

Comrie Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th December 2009 in the Comrie Community Centre

Chair: Gordon McCartney

Present: Tim Lucas, David Robertson, Bruce Gairns, Sandy Gray, Judy McDowall.
Willie Nicol, Jennifer Bennie, Andrew Gairns

P&K Councillors:

Strathearn Herald: Lynn Duke

Police: PC Sarah Jane Bell

Public 2 members

1. Apologies Fiona Connolly, Cllr Anne Younger, Cllr Ann Cowan.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of 12th November 2009 were adopted and signed by the chair.

3: Matters Arising

3.1 Police Matters

PC Bell gave an update on police activities for the last month. She said that there had been no youth complaints this month.

Further to last months meeting regarding paper boys riding around on their bikes without lights, PC Bell said that she had spoken with the owner of Costcutters and the manager said he would ensure that his paper boys had lights on their bikes and any high visual gear that they required to keep them safe.

Parking on the pavement in the vicinity of the old garage in Drummond Street is still an ongoing issue. PC Bell said that she has been in touch with Richard Ballantyne of the Perth Traffic police and she is hoping they can work together to solve this problem

3.2Community use of old Garage Site

CC Lucas gave an update on this project and said that it is still moving along slowly but for now they will not be able to go ahead with the car park and green area until next year as at present the site is being used by Balfour Beatty for storage. Balfour Beatty has rented this area until the end of January.

CC Lucas confirmed that planning is required for car parking and general change of usage within this area. He said that he had had confirmation from The Police, Scotland/Transerve and the Planning department confirming that, in principle, they were happy to for this area to be used as outlined. The residents in Dinnies Lane have been consulted and are also relaxed about the plan.

CC Lucas also confirmed that Mr James Denholm was happy to co-ordinate the planning requirements from flats to a car park and green area with P&K. No plans are in place as yet.

3.3 Road matters

CC Lucas said that the traffic lights on the bridge at the east of the village were now in place and said that they did not appear to be causing any problems. He confirmed that work on the bridge will start in January 2010 and should be completed by March. But if anyone did have any queries they should contact ScotlandTranserv direct.

CC Lucas said that he had contacted ScotlandTranserv in Beaully to request that they repair the road surface on the bridge.

CC councillors once again voiced their concerns regarding the state of the roads after last weeks snow and hard frosts. No gritting had been carried out within the village. After a heavy fall of snow no snowplough had been through the village.

CC B Gairns said that last weeks hard frosts were apparent as he drove between Comrie and Crieff around 9.00am and the main A85 had not been gritted. This did raise concerns with the Council members as they were aware that the school buses would have driven through to Crieff prior to this time

The streetlights upgrade is now almost complete and the CCC said that Balfour Beatty had done a very good job with the minimum of disruption in the village and they should be congratulated for their good work.

3.4 CDT

CC Robertson gave an update on the CDT's recent activities. He said the Zero Waste Challenge had been a success.

Planning permission has been applied for for 2 houses at Cultybraggan. There is, apparently, no intention for the houses to be built at present, but this planning requested will upgrade the value of the land and the erection of these houses will only go ahead if the CDT become short of funds.

Four of the nissan huts are now occupied, and Wild Thyme, the catering company, will be moving to Cultybraggan in the New Year.

3.5 Community Council Elections

CC Lucas informed the meeting that the elections would take place in March 2010.

It was agreed that the elections would take place on Saturday 13th March 2010.

The Notification of Election will be posted by 30th January 2010.

Nominations for membership must be deposited with the returning officer not later than 4.00pm on the 20th February 2010.

CC Lucas said that he would approach Mr Peter Innes and ask him if he would be happy to act again as the returning officer.

CC Lucas said that he would organise the election details and would report back at the next meeting with any further relevant details.

It was agreed that notices and fliers should be put around the village to encourage new members to be elected onto the committee.

3.6 Housing/ Planning

No contentious planning issues this month

Skate board Planning Permission

Unfortunately the above committee has problems regarding their planning application that was lodged with P&K in September 2009. The main concern is that the skateboard park will have a visual impact on people and motorists coming into the village. At last month meeting it was stated that there was eight letters of objections had been lodged with P&K regarding this project and it was assumed that this was from neighbours who live in the vicinity of the Laggan Park.

It was confirmed at the meeting that there was only 5 letters of objection, two from the same person living close to the vicinity and the other three letters of objection were from residents who lived elsewhere within the village.

CC Lucas said that he would contact CC Anne Younger regarding this problem.

The CCC members were very disappointed for everyone who is involved in getting this project up and running but will continue to support the project.

4 Treasurer's Report

Main account	£4,623.68
Public Toilets	£ 983.59
Hayride	£ 1,111.41
Legion Park	£ 783.26

5 Secretary's Report

CC Lucas said that he had received communication from BT regarding the red telephone boxes within the village. He said that local Community Councils were being invited by BT to adopt these boxes at a cost of only £1 each. BT did point out that any telephone box adopted by Communities would have all the telephone equipment removed from them.

CCC members thought that it was a good idea and agreed to adopt all 3 telephone boxes within the area. CC Lucas said he would question the responsibility for the repairs and maintenance of the boxes and disposal procedure should the Community Council not wish to continue with them.

6 Councillors Report

CC Andrew Gairns reported that he is still getting complaints regarding the flashing neon light outside of the Fish and Chip shop in Dundas Street. Apparently no planning permission had been granted. CC Lucas said that he would write to C Anne Younger regarding this ongoing issue.

CC McDowall, said that 11 bricks on the Dalginross bridge had been marked for replacement. She also reported that the hedge on Strowan Road/ Square area requires cutting back, as it is growing out onto the pavement. She will approach the owner.

CC Gray said that nothing had been done regarding the damage to the Ross Bridge. He said the streets were dirty and many pavements still had leaves lying on them.

Once again CCC members voiced their concern regarding the state of the roads and pavements. To date previous complaints raised at earlier meetings over the past few months have received little action despite the appropriate departments within P&K being notified of these problems.

CC McCartney said that he had received an invitation from the Rev Graham McWilliams regarding the Community Carol Service that will take place on the 15th December 2009. It was agreed that the CC Chairman would do a reading on behalf on CCC.

CC Lucas said that CC Connolly has had more complaints regarding the lack of white lines and bollards in Melville Lane and that this lack is becoming a major problem. Motorists are parking within the Safer Route to School area and as a result the children have to walk in the middle of lane. P&K have been contacted many times regarding this problem but to date no action has been taken to rectify this problem.

AOCB

Community Notice Board.

Two members of Comrie in Colour were present at the meeting and gave an update on the new notice board for the village The design that had been selected at last months meeting was now longer available but another similar board had been selected and Comrie in Colour would proceed with this and organise funding where appropriate and order the new notice board.

The Chair thanked Comrie in Colour for helping out on this project

The Chair also thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished everyone the compliments of the season.

The next meeting will be held on 14th January 2010 at 7.30pm in the Comrie Community Centre

