



Coupar Angus and Bendochy Community Council

Minute of the meeting held on Monday 14 July 2014 at 7:00pm in the Town Hall Chambers.

Present: Duncan Kettles, Carolyn Brown, Claire Easson, Jo Kettles, Michael Gallagher, Steve Cumming, Cllr Melloy, Peter Grewar, Euan Walker – Perth and Kinross Credit Union, Ruth Fry – Perth and Kinross Credit Union, Clare Damodaran – reporter - part, Carol Adderson – Police Scotland – part, Michelle Peet – minute taker.

Adoption of minutes. The minutes were proposed as a true record by Jo Kettles and seconded by Claire Easson with the following amendments. In paragraph one of Councillors' report end of the first sentence should read 'subject of Kings Road/George street had come up again after Councillor had given his report. In paragraph one of Councillors' report last sentence should read 'It was suggested by Councillor Melloy that the secretary should write to Chic...'; in paragraph three of Councillors' Report name should read Nick Brian not Nick Bryant.

Matters arising to be discussed once Euan and Ruth had finished their presentation about Perth and Kinross Credit Union.

The Perth and Kinross Credit Union is a financial co-operative which is in essence a bank – an alternative to main stream banking. It is aimed at people who are usually excluded from borrowing from the main stream banks at an affordable price. The Union commenced trading on 7 April 2014 and has given itself four years to set up with a target of 1,000 members. The members all have a bond, something in common, they all live within the Perthshire and Kinross-shire area. It is run by a team of volunteers with one professional, employed manager. Perth and Kinross Council were in favour of the Union but are not involved as the Council is not allowed to run a credit union. The Union is small scale and open to everyone as long as they meet the condition of living within the catchment area. The Union hopes to attract the younger generation. The Union is regulated by the Prudential Financial Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority. The Union is a member of the Financial Services Compensation Scheme and the Financial Ombudsman Service. Members of the Union can borrow up to £85,000 and save up to £15,000. The Union is registered with the Data Protection Act. The benefits of the Union are that life insurance is included on both loans and savings. Loan repayments – at least £1 of the repayment is put into a savings account. At present there is one office at 282 High Street Perth which is open Monday to Friday 10-2:30. Members must have saved for thirteen weeks before they can apply for a loan. Interest charged is 2% per month on the reducing balance which is a reasonable rate for people who can't get a loan through the usual route. To join require photographic id i.e. driving licence and a recent utility bill. At present (14 July) there are just over 200 members and the money in the bank is higher than predicted in the business model. A financial return will be presented every quarter to the financial body. It is hoped that a dividend will be paid after two years of trading. The Union is social inclusive lending and received money when the Union was set up. No member has yet taken a loan but the 13 week period hasn't passed yet. Lending will be up to 90% of amount that savers have put in. There are a group of ten directors. Three out of five will review the loan requests.

Euan Walker and Ruth Fry then left the meeting.

Peter Grewar of Coupar Angus and Kettins Burn Group who are concerned with drainage problems around the Burns. One bridge is the wrong height and therefore causing additional problems as sediment is collecting around it. PKC have agreed to clear under the two bridges at the bottom end of Coupar Angus by the end of October. There is a blockage at the Burrelton end which should be removed by 29 August. Meigle A94 has been done. Between the two sets of bridges in Coupar Angus the bottom of the burn is rocky and there is a lot of rubbish in the burn. The Group have an agreement from SEPA that they may clear the sediment from around the top two bridges. The sediment needs to be removed around the bridges and this used to be done regularly by the local farmers but it is now 25 years since the burns have been properly cleared. Peter said there was no guarantee that places would not flood even after the work was completed but it should make the situation better. All groups in Coupar Angus should work together to remove the rubbish from the burn through the town. Councillor Melloy indicated that he would like be on the circulation of the Coupar Angus and Kettins Burn Group. 62 tonnes of sediment were removed from under the Damhead Bridge in 2013 and now more is back. The farms and land managers either side of the bridges will maintain the burn and PKC were to maintain the central section through Coupar Angus. There was a comment that PKC had said that removing the sediment at the bridge would increase flooding but Mr Grewar disagreed with this viewpoint. The Community Council agreed to arrange the removal of debris and rubbish in the burn through the town – a SEPA licence would not be required. The Community Council back the efforts of Peter Grewar and the Burn Group. A leaflet was to be produced by the Community Council regarding not dumping items into the burn which increased the risk of homes being flooded. Clare Damodaran agreed to put a story in the Perthshire Advertiser that could then be used in the leaflet. A date of 23 July was agreed for Clare to obtain a photograph. The secretary (Claire) was to contact POP and CART and ask them to attend on 23 July. Councillor Melloy agreed to attend and bring black bin liners. The burn had been cleared for the duck race last year by POP.

Councillors' Report

Sign at Precinct Street. The owner of the sign had been informed that the area was a conservation area and that the sign needed to be removed. Paul Kettles (PKC) was to monitor the situation and chase if required.

Malloch's Yard. Councillor Melloy had checked the applications again and confirmed that there was to be no entry from Precinct Street; the entry was to be off the A94. The Roads department had objected and the planning department were not happy. Jo pointed out that it had been hinted that houses have been applied for in Tannery Yard. Councillor Melloy agreed to look at the Tannery Yard planning pre-application.

Buttery Bank Footpath – This would not be built in the first trenchant of making the road one way but PKC were aware that a path was required.

Pedestrian Crossing – Councillor Melloy had asked Daryl McKeown for brighter beacons. He had also asked the police to check that no one was parking on the crossing.

Hallyburton 30mph limit. Councillor Melloy had now established that the 30mph limits were not being placed on the main Dundee Road but on the road at Laze of Hallyburton on the back road to Meigle.

Beech Hill Road. There had been a planning application for additional houses at the bottom of Beech Hill Road however the photographs at the planning meeting didn't show the narrowness of the road at that point which was only 3.3m wide; it was in his opinion an unsafe place to put houses and therefore the application would have to be resubmitted. Jo was to check again whether she had received the notifications for the planning application for Beech Hill Road although she believed she hadn't.

Civic Licensing. Councillor Melloy informed the Community Council that PKC had insisted that in the conditions for taxi drivers there was an item that stated that they should be smartly dressed; he commented that there was a very small proportion who were unsuitable dressed.

Jo Kettles asked that Councillor Melloy take a look at the Tannery Yard planning application – her main concern was congestion in Precinct Street.

Carol Adderson – Police Scotland arrived.

Michael Gallagher asked about educating the foreigners in the town on the purpose of the beacons – would it be possible for Councillor Melloy to speak to the chicken factory. Michael was informed that there are already signs up at the chicken factory.

Michael asked about getting the overgrown hedges on Butterybank cut back prior to the new footway being constructed. He was informed that the local roads supervisor Alan Findlay had been in contact with home owners but there was a process that had to be followed which would take time.

Michael asked about greenery on Thorn Alley and said that whilst he understood that PKC had cut back on cutting greenery Thorn Alley really required doing. He was informed that PKC had never cut the greenery on Thorn Alley it was believed that initially CART had undertaken to cut it back and now the MAD group were responsible. Michael asked if the Community Council insurance would cover a group getting together to do the maintenance. He was informed that they would require the landowners' permission and the insurance people would need to be phoned and informed who and what tools were to be used – in the first instance he would need to contact PKC and discuss with them.

Michael also asked about the Community Empowerment Act that stated that if a group would provide a service better than the current service provider then that group could do it; but where was the money to come from? He was informed that PKC would not provide money and that the group would have to fundraise themselves.

Michael expressed dissatisfaction with the standard of maintenance at the graveyard; there was a lack of respect with graves being hit with machinery etc.

Treasurers' Report. In the bank on 20 June was £1153.00. The administration grant of £530.00 had been applied for from PKC and should be going into the account in the next few days. There was no major expenditure anticipated.

Police Report. Carol Adderson announced that she was the new Community Officer for Coupar Angus based at Blairgowrie, she indicated that she hadn't yet had a chance to speak to Jim Lorimer. She agreed to have a site visit to the pedestrian crossing and to ask the traffic wardens to have more presence around the crossing. There was also a discussion regarding the safety of the roundabout at the Red House. There was also some discussion regarding the use of CCTV on Precinct Street and also a high fence although part of that had now been cut down.

Correspondence

The secretary had received correspondence from John Palfreyman regarding a sculpture of a pink fork and masher to advertise the Cookery group. He was asking for ideas of where to place the sculptures. It was agreed that they were so bigger they would probably require planning permission to erect them.

The rest of the correspondence was to be put on the agenda for next meeting as time was getting short.

Steve Cumming left the meeting.

Trees in Larghan Park. There was some discussion regarding trees in Larghan Park that POP wished to remove; however there was a comment that all the trees in Larghan Park probably have protection orders on them. Claire agreed to contact Richard Brough to ask.

Gardens' Competition. Jo Kettles was to organise a judge.

POP banner A923. POP had asked PKC if they would be able to put a banner on one of the countdown to 30mph signs and were asking for the Community Council's opinion. It was agreed that the countdown markers cannot be removed and after a vote the decision was that no the Community Council would not support their application for a

banner. Carol Adderson also said that she didn't support their application because it was a road safety issue. It was agreed that Claire would email and find out how large a banner POP were wanting to erect.

Pride of Place – Golf Tee. POP were also enquiring about placing a golf tee statue on the A94 and a standing stone. It was agreed that more information about these was required.

Michael handed round a draft of a questionnaire he had prepared for the Community Council to look at and comment upon.

Meeting closed at 9:40pm.