

Scone Community Council Minutes of Meeting April 24th 2017

Attending were: B. Paterson (BP), H Mackinnon (HM), D. Dykes(DD), M. Rhodes(MR), J Belch (JB), V. Shand (VS), G.Clark (GC), Councillor L. Simpson and 12 members of the public.

1. Welcome from Chair, V. Shand.

2. Apologies for absence: Mr. D. McKerracher

3. Police Report. Police presence but due to the Hustings meeting running slightly later than intended because of the level of interest, the officers had to leave to attend a previously arranged appointment. There were no local incidents to report. The theft and damage to the pollution monitors installed at various locations around the village was not reported to the police.

Police Scotland will no longer issue reports to Community Councils but a Commander's Bulletin is issued and should contain all information about incidents in the local area.

4. Adoption of the March minutes & Matters Arising. The minutes were proposed by B. Paterson, seconded by D. Dykes and duly signed.

The minutes are available to the assembled company 10 minutes before the opening of the meeting for comment and discussion. Each month the adopted minutes are emailed to PKC, displayed in the village library and uploaded to the website.

5. Correspondence. See separate sheet.

6. Treasurer's report: Funds are currently £361.94. Discussion concerning the £200 top up grant the CC received last year and whether this sum would be withheld from this year's grant, we have no update on this. The request for a change of signatory has been sent to the Bank of Scotland for confirmation. The study group funds are held separately from the CC funding.

7. Convenor's reports:

Planning: During the period since the last meeting there have been 2 minor applications and 2 refusals for minor extensions/alterations.

There has been no further information forthcoming in respect of the proposed mixed development at Perth Airport nor at Birch Avenue.

Communications. All correspondence will be posted on the website.

PACC: next meeting is arranged for 26th April. D. Dykes will raise the matter of the housing planning proposal for 14 units in the former antiques building which is contrary to current embargo restrictions of no more than 10 houses.

Community Open Space: a meeting was held on 31st March 2017 in the Park with B. Paterson (SDCC), L. Cardno (SG), L.Simpson (local Councillor), D. Stubbs and A. McLeod (PKC Greenspace). Items for discussion were the state of the pond and the lack of fence around the playpark. Pollution of the playpark ie dog fouling and littering, was a stated as a problem so D. Stubbs offered to send more Dog Wardens and Welfare officers to patrol the park to deter offending dog owners at certain times of the day when necessary. It is not the policy of PKC to have fences around children's play areas and the cost of installation and maintenance by the village community would be prohibitive.

The pond could benefit with a quick cleanup by the ground maintenance staff before spring nesting and frog spawning etc begins, a new padlock will be fitted to the outfall cover and the area cleared of debris. A more comprehensive one will be done in the Autumn.

There was a suggestion to ask for volunteers, supervised by the Park greenspace ranger A McLeod, to help with this cleanup, after discussion this has been discounted on health and safety grounds and lack of enthusiastic volunteers, but a "Friends of the Park" group might be set up under the umbrella of the Community Plan and coordinated with the other village organisations. HMP Castle Huntly offered to help with community clean-ups as a rehabilitation exercise but no reply to our request has been forthcoming. (HM to action)

8. Councillor's report. The Birch Avenue development is underway and notification of the possibility of development at the Glebe school must be expected with the normal planning notification not required here as it is a brownfield site owned by PKC. The entrance to the site would be down through Ericht Way.

Travellers returned to the P&R site for the 5th time in 12 months. They moved a heavy boulder to access land owned by A J Stephen. If on private ground, it is more difficult to move them on as there is no provision in the way of transit camps in Perth and Kinross for travellers to relocate. This group were there for 9 days and only moved on when health conditions became too obnoxious. An eviction notice was posted after they had left.

Scottish water carried out extensive pumping out of effluent along Stormont Road for several days. We will make enquiries regarding this. (HM to action)

The pavement in Stormont Road alongside the front school playground has been resurfaced but the worst part in front of the houses further west has been omitted. The office in charge of this is now in Blairgowrie.

The cost of a new play area fence in the park would be £3000-£4000 and it had been agreed to keep the old one but it was accidentally destroyed by a digger.

There have been a mating pair of swans in the park but the male has been hit by a car and taken to a rescue centre so the female has to leave her nest for longer periods to search for food, leaving the eggs exposed, so it is unlikely there will be cygnets this year.

The post office renovations will begin soon with the paper shop and the PO being converted into one store.

Councillor Simpson thanked the CC for their assistance to him in the last 5 years and their participation in the local community. The CC reciprocated with a vote of thanks to Cllr Simpson for all his efforts on behalf of the village.

9. Scone Village Association.

The Village Association will be holding its AGM in the RDMI on 16th May at 7 pm for 7.30 start, refreshments will be available. The speaker will be Mr. Mike Moir who will give a short talk on The Destiny-Our Village Newsletter. Please look at village Noticeboards mid April for further news of this.

The next issue of Destiny will be on sale during the first week of April.

Future dates are Friday 19th May; Friday 21st July; Friday 22nd September; Friday 10th November

10. Community Plan, a member of the study group has volunteered to take this forward and has attended meetings with PKC and written for information to Gill Motion. Closer links are to be forged with other Scone community organisations ie. the SVA and Scone Thistle in order to pool resources and ideas. A list will be compiled. We will set up a preliminary meeting with the SVA to discuss the way forward. (HM to action)

11. Proposed Housing Development at Scone North: planning convener D. McKerracher.

The application is now being processed by PKC and, since the date has passed for a decision, we have written to PKC to clarify if an extension of time has been agreed and also requesting a date for submission to the planning committee.

PKC have responded that they have been in contact with AJS but we have no details of any extended period as yet.

We still intend to seek permission to speak at the planning committee, as and when it considers this application.

We previously sent a request to John Swinney to get the relevant Scottish Minister to instigate an official enquiry into PKC handling of planning matters, in accordance with the Planning Scotland Act (2006).

However I regret to report that the response came back that the Scottish Government have no plans to commence the section (*Part 2a*) of the 2006 Act relating to the assessment of planning authority performance, therefore it is not currently in force." As a result the Planning Act **does not** provide an avenue to pursue an investigation into PKC planners.

We have written again to John Swinney expressing our disappointment and dismay that the Scottish Government have not seen fit to instigate this process and requested his guidance as to how the excesses of PKC planners can be investigated.

We are still pursuing meetings in respect of the CTRLR design proposals and also for clarification of the Highfield Roundabout.

We have still not received a response from PKC to confirm that ALL phase 2 of the Perth Transport Futures project will be a SINGLE contract

A small working group will be formed to attend the H29 planning decision meeting when PKC considers the application.

(JB to action)

Cllr Simpson stated that it is unusual for a developer to refuse an extension to the planning consideration process and G. Clark stated that the average consideration time for approval of large consents was 33.5 weeks.

Concern was raised at the late submission of the Woodland Trust's objection to the destruction of 0.54 hectares of ancient woodland, this was submitted outwith the planning submission time, we will try to find out if their submission is being considered and why they were not included on the statutory consultee list. **(GC to action)**

Study Group: M. Andrews and L.Cardno, members of the group, were thanked for their efforts in organising the interesting "Hustings, Question and Answer" meeting which preceded the Community Council meeting

12. AOCB: Village notice boards. A rota will be drawn up listing volunteers to put up the notices once a month.

(DD to action)

13. The meeting finished at 9.15 pm. Next meeting and AGM will be held on Monday, May 29th at 7.30pm.