centre (SOEC) regarding the development of a Community Shed and Resilience Hub.

We aim to have a lease signed to progress both of these projects later this month.

Kevin

Kevin Stirling

Chair, Meigle and Ardler Community Development Trust