

Comrie Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th December 2008 in the WRI Hall, Nurses Lane at 7.30pm

Chair: Gordon McCartney

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

1.Apologies Ann Cowan, Helen McDonald, Fiona Connolly, Lyn Duke

Police: Sergeant David Pettigrew.

Public 2 members of the public

2. Minutes:

Minutes from the meeting held on the 11th November 2008 were adopted and signed by the chair.

3: Matters Arising

3.1 Police Matters.

Sergeant Pettigrew gave an updated report on events that took place during November.

Overnight on Saturday 27th November 2008 the bus shelter at the top of Dalginross and the public toilet window were smashed with stones. Extensive enquiries are on going. Anyone with any information regarding these please contact the police.

There is still a problem with local youths/young adults acting in an anti social manner after pub closing time, particularly during the early hours of Sunday morning. Police have had a significant police presence in the village at these times and are adopting a zero tolerance approach to this type of behaviour.

Additional patrols in the village, and all areas of Strathearn, are being carried out in support of Police Festive Policing Operation - Homesafe that will run until Saturday 10th January 2009.

Police will also be carrying out additional patrols in line with Festive Safety Campaign that will run until Monday 5th January 2009. All driving offences are being targeted in particular drink/drug driving, speeding, seat belt and mobile phone offences.

With the fall of snow comes the annual problem of snowball throwing. A number of youths have been spoken to regarding this and advised of the consequences. Liaison with the schools is also on going in this respect.

An article has appeared in the Strathearn Herald this week addressing the concerns raised at the last meeting regarding cycles with no lights.

A number of carry-out restaurants have recently been broken into in the Perth and Kinross area. All premises have been contacted and given appropriate advice regarding security and good working practice. Any suspicious persons or vehicles should be reported to the police on

telephone number 0845 600 5705 or in an emergency call 999.

3.2 Skateboard project.- Laggan Park.

Fran Loots and a group of young members of the above project, as well as Mark Foster from Dundee University, attended the meeting and asked the CCC for their support. The young committee have carried out a survey with youngsters between the ages of 5 and 11 years who live in the village and who would use the park. They have also started a petition of support for this project. The youngsters, with the help of Mark Foster, have drawn up plans for a skate park to be based in the Laggan Park. The group has already met with the Laggan Park Committee and they are now seeking quotes from local contractors. Mark Foster did say that it is a huge project but he is confident that he will be able to get funding from various sources, but he does need the support of the CCC and the police to be able to take the project forward to the next stage. It was agreed that CCC would lend their support to this young committee. CC Lucas will write a letter of support to the people concerned.

3.3 River Ruchill.

CC Lucas raised the issue of further bank erosion and numerous fallen trees in the River Ruchill. He said that although he has raised these problems with P&K recently he has not received any replies to his correspondence. It was suggested that a site meeting with Susan Veitch of P&K be arranged for sometime in January 2009. Mr Lucas will arrange this and advise everyone accordingly.

3.4 Twinning.

Mr George Lees attended this month's meeting regarding the student exchange with Carleton Place. Apparently there has been interest in it taking place and Ms Christine Ross of Crieff High School has been corresponding directly with Mr Ron Goebel of Carleton place, but unfortunately, due to the lack of funding, nothing further has happened. Mr Lees said that only four students were interested in the student exchange. He feels that if funding cannot be found for this to go ahead then it could be the end of the twinning between Comrie and Carleton Place. It was suggested that Mr Lees confirms which students are definitely interested in participating in an exchange. Once this has been established, the students who wish to go to Canada could then undertake fundraising projects themselves, with appropriate community help, to raise the money required for their airfares and spending money. Mr Lees will report back to the CCC in due course.

3.5 Legion Park Plans.

Following on from the presentation from Steven Kane, Landscape Architect from P&K, at the October meeting where he outline his proposed plans for the refurbishment of the children's play area within the Legion Park - CC Lucas was pleased to report that the project had come in under budget and therefore money would be available to construct the additional footpaths and rebound fence requested by the Community Council. The works is scheduled to start in January 2009, but the start date has yet to be confirmed by the contractor who has been chosen to carry out this project.

3.6 Housing Planning.

No issues to report this month.

3.7 CDT.

CC Robertson said that there was nothing to report from the CDT this month, apart from the opening of the CDT office that took place on the 4th December.

3.8 Others Matters.

Chairman McCartney said that Christmas trees had been delivered to the White Church, the Primary School, the Parish Church and the Royal Hotel. CC Robertson said the Reverend Graham McWilliams was grateful for the kind donation and thanked the CCC for their action on this matter. He also asked if any member of the CCC would like to read the Lesson at the Community Service on Wednesday 19th December in the Parish Church at 6.30pm. CC McCartney said he was sure that one of the Committee members would oblige.

4 Treasurers Report.

Main account	£4166.82
Public Toilets	£ 981. 08
Hayride	£ 981. 20
Legion Park	£ 781.26

5 Secretary's Report CC Lucas said that after last month's meeting and the concerns the CCC had raised regarding the state of the roads he had written to Transerv Scotland and Perth and Kinross but to date had no reply to either of his letters. He said that despite having written to Transerv many times over past months he has had no reply to virtually any of his correspondence.

CC B Gairns reported that issues regarding the Core Paths debate had been opened again regarding the path from the vicinity of Lawers gates south to the old railway line.

CC A Gairns reported that the railings around the square may be installed by the end of the year.

CC Gray reported that the resident in the old police house Burrell Street had contacted him regarding the removal of 'Police No Parking' signs in the lay-by outside her house. She expressed concerns regarding this as at present she has problems with church users using this space. Seemingly they are, at times, parking across her driveway with the result that sometimes she is unable to get her vehicle out. It was suggested that perhaps double yellow lines could be painted across the entrance to their driveway.

CC McDowall raised concerns regarding the cleaning of the streets within the village. She said that it must be at least a month since the P&K council had been round with the street cleaner. CC Lucas will raise this problem with P&K.

CC Lucas said that he had received a complaint regarding the large blue container that had remained in the Laggan Park since the Comrie Fortnight in July. It was reported that it belonged to the Comrie Fortnight Committee and was being used for storage. It was further reported that the container is to be removed to a new location in the new year – possibly Cultybraggan Camp.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting and wished all those present the compliments of the season. The next meeting will be held on the **8th January 2009 at 7.30pm in the Comrie Community Centre.**