



Minutes of meeting of 11th January 2018		
<u>Comrie Community Centre, 7.30pm</u>		
1.0	Attendance	Action
	Community Councillors: David Robertson John Greer Iain McLellan Alan Moffat Lianne Curran Andrew Thompson Pauline Toole	
	PKC Councillors: Roz McCall	
	Apologies : CClr Joyce Webb, CClr Christine Young, Cllr Stewart Donaldson, Cllr Rhona Brock There were 8 members of the public in attendance	
2.0	Police Report	
	A car was reported to be damaged between the 26 th and 27 th December due to someone walking over the top of it. Police Scotland wished to highlight that 2018 is the Year of Young People and is urging communities to promote this by encouraging young people to volunteer to work with the youth volunteer scheme and to become Police Youth Volunteers. AT reported that there have been complaints from members of the public regarding the abandoned car in Field of Refuge – AM confirmed that it due to be uplifted this week.	
3.0	Previous Minutes	
	No amendments or matters arising from last minutes.	
4.0	Planning	

	<p>a. It was brought to the attention of the CC that there are a number of local residents (several present at the meeting) who are unhappy about aspects of the PKC LDP2 plan, currently under consultation. Particularly the proposal to retain Cowden Road site for housing. LDP2 proposal for 33-52 house to be built on this site is open for consultation until 02 Feb.</p> <p>Cllr McCall explained that she was on the PKC Planning and Development Committee and that PKC had been given a set number of houses and they had to meet targets regarding the number of houses to be offered for the Development Plan. This was not only in Comrie but through the whole of Strathearn. There was no guarantee that these houses would be built, but the proposal is in the final stage of LDP2.</p> <p>Residents in the area expressed their feelings regarding the lack of correspondence that had been received and that some people affected had received no notice concerning the consultation. Cllr McCall took all these points on board and said that she would look into the issues raised.</p> <p>The local residents also raised the concern that if the housing development went ahead there is no suitable access to this site – had this been thought of by the developers? Cllr McCall confirmed she would pass back all the residents’ concerns and forward any findings. Any residents with concerns regarding the housing proposal should submit an objection by 2nd February. It was also agreed that more information should be made available to the local community. It also needs to be easy to understand so everyone is very clear what stage the LDP2 Local Plan is at, and how to object. AT confirmed he would put up details of an LDP2 consultation meeting to be held on the 20th January at Crieff Campus, to ensure that everyone was aware of it.</p> <p>Another resident of Comrie raised the concern of the type of houses that would be built and also whether any of these houses could be safeguarded for Comrie residents, who are in need of affordable homes. It was also confirmed that the more people who object to this development and write a formal complaint to the council then this would have more standing than doing one single petition. It was agreed the CC would also submit a letter outlining concerns.</p> <p>b. There is a planning advice session on the 20th January in Perth, 11am – 3.30pm, to offer advice to CC members on making effective representations about LDP2.</p>	<p>Cllr RMcC</p> <p>Cllr RMcC</p> <p>CCllr AT</p> <p>CCllr AT</p> <p>CCllr AT to attend</p>
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5.0	Roads	
	Incident of the pot hole in Strowan Road had been reported. This has now been repaired.	
	Concern was raised from the floor regarding a metal cover over a drain on A85 having a large hole in it. JMCD almost had an accident on her bike. AT confirmed he would follow this up.	CCllr AT
	A number of residents raised concerns about the lack of gritting in the village over the spell of recent poor weather. AM confirmed that PKC had been doing the best that they can and that it was due to unfortunate weather circumstances. He also confirmed that it is not mandatory for a bus route to be gritted automatically, it was done on priority roads. AM confirmed that he had received a list of grit bins throughout the village and he would circulate this and ensure that they are all there. Cllr RMcC also confirmed that grit bins are not filled automatically and that the village needs to report if a bin is becoming empty.	CCllr AM All
6.0	Treasurer's Report	
	JG reported 7 bank accounts still in operation, with no change to balances since previous meeting. There are some donations still to be made to the local community groups.	CCllr JG
7.0	Secretary's Correspondence	
	AM confirmed he was handing over as Secretary to AT from after this meeting.	
	1. There was information received from SWECO (PKC's flood defence contractors) regarding the flood prevention work and it was agreed that this information should be made available to the Community. There was concern raised regarding trees being marked and was this the work starting. It was confirmed that these are trees that have been marked for removal to enable test drill holes to be made.	CCllr AT

	<p>2. RBS closure</p> <p>CllrRMcC said that there was a Scottish Rural action survey that should be shared with the community and it should be put on facebook for people to see.</p> <p>She also shared a letter Luke GrahamMP had written to RBS regarding the closure and the concerns he had and the impact that this might have on the village. From the floor, Murray Lauchlan also stated that he had been in contact with the Head of Closures at the RBS and they had confirmed that the bank will be closing, and despite residents' and customers' concerns there appeared very little that could be done about it. RBS plans are published on line stating that the current RBS building is due to be closed and the signage, ATM and infrastructure are to be removed soon after closure. ML confirmed that these plans have been date stamped 2 years ago, so this closure has been in the pipeline for a long time.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the CC should write on behalf of the community and AT would work with ML to compose a letter to be circulated for CCllr approval.</p> <p>It was also confirmed that Luke Graham MP would be in the village on the 27th January at 2pm to talk with the local community regarding the closure of the RBS.</p>	CCllr AT
	<p>3. There has been a note circulated to all CC's from PKC regarding future applications for road closures for public events. These need to be submitted by a schedule of set dates. It was highlighted that if road closures are approved for local community events the community would be responsible for picking up any costs regarding Police attendance.</p>	

	<p>4. Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed This issue of these invasive weeds had been raised at previous CCC meetings. AM introduced Brian Henley from the floor to speak about the issue. BH confirmed that now would be a good time to get a volunteer group involved from the village. This would be particularly good for HBalsam, as this can just be pulled out of the ground before it sets seed, with no need for protective clothing. It would be a good opportunity for local groups or schools to get involved as the problem is only going to get worse.</p> <p>Knotweed is much more difficult to get rid of and this would require funding to remove it. It was noted that funding may now be available to landowners through the SRDP programme. Help may possible be available from SEPA or SNH. Agreed to do more research on help available.</p> <p>BH expressed the view that something needs to be done soon regarding these two weeds, as they are spreading fast and destroying our local flora and fauna.</p> <p>5. Cllr Stewart Donaldson had emailed to alert the CC about RBS proposal to remove the ATM in addition to Comrie branch closure, and to urge that as many people as possible should raise the issue with RBS. An update on Core Path issues and Comrie to Crieff path upgrade progress would be given at February meeting.</p>	CCllr AT
8.0	Councillors Report	
	AM – Contact has been made with the council regarding the cemetery railing renewal. Once more has been heard an update will be given.	
9.0	AOCB	
	New bus timetable – problems with the new Stagecoach bus timetable were highlighted from the floor. Problems with the guaranteed connection at Crieff, between Perth/Stirling (15a) and Crieff/Comrie (15). Drivers appear to have no instruction to wait if connecting bus is late. Cllr RMcC agreed to follow this up.	Cllr RMcC
10.0	Date of next meeting	
	Date of next meeting is 8 th February 2018 Meeting closed at 9.45pm.	