



## **Comrie Community Council Meeting Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 7 pm**

In Attendance: Gillian Brock (Chair), Karen Donaldson (Vice-Chair), Lindsay Brown (Treasurer), Andrew Scobie (Secretary), Terri Bacon, Diane Kaye, Rosemary Mitchell, Lorna Ramsay

Members of the Public in Attendance: June McCartney, Lily McKiddie

Elected Representatives: Cllr Rhona Brock, Cllr Stewart Donaldson

Apologies: Gillian Fleming, Cllr Noah Khogali

### **Minutes from the last meeting:**

- No matters arising.
- Gillian proposed the minutes, and Karen seconded them.

### **Action Points:**

- Stewart has shared contact details for Transport Scotland with Gillian.
- Andrew has not done any work on the 2022 Community Council Report. He will produce a single sheet with bullet points, which will go down better than a long document.
- Lindsay confirmed that the Local Housing Report is available.
- Lindsay will contact the Men's Shed with details on how to use the website.
- The empty property across from The Royal has been reported to Shelter Scotland's Empty Homes Project.
- Gillian has alerted *Comrie in Colour* about rubbish in the War Memorial Garden.

- Gillian delivered a letter to Fran Loots about the public liability for the Skate Park. Though we have not heard anything back, this letter was an official confirmation that public liability lies with the Skate Park Committee, not the Community Council.
- Gillian has sent an email about the damage to the Melville Square sign.

### **Commanders Bulletin:**

- Nothing on this occasion. Gillian noted that Police Scotland did send a representative to St Fillians Community Council. They have the dates of our meetings.

### **Relevant planning applications:**

- Nothing is out of the ordinary except excluding Glascorrie, which will be discussed later.
- For the last couple of weeks, nothing has concerned Comrie. When this happens, Andrew will share a brief email stating this.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Lindsay has circulated copies.
- The Admin Account has come down to near nil.
- £145 will go into the Admin Account to cover the Zoom licence.
- The Christmas Lights Account has been updated. Gillian asked if the Christmas Lights Committee had set up their own bank account. Lindsay is uncertain. Andrew will chase this up as secretary.
- RBS has lost the application to close the account but has given £150 in compensation.
- Lindsay has brought paperwork to get Andrew added as a signatory and another for closing outstanding accounts. After the meeting, Gillian, Lindsay, Lorna, and Andrew will complete the forms.

### **Road Matters:**

- Gillian has made further contact with PKC regarding plans for Dalginross. She would like the junction at the top replaced with an alternative, i.e. a roundabout. She is still waiting to hear back.
- There is a massive pothole in the Field of Refuge.
- Damage to the road surface on the Langside (B827) has been patched up.
- Gillian is concerned that the Community Council is not being informed about road matters. For instance, The road authorities did not tell the Community Council the Ross Bridge was recently closed. The closure caused disruption, especially for those unfamiliar with the local area who needed to access The Ross.
- Rhona added that sudden closures are likely due to incidents. Gillian accepted this but noted that it is occurring too frequently.
- Gillian is still liaising with BEAR Scotland to set up an on-site meeting to discuss traffic at the village's entrances.
- Gillian has also contacted BEAR Scotland about the bump at Monzievaird, causing concern.
- Stewart added that Transport Scotland is considering rolling out 20MPH limits across built-up areas in Scotland.

#### **Secretary's relevant correspondence and update:**

- As Secretary of the Community Council, Andrew and Gillian, as Chair, have been incorporated in ongoing correspondence between a local resident and the Ward Councillors regarding delays with bin collections.
- In addition to the street party to celebrate the coronation of Charles III, the Community Council agreed to invite The Prince and Princess of Wales, in their roles as Earl and Countess of Strathearn, to a commemorative tree planting in Comrie. Andrew sent a letter to Clarence House recorded delivery, which arrived. Gillian has spoken with the Lord Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross, Stephen Leckie, who has given us his backing. We are on the list.

#### **Coronation Street Party:**

- Gillian has secured the closure of Dalginross for this event without having to pay a fee.
- Community Council members and other major 'stakeholders' planning the event will meet this Wednesday in the Royal to formalise a strategy.
- Gillian has contacted the Comrie Fortnight Committee, asking if they will loan their chairs and burger van for the event. She is waiting to hear back.
- We have purchased numerous Union Jack tablecloths and bunting and secured the hire of a gazebo. An afternoon tea will be provided for the guests.
- Invitations have been sent to local elected representatives.
- Gillian has produced an initial poster, which went out on social media. The sign will be tweaked and re-shared to get the word out.
- For catering, Martin Robb will provide a hog roast, *Delicious and Nutritious* will be doing sandwiches, *Well-Fired* will sell pizza, and *Bonnie Mountain* will do teas, coffees and traybakes. Attendees are welcome to bring along their picnics.
- In terms of entertainment, the Comrie Parish Singers will be performing, as are the Comrie Pipe Band. June confirmed that the Parish Singers are relatively flexible about when and how often they will perform on the day.
- The school has been approached if the children can make posters and paint stones for the tables. Diane will follow up on this. We will need to know by next week.
- We are also considering a crown-making competition run by the Brownies and Cubs. A representative from those groups is coming to the meeting next week.
- Diane is happy to be in the burger van for the event.

### **Legion Park:**

- The book swap from the Coop still has to be delivered.
- Terri has emailed Martine from Flood Prevention for an update on the benches and when the grass seed is getting planted, but she has not heard back. Andrew replied, stating that Martine was still involved. She will try again.

- The benches from the Royal British Legion are ready and will go in once the weather is better.
- Rhona has secured £50,000 for Legion Park in the PKC Council Budget.
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#### **Affordable Housing:**

- The report is complete. Lindsay confirmed that we could remove affordable housing from the agenda for future meetings, as it is up to the PKC Housing Committee to act on the findings.

#### **Website:**

- Sandra McRitchie is in the process of sending out invoices to businesses advertising on the website.
- The website can also be removed from the agenda for future meetings.

#### **Glascorrie:**

- The revised planning application has been submitted, the residents have contributed their thoughts, and the Ward Councillors have urged this to go before the Planning Committee. The Community Council are going to play a consultative role.
- Stewart added that it would not be raised at the next meeting but would likely feature in April or May. Stewart will inform Lindsay when the next meeting is.
- Stewart does not think it will cease, but there is potential for mitigation.
- Stewart noted that councillors could make 'delegations' in planning issues.
- The Community Council will put forward a formal statement. Lindsay and Stewart will work together with residents to draft this.

#### **Community Action Plan:**

- Lindsay has encountered some reluctance to involvement in this.
- Diane is still interested in being involved.
- Gillian asked Lindsay to share the list of names he has approached.

- Stewart reinforced the benefits of Community Action Plans.
- Karen asked if the next meeting for the Community Action Plan has still to be organised. Lindsay confirmed that it was.

### **Councillor's Reports:**

- Lindsay – No update
- Lorna Ramsay – Lorna is still recruiting volunteers for the Library. She remains concerned that the Library is not marketed effectively. She has also encountered some communication barriers with the appropriate staff in CulturePKC. Lorna would like another noticeboard installed on Bridge Street for Community Council business. Andrew will ask if planning permission is needed.
- Andrew – As with the Ross Bridge Closure, PKC or Mam Contractors did not inform the Community Council about work in the South Crieff Road Old Cemetery. PKC Greenspace has his contact details and could quickly have sent an email. Andrew will contact them and request that they do this in future. Stewart suggested that Andrew contact Willie Greig at PKC Bereavement Services. Despite the lack of communication, Andrew is pleased with the quality of the recent work. A wheelchair user could visit the cemetery, which would have been difficult before the resurfacing of the walkways. Andrew thinks markings should be added at the Laggan Park junction, given that vehicles accelerate there and cars leaving the intersection often protrude too far into the path of oncoming traffic. Gillian agreed and will ask. Andrew has chased up Shelter Scotland Empty Homes and PKC about 2 Bridgend after neighbours expressed their concern. Shelter Scotland is going to review. Andrew will check in three months. There is an empty house in Glasdale. Andrew will contact the neighbours and ask for further information. This year is the fiftieth anniversary of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, which established community councils in their present form. Andrew will think about commemorating fifty years of Comrie Community Council.
- Rosemary – No update

- Diane – Diane is chasing up information on the Scottish Government's 20p Deposit Scheme and how it will impact existing recycling facilities in the village.
- Terri – Terri highlighted that the Primary School pupils have been working with local businesses and artist Kay Galbraith to produce the mosaics and heritage signs. The Community Council congratulated them on their efforts. Terri will share some information with Lindsay so he can create something from the website.
- Karen – Karen reiterated that she and Gillian correspond daily about Community Council matters. She would like this noted, as she knows she does not usually have items in this section.
- Stewart – The *Breaducation Project*; the school may get a grant from the Bakers Trust for an oven. The budget has passed, including a 3.9% rise in Council Tax, amongst the lowest in the United Kingdom. The administration has consulted with all groups in the council. Stewart is delighted with the funding for Legion Park and thanked Rhona for her efforts. We are still looking to set up a Local Area Committee in a similar format to the pilot in Kinross-shire. The Public Toilets, including Comrie and St Fillians, will remain open, which are unattended. Rural libraries, including Comrie, have been reinstated for a year and have been increased since last financial year. PKC is preparing to review public services. Community asset transfers may be needed to keep the Library open down the line. Stewart has shared an update with the Community Council about the Flood Prevention Scheme. Gillian noted that they know the road closure for the Coronation Street Party. We continue to make progress on the Crieff-Comrie Core Path. We have the landowner's agreement to do the necessary work on the Shaky Bridge.
- Gillian – Gillian asked Diane to would keep an eye on what is on the noticeboard and remove anything that is no longer relevant. Diane agreed. Gillian has been back in touch about the cleaning and re-painting the Dalginross Bridge. She is determined to get it done. We have encountered planning problems for a third flagpole to fly the Canadian Flag alongside the Union Flag and the Saltire overlooking Bridge Street. The Community Council agreed over email that we would keep the Union Jack and Saltire up but fly the Canadian Flag when delegates from Carlton Place visit. Gillian presented Mr Jim Thomson with a gift from the Community Council for his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Gillian recognised several

Comrie residents have passed away in the past few months. Our condolences go to their families. She paid tribute to former community councillor Sandy Gray. Our thoughts go out to his wife, Evelyn and his family. Jimmy Denholm has been appointed Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Perth and Kinross. Gillian congratulated him on behalf of the Community Council.

**AOCB:**

- Andrew has noted that local groups keep leaving signs taped to streetlights, some dating from before Christmas. We must ensure that groups doing this take them down after as it looks untidy.

**DONM: Thursday the 13<sup>th</sup> of April at 7 pm in the Royal Hotel Library.**

**Action Points:**

1. Andrew to contact Christmas Lights Committee about their bank account.
2. Andrew to draft single A4 page of Community Council achievements from 2022.
3. Diane to follow up with the school on stone painting.
4. Terri is to chase up Martine at PKC about Legion Park.
5. Lindsay and Stewart to draft a formal statement regarding Glascorrie.
6. Stewart to inform Lindsay of the date of the next Planning Committee meeting.
7. Lindsay to share list of those approached about the Community Action Plan with Gillian.
8. Andrew to ask PKC if planning permission is required for another notice board.
9. Andrew to find out who owns empty property in Glasdale.
10. Gillian to contact relevant body about road markings for the Laggan Park/A85 junction.
11. Andrew to consider how the Community Council should mark its fiftieth anniversary.



12. Terri to share information with Lindsay about local heritage window displays.

ADOPTED