

Comrie Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th October 2008 in the Comrie Community Centre at 7.30pm.

Chair: Gordon McCartney

Present: Tim Lucas, Andrew Gairns, Bruce Gairns, Sandy Gray,
David Robertson, Judy McDowall, Jennifer Perks

1.Apologies Willie Nicol, Ann Cowan.

Councillors: Helen McDonald

Police: Inspector Cathy MacDonald, Police Officer Sarah Jane Bell.

Strathearn Herald: Lynn Duke

Public Neill Aitken and 2 members of the public

Perth and Kinross: Steven Kane.

2. Minutes:

Minutes from the 11th September 2008 were adopted and signed by the chair.

3: Matters Arising

3.1 Police Matters.

Inspector Cathy MacDonald attended the meeting this month to introduce herself to the CCC members. She said that she has been in Crieff since the 1st July 2008 and that her aim was to visit all Community Councils within her area. She said that she intended to visit CCC twice a year. When ever possible Sergeant David Pettigrew would deputise for her. P.O. Sarah Jane Bell was introduced as the Community Liaison Officer for Comrie. She will be the replacement for P.O. Iain Gillies who has moved on to other work in Perth. She also lives in the village.

Inspector MacDonald went onto say that she was happy to hear from any of the council members at anytime. She said that she would provide CC Lucas with contact numbers. When she is out of her area she can still access her voice mail at any time should phone messages be left.

CC Lucas said that at last month's meeting the CCC had a very forthright and useful discussion with Sergeant Pettigrew. The Council members felt that the youth problem in the village had improved somewhat due the high visibility of police officers. In the latter part of September one person was issued with a fixed penalty for Breach of the Peace

CC Lucas said that another problem arising after the departure of the last bus on Saturday nights was the delivery of food from a Crieff takeaway restaurant to groups of youths on the street. This encouraged the youths to hang around at the Square, in particular, as well as significantly adding to the litter problem. Inspector MacDonald said that most takeaway food

outlets were licensed to sell food until 1.00am but after that time no takeaways should be delivered to Comrie. She would consider whether discussing this with takeaway premises in Crieff was appropriate.

3.2 Legion Park

Steven Kane from Perth and Kinross attended this month's meeting to discuss his proposed plans for the refurbishment of the children's play area within the Legion Park and showed members the plans for this. Mr Kane said that P&K replaces play areas that are 15-20 years old. He said that P&K had held an open day at the park in July 2008 and had spoken to residents as well as to the children, as to what they would like to see improved in their park. As a result of this meeting it is proposed that a new roundabout, swings, 'imagine n climb' frame as well 4 'springies' will be installed. The well worn seesaw will remain but will be refurbished as well as the artwork on the fence and the benches in the play area. The entrance to the park from Strowan Road will be hard surfaced. The lane leading into the park from Queens Road is also a candidate for hard surfacing. The pathways leading to the play area from both entrances would also be tarmac or similar. The bark in the play areas will be replaced by spongy material. Mr Kane said that the bark is probably better and preferred by the children but is not so easy to maintain.

Mr Kane said that the boundary fences could be removed and either trees or a beech hedge planted around the park instead. The CCC members felt that from a safety aspect that the fence should be retained and that trees could be planted a few metres in from the fence. Mr Kane thought cherry would be appropriate as it is very flowery in the spring. Mr Kane went onto say that as the CCC members agreed to his proposals for the upgrading of the park the work would start in December 2008/ January 2009 and would be completed by March 2009. He did say that the play park would be completely closed during this period.

The Chair thanked Mr Kane for coming along to discuss his proposals.

3.3 CDT update.

CC Robertson gave an up date on the CDT and said that the AGM had been well attended.

He said that the CDT has two new jobs available. One is for a Comrie Carbon Challenge Officer. Eleven applicants had applied for this position and the other one is for a CDT Office Manager. Twelve applicants had applied for this position. CC Robertson said that the office would be situated at Number 5 Dunira Street. This will house the staff and be a drop-in point for local people. The CDT will be organising an informal recruitment evening. The intention is that the CDT board will be being present along with the candidates. It will also be an opportunity for representatives from various organisations within the village to be there to assist and advise on the recruitment of the candidates.

This event will take place on Thursday 30th October 2008 from 7.30pm in the WRI Hall. The formal interviews will take place on Friday 31st October.

3.4 Housing/ Planning

Culybraggan

CC Lucas showed the CCC members plans he had received from P&K regarding the proposal for part of the Culybraggan site. The plans presented were for half of the camp and include the proposed allotments as well as the Nissan huts that will be used for storage.

Muirend Chalets

At last months meeting, concerns were raised regarding the planning for the above chalets .CC Lucas said that he had received a letter from Ann Cowan saying that she had looked into this planning application and that correct planning procedures had been followed.

3.4 Core Paths

The CCC has received a substantial document called ‘Draft Core Paths Plan 2008’ – Final Consultation. This consists of some 74 maps covering all of Scotland. The maps relevant to the Comrie area were passed to Neill Aitken last week for study. He then gave a resume of his findings to the CC at the meeting. He made the following comments.

1. The path from the vicinity of Lawers gates south to the old railway line was not an existing track, would not be used by the people of Comrie and was therefore pointless.
2. The right of way (ROW) through Findhu Glen, from Auchnashelloch to the B827 south of Tigh na Blair has been omitted despite earlier representations.
3. The ROW track from the Callender drove road to Ben Vorlich and to Ardvorlich/Loch earn has been omitted despite earlier representations.
4. The ROW track from Craggish to Ben Halton has been omitted despite earlier representations.
5. The earlier proposed use of the old railway line to the east of Comrie for part of the cycle track seems to have been dropped after considerable objection from local land owners.

CC Lucas will write formally to Perth and Kinross with these points before the expiry of the consultation period on 30th November.

3.5 River Ruchill

CC Lucas said that the riverbed and banking was in a very poor state and, to date, had not heard anything further from P&K for some time regarding this issue. He said that he would write to P&K and find out what progress had been made with Dr Irvine regarding access across his property to enable work to be carried out on the river banks. There was also an urgent need to have the river cleared of fallen trees in case they banded together during high water to dam it and create a potential flooding problem.

4.Treasurer’s Report

Main Account	£4007.82
Legion Park	£ 781.26
Hayride	£ 981.20
Public Toilets	£ 981.08

5: Secretary’s Report

CC Lucas said that he had received a letter from Mr Gordon Banks MP regarding the speeding of motorcyclists along the A85. Mr Banks indicated in his letter that he would like a representative from the CCC to attend any future meetings regarding this ongoing problem. CC Lucas said that he was happy to attend any future meetings subject to him being available.

CC Lucas said that he had received a letter from Ms Wendy MacPhedran from P&K inviting members of CCC to attend an autumn meeting of the Convention of P&K Community

Councils. This convention will take place on the 26th October 2008 at 2.30pm in the Tulloch Community Centre in Perth.

Councillors

CC Bruce Gairns said that he is still receiving complaints regarding the log lorries using the Langside.

CC Gray said that he has spoken to someone from Transerv regarding the light P331 at the West end of the village. The reason for this light not working may be due to lack of power to the lamppost. He also reported that there is a light out in Dundas Street.

CC Gray also said that although there were bins on the outside of the Laggan Park there were not bins actually inside the park. He suggested that it would be useful to have a wheelie by the Pavilion. Cllr Helen MacDonald will organise this

AOB

Chairman McCartney said Allan Moffat of First Response had reported that since their inauguration they have had 59 call outs. The CCC members were impressed with the good work that the volunteers are doing for the community.

Chairman McCartney thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The next meeting will be held on the 13 November 2008 at 7.30pm in Comrie Community Centre.