

MID ATHOLL, STRATHTAY & GRANDTULLY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of Bi-Monthly Meeting held 5th March 2015 in the Mid Atholl Hall, Ballinluig

PRESENT

Community Councillors: Stuart Smith (Chair), John Grant (Vice Chair), Stan Bruce (Secretary), Diana Gray and Pam Blanks plus PKC Councillor Ian Campbell, PC John Maddocks (Police Scotland) and nine members of the public

APOLOGIES

Community Councillor Graham Huggins and PKC Councillor Kate Howie

1. MINUTES

The minutes of last meeting were approved; proposed by JG and seconded by PB.

2. MATTERS ARISING

- Street lighting on Grandtully Bridge – Ian Campbell reported that the request had been conveyed to Scott Dyer and that it is on the list for consideration by PKC
- West-bound bus shelter in Grandtully – the Chair reported that this request had now been passed to Moray Fraser
- Trees overhanging road – progress was reported with some specific areas still to be completed
- Squirrel signage – the Chair received information and advice from Ken Neil at Scottish Wildlife Trust. Before signs can be requested data is needed regarding squirrel populations and the impact of road/traffic on the squirrels. Gillian Gilchrist kindly offered to keep a log.
- Grandtully Traffic Lights – Kate Howie had reported the issue immediately after the last CC meeting and the fault had been fixed
- Ballinluig Flyover pavement damage – cones are in place and the work is due to be carried out
- Location of 30mph and 40mph signs at the Ballinluig A9 junction and roads to Ballinluig and Logierait. Ian Campbell reported that signs will be repositioned to simplify the arrangements. This should help traffic to slow down before reaching the villages.

3. BUSINESS

Police Matters

PC John Maddocks briefed the meeting on recent events and the focus of Police Scotland. There had been two incidents in the area since the CC meeting in January. One involved youths throwing sticks at the Moness Country Estate, Aberfeldy and the other concerned the arresting of a male at Logierait for producing an improvised explosive device.

Across Perth and Kinross there have been thefts of lead from church roofs and thefts from works vehicles including the stealing of power tools and equipment.

Everyone is advised and urged to be particularly careful to avoid scams – including phone, email and bogus callers. Never divulge any personal information unless you are sure you know who you are dealing with and there is a valid reason for doing so. Report any suspicious activities, people and vehicles to the Police, on the non-emergency 101 number. There is also a new TV series “Stopping Scotland’s Scammers” on STV on Monday evenings.

Treasurer's Report

GH went through the Treasurers Report as follows:

Balance as at 06.01.15

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Community Council | £ 1,157.10 |
| Micro Grant Funds | £ 554.20 |

Balance as at 05.03.15

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Community Council | £ 1,157.10 |
| Micro Grant Funds | £ 54.20 |

One micro grant of £500 has been paid out since the last meeting to Anneke Kraakman. A micro grant has also been awarded to "Mid Atholl Strings and Things".

Griffin Wind Farm Funding Panel

The panel meeting coincided with this Community Council meeting so there is no further update from the funding panel.

Planning

The Secretary updated the meeting on planning applications that had been approved.

New Applications:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| 14/02147/CON | Demolition of boathouse at Pitcastle Hydro Scheme, Strathtay |
| 14/02157/CON | Demolition of powerhouse at Pitcastle Hydro Scheme, Strathtay |
| 15/00185/FLL | Change of use from garden centre to outdoor activity centre at The Garden Centre, Ballinluig |

Pitcastle Hydro Scheme

Shane Birmingham (Natural Power) and Donnie Broad (Pitcastle Estate Manager) attended the meeting to update the community on progress with the hydro scheme. There were two changes to the scheme and its construction and planning permission is likely to be applied for before the next Community Council meeting on 14th May.

- a. Design of the new lade – Due to the re-surveying work recently undertaken, it is now proposed that part of the new lade will be contained within pipes which will run underground for some of the distance – rather than the original plan of an open lade. This is due to the lade needing to be slightly lower than originally planned.
- b. Vehicle access - During construction it is planned to use the existing field entrance (south side of road through Strathtay, towards the western end of Strathtay) for specific construction vehicles. This is in addition to the entrance already notified near Grandtully Bridge. Before construction commences a traffic management plan will be produced to specify which vehicles will use which entrance and when this will occur.

The Chair thanked Shane Birmingham and Donnie Broad for this information and invited them to attend future meetings if there is additional information or updates to circulate.

Duntanlich Mine

The chair checked that those present were familiar with the plan to open the Duntanlich Mine including the construction of a site to crush the material near Logierait and a track to link up to the A9/A827 junction at Ballinluig. Information has been available online: www.duntanlich.com and at the public sessions that took place in February. The Community Council had also been briefed on the proposals and noted that the existing mine is planned to close and that barite is not able to be mined elsewhere. Some members

of the public expressed concern that the planned route to the A9 will go through an area where locals take access and which contains a wealth of plant and animal species. A discussion followed which focused on existing and future traffic issues in Ballinluig.

Flood Risk Management - Public Consultation

This is a national consultation being run jointly by SEPA and local authorities which closes on 2nd June 2015. The Chair had looked up the identified flood risks for the CC area in the consultation documents (PVA 08/03 - Aberfeldy, Pitlochry) and noted that Logierait was not mentioned. The CC will complete this consultation and will ask for Logierait to be included.

Local Development Plan – Main Issues Report

PKC are working on the next local development plan and Pam Blanks and the Chair recently attended one of the surgery sessions run by PKC for Community Councillors. At this stage PKC would like to receive issues and suggestions from residents in each community council area by 31st March 2015. A discussion followed about the traffic issues in Ballinluig which have been discussed at previous CC meetings. This is an issue that the CC will convey to those working on the local development plan.

HPCP

Ian Campbell updated those present on Highland Perthshire Community Partnership's current work regarding the project to provide broadband to the area.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Drainage issue on road to Strathtay from the Tulloch of Pitnacree, near to the junction A827 junction. It was understood that this had previously been rectified. Ian Campbell offered to investigate on the CC's behalf.
- b. Although it is apparently still working the speed sign at Logierait was reported to be at an unusual angle. Ian Campbell kindly offered to speak to John McNab about this so that it can be checked and, if necessary, repositioned.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 14th May in the Grandtully Hall – in order to avoid a clash of date with the general election.

The following meeting will be on Thursday 2nd July in the Mid Atholl Hall, Ballinluig

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