

Comrie Community Council – Minutes of Meeting

Thursday 8th December 2022, The Royal Hotel



Councillors in attendance: Gillian Brock (Chair), Karen Donaldson (Vice-Chair), Lindsay Brown (Treasurer), Andrew Scobie (Secretary), Terri Bacon, Diane Kaye, Rosemary Mitchell

Elected representatives in attendance: Cllr Rhona Brock, Cllr Noah Khogali

Members of the public in attendance: Lily McKiddie, David Robertson, Patricia Robertson, Fiona Perry

Apologies: Cllr Stewart Donaldson, Lorna Ramsay

Previous Minutes:

- Rhona noted that the AGM minutes did not have a seconder. Andrew replied, stating that he could not make out the seconder from the recording. Karen confirmed that she seconded them.
- Furthermore, it was incorrectly recorded that the Scottish Government overruled Perth and Kinross Council in granting planning for the expansion of the caravan park, when in fact it was the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).
- Andrew will make these changes.
- Pending corrections are made, Gillian accepted the minutes and Rosemary seconded.

Matters Arising & Action Points:

- Lorna has corresponded with RBS regarding change of signatories.
- We are still waiting to hear back from Lindsay about payments to META.
- Andrew has contacted Police Scotland to ask that the commanders bulletin be sent to his address.

- Lindsay has updated the website per the concerns raised by a local resident at the last meeting.
- Karen has been added to the secretary email account and will also receive the correspondence.
- Lindsay is still working on formalising the process of Sandra editing the website and Facebook page as a third-party.
- Diane has researched contacts for Crieff Connections.
- The flood prevention leaflet has been distributed. Gillian noted that there were some issues with delivery including duplication and streets being overlooked.
- Andrew has still to contact Martine about moving the Ward Memorial bench. This is outstanding.
- PKC are still looking for postcodes for the hampers application. Gillian added that the church has organised this. We can re-visit this next year. Andrew will email Rhona Cameron at PKC.

Police Report:

- Gillian has been in touch with the Sargent who informed her that the police report has been discontinued. This can be taken off future agendas.
- The Commander's Bulletin is still being published and Police Scotland are looking to make this more robust.
- The dates of the future community council meetings have been shared with Police Scotland. They are unable to attend Zoom meetings due to data protection.
- Lindsay stated that he does publish the relevant parts of the Commander's Bulletin on the website.

Relevant Planning Applications:

- Nothing of particular significance. The owners of Mishnish in The Ross have submitted an application for a new building in the grounds. No known objections have been raised to this.
- The planning process is still ongoing for the former RBS renovation.
- Rhona asked about housing at Comrie Croft. Gillian replied that the community is mutually supportive of this development.

Treasurer's Report:

- Lindsay shared this prior to the meeting.
- Lindsay confirmed that he now has as much control over the accounts as possible.
- We can access two of the six accounts but not the other four. It will be a matter of closing these and opening a new one.
- He has also discovered a new account, which is the 'Friends of the Square' account with 75p in it. We don't need to worry about this.
- RBS have compensated us for the problems caused.
- Lindsay will close the flood account, the public toilet account, and the Friends of the Square Account. The Christmas Lights account will be discussed later. The Hayride account will be kept separate for now. Once this process is over we will have two accounts that we are solely responsible for.
- The admin account is down to £194.80, which is not a lot. We have spent £120 on marking the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Paper and printing remains a prominent expense. Gillian added that we are not looking to print another leaflet for posting. If we find ourselves in a position when we need to do this again, we will look at getting leaflets commercially printed as this will likely be cheaper.
- When asked if it would be possible to ask for further monies from PKC, Rhona added that £700 is the maximum that will be awarded, and it only

covers certain things. Gillian highlighted that she checked with Christine Grant about the Queen and this will be covered by PKC.

- In the New Year we can approach Christine Grant about funding.

Road Matters:

- Gillian has again asked PKC about repainting the disabled bays and double yellow lines. PKC have replied, stating that they are experiencing a staff-shortage just now but this will get done.
- She has spoken with Blair from BEAR Scotland about the junction at the top of Dalginross. She has shared the plans. There is mutual concern about the safety about that junction, especially about the speed of drivers from the South-Crieff Road to the B827 (Langside) and vice-versa. Gillian is waiting to hear back. She highlighted that during a recent site visit, there near-misses were observed.
- Community council members and members of the public in attendance are worried about what is being proposed.
- Lindsay expressed his concern that the Community Council are not road experts, and there is the risk that we will be held accountable for developments, which, made with the best of intentions, ultimately turn problematic.
- More information is required on potential methods by which speed can be reduced. If this can be implemented then the proposed plan should work well.
- Nothing has been agreed yet, there is plenty of time for further consultation. A roundabout may be an alternative.
- The works on the bridge and Drummond Street have been put back.

Secretary's Relevant Correspondence and Update:

- Secretary email not been overly busy since the last meeting, largely the usual correspondence.
- Copies of the minutes are still going into the Library, Post Office, and the White Church.

Legion Park:

- Grass seed needs to go down in the New Year. Terri will chase this up with Martine.

Warm Hubs:

- Fiona stated that both the White Church and Parish Church are happy to serve as warm hubs. She is still waiting to hear back from the Rural Hall and the school.
- Fiona will share this information with Gillian and Lindsay so this can be shared on the website and Facebook page.

Affordable Housing:

- The draft report has been produced but we are still waiting for it to be published.

Website:

- The website is rumbling along.
- Jaclyn in the White Church can now edit the website. Hopefully a representative from the Rural Hall will soon be able to do so, and the Parish Church.
- Lindsay is happy to train people up to publish on the website should they wish.
- Gillian agreed that this is a good idea as it *"cuts out the middle-man"*.

- We need to be mindful, however, that the website is not an advertising platform.
- Lindsay asked the Ward Councillors in attendance if they would like to post on the website. Noah is fine with this, though all Ward Councillors are given space in *The Quair* for this purpose.

Glasscorrie:

- A new planning application is being submitted and we are waiting on the details of this being published.
- Lindsay will keep the Community Council in the loop regarding any developments.

Dalginross Bridge:

- Gillian has been in contact with the Community Payback Team. They are going to come out and inspect the site, but they have not done so yet.
- Spring is likely the time when the work will be done.
- Gillian and Lindsay are considering going to Steinmeier for funding, as projects including The Square, and Comrie in Colour have also received monies from this charity for projects deemed to be of mutual benefit to the village.
- Rosemary added that the bridge is often photographed, hence it is of the utmost importance that it be well-maintained.

Christmas Lights:

- David Robertson and Patricia Robertson, members of the public in attendance are on the Comrie Christmas Lights Committee.
- The Community Council currently holds the Christmas Lights money, plus the Christmas Lights Committee is a sub-committee of the CC.
- There has been an issue with insurance for the lights.

- From information available Gillian has deciphered that a member of the Community Council must sit on the Christmas Lights Committee or vice-versa.
- David stated that the current Christmas lights were established by the Community Council. This said it was relatively autonomous and raised its own funds for the current lights. A community councillor sat on the committee to report back to the Community Council. David would like to keep this going.
- The lights are stored at Cultybraggan Camp free of charge and are serviced by a local electrician. However, David added that money will need to be spent on them in the future as the existing ones will need replaced. Plus, David would like to extend the lights.
- The timings of the lights are differing due to some street lights being maintained by BEAR Scotland, and others by PKC.
- Diane volunteered to represent the Community Council of the Christmas Lights Committee.
- Lindsay is happy to look after the money, but would like to be informed before they are planning to make a purchase. Diane will be included in the committee's WhatsApp group.
- In January monies will be withdrawn to pay Tayside Contracts for putting the lights up then taking them down.

Councillors 'Reports:

- Diane Kay – She is still waiting to hear back from the Twinning Committee.
- Terri Bacon – No updates
- Rosemary Mitchell – No updates
- Andrew Scobie – He had not realised that a document was missing when registering the Friends of Comrie Cemeteries Group. It has been submitted and the group has been formally registered. Andrew is going to contact Robert Ross and set up a meeting for volunteers. The day before Remembrance Sunday, he placed Poppy crosses on the War

Graves in South Crieff Road Old Cemetery. As far as Andrew is aware, Shelter Scotland and PKC are still engaging with the owners of 2 Bridgend. Andrew is concerned about a property in Strowan Road. Whilst it is known to be occupied, there never seems to be any signs of life there. Gillian will ask the neighbours to keep an eye out.

- Cllr Noah Khogali – Noah highlighted that for those living on tight corners, their recycling may be going to landfill. This is not widely known. Residents who are concerned will be provided with a large bag to take recycling to the tip themselves. Noah believes this is unacceptable and is trying to get this stopped.
- Lindsay Brown – no update
- Karen Donaldson – no update
- Cllr Rhona Brock – Rhona reiterated about contacting Blair about the concern about speed on Dalginross.
- Gillian Brock – Gillian is going to approach PKC to ask about planning permission for the third flagpole in the White Church Cemetery. Gillian thanked her Mum for folding the flood leaflets and to those who delivered them. Ex-Community Councillor Scott Broadley is heading out to Canada just after Christmas. He had compiled a book of arial shots of Comrie. Lorna Ramsay and her husband David have commissioned a poet, whose work will be printed on nice card and placed inside the book. Lindsay queried who was paying, and we are, why as the Twinning Committee have their own account. Gillian confirmed that this gesture comes from the Community Council. The Church got an anonymous donation that went to the school, which funded the hampers. The Comrie calendar is due to be released soon. Harry Thomason of Crieff Community Council sadly passed away recently. Gillian passed on condolences on behalf of Comrie Community Council to our counterparts in Crieff, and to Harry's family. Gillian will attend his funeral tomorrow.

AOCB:

- Lindsay asked if, in a similar vein to the Christmas Lights Committee, a member of the Community Council should sit on the forthcoming Hayride Committee. Gillian replied, stating that we are not allowed to be involved with the Hayride due to health and safety, and insurance.
- David asked if we could open the public toilets for the Flambeaux's. Rosemary volunteered to remind the Handy Shop not to close the toilets on the 31st. The Flambeaux Committee will close them after.

DONM: Thursday 12th January at 7pm on Zoom.

Action Points:

- Andrew to correct the minutes before sharing.
- Andrew to contact Martine at PKC about moving the Ward bench.
- Andrew to contact Rhona Cameron at PKC to postpone hamper applications until next year.
- Lindsay to request closure of surplus bank accounts.
- Gillian and Lindsay to approach Christine Grant about topping up the admin fund.
- Terri to chase up Martine at PKC regarding grass seed planting in the Legion Park.
- Fiona to share information about local warm hubs with Gillian.
- Gillian and Lindsay to approach Steinmeier about funding for Dalginross Bridge painting.
- Diane and Lindsay to be added to the Christmas Lights Committee WhatsApp group.
- Gillian to approach the neighbours of the resident of Strowan Road that Andrew is concerned about.
- Gillian to ask PKC about planning permission for the third flag pole.

- Rosemary to ask the Handy Shop to leave the public toilets open on the 31st of December.

ADOPTED