

MID ATHOLL, STRATHTAY & GRANDTULLY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Bi-Monthly Meeting held 1st July 2014 in Mid Atholl Village Hall.

PRESENT

Community Councillors: Stuart Smith [SPS] (Chair), Graham Huggins [GH] (Treasurer), Diana Gray [DG], Margaret Ross [MR] and Pam Blanks [PB].
PKC Councillor: Ian Campbell (IC).

Mary Connelly and Ewan Walker (Perth & Kinross Credit Union)

Three members of the public

APOLOGIES

The Police, John Grant, Stan Bruce and Kate Howie.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of last meeting were approved; proposed by GH and seconded by DG.

2. MATTERS ARISING

None.

3. Business

Perth & Kinross Credit Union

Mary Connelly and Ewan Walker gave a presentation on the setting up of the Perth & Kinross Credit Union, which gained accreditation in March 2014. This Credit Union provides ethical, responsible, low cost loans to regular savers who have taken up membership of the Credit Union. Their main office is at 28 High Street in Perth, which is manned by one permanent salaried person, supported by volunteers. This is a non profit, highly regulated organisation, offering loan charges of 1%, 2% or 3%, depending on the circumstances involved. To become a member, it is possible to download the application form from their website: - www.pkcu.org.uk. This Credit Union are looking to set up outreach collection points throughout Perth and Kinross, manned by volunteers.

Treasurer's Report

Balance at bank 31/3/14	£5,336.00
Community Council Expenses	£ 78.60
Micro Grant Expenses	£1,125.
Available Funds	
Community Council	£ 757.40
Micro Grant	£ 3,375.00.

Griffin Wind Farm Funding Panel

Alison Forsyth has kindly filled the vacancy on the funding panel and attended her first meeting.

Griffin Wind Farm Micro Grants Since the Last Meeting

PB reported that a micro grant has been awarded to the 'Mid Atholl Strings and Things' performers. This musical group support local charities by performing without charge at their fundraising events. The grant awarded will assist with the purchase of a PA system.

Planning

Applications Approved:

14/00212/FLL

Erection of dwelling house (Plot 2) land 50 metres north east of Ballinluig Inn, Ballinluig – approved May 2014.

14/00574/FLL

Renewal of permission (09/00533/FLL) subdivision of dwelling house into two residential units, Taigh Laruin, Grandtully, Aberfeldy PH15 2QS – approved July 2014.

14/00698/FLL

Modification of existing permission (07/01301/FLL) change of house type at Plots 5 & 6 on site 40 metres south east of West Park Farm, Grandtully – approved June 2014.

14/00905/FLL

Alterations and extension to dwelling house at Croftcat Farm, Grandtully – approved June 2014.

New Applications:

14/00834/FLL

Erection of 4 warehouses, office and associated works, at land 80 metres north west of Inch Farm, Ballinluig for House of Bruar.

14/00964/FLL

Modification of permission (11/01629/FLL) erection of House Plot 4 – change of use of house type on land 70 metres south east of West Park Farm, Grandtully.

14/00983/AML

Renewal of permission (11/00767/AML) for erection of dwelling house on land to the south of Taycladdoch Smithy, Grandtully.

14/01019/FLL

Formation of vehicle and equipment compound and siting of storage containers for a temporary period at land 100 metres south east of Dalnabo Farm, Ballinluig.

Refused Application

13/02130/FLL

Erection of rafting base, including car park, land 100 metres north east of Tigh Na Rathaid, Grandtully for Ace Tay Ltd (refused May 2014)

HPCP

GH reported as follows:-

The pilot broadband project will cost £80,000 – discussions will take place with Perth and Kinross re funding. The three sites in the project are Amulree, Struan and Blair Atholl. If all goes well, the full project will cost between £1.5 and £2 million pounds and be carried out in 2015. There will be a need for a company to run this organisation for all of Perthshire – this is being looked into.

The A9 dualling meeting, held recently, involved local CCs and the individual CCs are now assimilating the information on the effects in each area. This was a comprehensive meeting at which Transport Scotland was well represented.

Perth & Kinross have set up a funding group called the LAG (Leader Action Group). This is part of a European Grant System called the LEADER PROJECT to help local communities in their development. They are particularly keen on youth projects. The value of the Fund if we include the leveraging ability is in the order of £6M spread over five years.

HPCP are members of this Group and it is hoped that HPCP will be the vehicle by which grants for the Highland Perthshire Area of up to £5K are awarded from the Fund. Larger grants will be awarded by the LAG.

This project should commence in January 2015.

Speed of Traffic Through Grandtully

Concerns have been voiced by residents experiencing problems, crossing the road safely, due to the speed of traffic through Grandtully, despite the warning sign at the east entrance to Grandtully. Various options were discussed but there is a need to identify those that are feasible.

Similar problems have been reported in Ballinluig with a possible solution suggested to move the 30 mph sign back to the roundabout from the east.

IC kindly offered to speak to the authorities on these issues and SS will talk to our new Community Sergeant, Amanda Nicholson (who is based in Pitlochry).

Consultation on number of elected members in each council area

It was reported that there had been a suggestion from an HPCP member that Dunkeld and Birnam should be included in Ward 4. Parliamentary and council boundaries are being looked at and the Boundary Commission has suggested that the current councillors in Highland Perthshire be reduced from 41 to 40. However, as the Perth and Kinross population is growing, unlike other areas in Scotland it is the suggestion of the Community Council that the current situation be maintained.

Three-Year-After Evaluation Report – A9 Ballinluig Junction

There was much discussion about the ever increasing traffic in Ballinluig and the location of the Service Station and the Motor Grill. It was agreed that this topic will be an agenda item for the next Community Council meeting.

Update from PKC Planning Users Forum in Perth

This was attended by SS and PB from the CC. SS reported that it had been useful. Concern was expressed at this forum about the length of time involved in some planning applications being drawn up (with large developments this can be 12/18 months) and the short time (often only 3 weeks) for any objections or concerns to be put forward from the general public. Those present were advised that a CC can always apply for an extension of the deadline for submission of objections or concerns. It was reported that Conservation Officers are now part of the Development Management Team and are not in a separate team. This means that the comments made by the Conservation Officers are NOT now included as separate consultations but are included in the Report of Handling which is NOT seen publically until after the closing date for comments.

Update from Police/Fire Joint Meeting in Aberfeldy

SS and SB attended from the CC at which Chief Inspector Mike Whitford representing Police Scotland advised that Police Scotland would not be able to commit to 100% police attendance at Community Council meetings however would endeavour to have a police presence when a Community officer was on duty and available. Due to the nature of policing there would always be occasions when a community officer, who is due to attend a meeting, is diverted to a priority incident. To mitigate against there being no police input of any form at a meeting a police report would now be sent to Secretaries of the 10 Community Councils in Highland Perthshire in advance of the meetings. This new forum will look to meet twice a year as an additional engagement opportunity for Community Councils and Councillors to influence priorities and hear updates from the emergency services.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Signage for Path from Grandtully to Aberfeldy

A local resident reported that there is a need for an additional sign indicating the start of the path from the SCA car park at the entrance to said car park. It seems that the sign at the rear of the car park can be obscured by vehicles and hopeful users of the cycle path are wandering along Lagoon Road looking for it. SS is to contact Liz Lines, Chair of Upper Tay Paths Group.

Travellers Sited on Ballinluig Recreation Ground

A Ballinluig resident has expressed concern at two caravans positioned by the Ballinluig Recreation Ground. A plan to erect a 'No Overnight Camping' sign had been suggested. The situation is to be monitored.

MR reported that the grass around the War Memorial in Ballinluig had not been cut and that it seemed in need of restoration. IC is to look into this and also advised that there is a programme to restore all war memorials and that this memorial will be included in that programme.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 2 September at 7.30pm in Grandtully Village Hall.

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 9.30pm.