



## **Comrie Community Council Meeting, Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 7 pm**

### **The Royal Hotel**

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

Elected Representatives: Cllr Stewart Donaldson

Members of the Public: x 6

Apologies: Ballie Rhona Brock, Cllr Noah Khogali

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

- Gillian proposed the minutes, and Lorna seconded them.

### **Matters arising:**

- Andrew has informed the Community Council that the King's Portrait has arrived.
- Lindsay has confirmed the funding status for the Shaky Bridge with PKC.
- Lindsay has paid the outstanding bill for the Christmas Lights.
- Andrew has updated PKC on the condition of 2 Bridgend.

### **Commanders Bulletin:**

- None provided for this meeting.
- There was a break-in at the Laggan Park Pavilion. They are going to install CCTV cameras.
- Gillian thanked Ian McGregor for his assistance with the Skate Park safety sign.

### **Relevant planning applications:**

- Nothing noteworthy this month, just the sundry repairs, extensions, etc.

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

- Lindsay shared a written report in the days before the meeting.
- In April, over £1000 was raised from business subscriptions.

### **Road Matters:**

- Gillian has corresponded with BEAR regarding repairs to the A85. The former's instructions on avoiding the roadworks were unclear and caused a lot of hassle.
- BEAR will not replace the Dunira Street sign. Gillian is unhappy and has challenged this decision.
- PKC are waiting until the 20MPH limit is rolled out fully before installing speed cushions on Strowan Road and South Crieff Road.
- The disabled bay in Melville Square needs repainting. Gillian will follow up with PKC on this.
- PKC have confirmed that repairing the curb on Bridge Street is not an immediate priority. Gillian will keep applying pressure.
- Gillian has followed up with PKC about the large puddles on Duke's Road.
- The pothole in the Field of Refuge has been replaced.
- Rosemary remains concerned about plants and vegetation obscuring junction views.
- Gillian has been approached about the potholes on the private Melville Lane. The lane is used by the school but is not the designated school route. The road is private, though recognised by PKC as an official right of way for pedestrians. Andrew will draft a letter to the residents on behalf of the Community Council.
- A member of the public in attendance expressed concern about a broken value cover outside the Post Office. This is a potential trip hazard for those walking with sticks.
- Motor home parking in Laggan Park car park has been brought to our attention. Despite causing little trouble, the car park is not a

legitimate camping site, and we do not want to set a precedent by taking no action. Gillian will consult PKC.

### **Secretary's Relevant Correspondence and Updates:**

- Christine and Pam from PKC have confirmed that our insurance is active.
- Andrew has received conflicting information from PKC Planning about applying to erect our new noticeboard on Bridge Street. Andrew and Lindsay will collaborate on the new application.

### **Shaky Bridge:**

- Stewart will check if the repairs are going to go ahead soon. He is confident that it will happen.

### **Legion Park:**

- Craig from the Legion Park Committee is attending a meeting for internal funding.
- The architect's design will be available by May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Terri will share this when available.
- Terri has the book-swap stand from Co-Op in her garden. Her husband Mark is going to securely install it.
- Gillian asked Terri if there are plans to move the goal posts. Terri replied, stating that the gap will likely be shortened, however, we will need to wait until the design is available.
- Once the design is available we will be able to choose locations for commemorative benches.

### **Right of Way and Land Access Issues:**

- The Ruchillside planning application was approved by the Planning Committee a few weeks ago. A recording of the meeting is on PKC's YouTube Channel. The decision was taken on the basis that the site was deemed 'brownfield' land.

- Whilst we cannot change the outcome, they are planning regulations they much adhere to, and can be challenged if they do not.
- Stewart maintained that the path that has been fenced off was done so in breach of the 2003 legislation.
- Calum Bachell at PKC Greenspace has been kept in the loop on all developments. He has been corresponding with the landowner.
- A member of the public provided an update on their progress with the matter.
- There have been further reports of anti-social behaviour from the landowner towards the public. Police Scotland were informed.
- Gillian brought up an email Calum Bachell sent to the Community Council. She will re-share it with all the members. Lindsay suggested that we send a collective reply.
- A member of the public noted that PKC installed self-closing gates on the Bogton Brae path using their powers. We should include this in any reply to PKC.

#### **Low Carbon Windfarm – Invergeldie ongoing issues:**

- Gillian shared a recent email from Tree Story.
- Lorna remains concerned that they are not having a proper consultation. They extended the consultation period by a fortnight, which is inadequate. Those in senior positions are not addressing correspondence. Lorna will draft another letter.
- Other groups, including the Strathearn Ramblers, have reported communication inconsistency.
- Stewart suggested that Oxygen Conservation open the Glenlednock Dam gate during the Comrie Fortnight. The Dam and road were built with public money and should be accessible. The former estate manager pledged to resolve this issue. However, they have left due to differences with the Oxygen Conservation.
- Rosemary acknowledged that recently culled deer at Invergeldie were left where they dropped and were not disposed of properly.

#### **Comrie Development Trust Update:**

- The CDT now has a finance officer in post. They are formalising and simplifying the business leases.
- A part-time estate manager is employed at Cultybraggan.
- The Duke of Edinburgh Association is renovating a hut at the camp.

### **Community Action Plan:**

- Karen is still waiting for PKC's response regarding the next steps.

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

**Karen** – The abandoned tyres on Langside have been removed; however, those near Fordie remain. She has contacted Cllr Khogali about this.

**Terri** – No further updates.

**Rosemary** - At the Glebe Road/Stowan Road Junction, there is a lamp whose light is obscured by branches. Gillian will raise this with PKC.

**Andrew**—Andrew's plan for the King's Portrait was to approach various venues and have a public poll on where it should go. Only the White Church and Rural Hall expressed interest. Andrew will email the Rural Hall, stating that the White Church will be the location and explain why; however, if they still want a portrait, he will assist in procuring an alternative. Andrew was contacted about a mess in the Monument car park in Glenlednock. PKC has resolved this. Andrew is concerned about an empty property in Invergeldie, which has been unoccupied for years. He will raise this with the PKC Empty Properties Officer and Shelter Scotland.

**Lindsay** – No further updates

**Stewart**—Flood Prevention Scheme—Stewart hopes that after retendering, work will start in mid-August and take two years. PKC is looking to produce a newsletter and hold a public meeting. He provided a further update on SSE installing cables under the river before dismantling the overhead lines. Stewart will share further details. New printed bus timetables will be available soon. Stewart will share those for West Perthshire. Stewart and Rhona attended the PFA meeting at the school in April. He acknowledged that some structural upgrades are needed. Terri acknowledged that there are ongoing staffing issues at the senior management level. She will share

further details with Stewart and Rhona. Stewart visited Comrie Croft recently. They are still waiting for the outcome of their planning application. Applications for neighbouring projects have been approved. Stewart will chase this up.

**Lorna** – Lorna has been engaging with Joyce Carnegie about the Millennium Footpath.

**Diane** – Diane added a further update on the noticeboard.

**Gillian** - Gillian will ask if the Community Payback Team can paint the Laggan Park fence. The Laggan Park is getting a monthly standing charge for electricity, which has been increased to £100 (business rates). She has approached Greenspace about this. There are ongoing issues with bin emptying in Dalginross Gardens. Rhona and Jim Fairlie, MSP, are involved. The Payback Team are still refusing to sand and paint Dalginross Bridge. Gillian asked if we should approach other organisations for quotes. Andrew will approach Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to see if they can help.

**AOCB:**

- Now that we have further information about the progress of the Flood Prevention Scheme, Andrew will approach PKC again about relocating the Ward Memorial Bench to South Crieff Road Cemetery.
- Damage on bank protections at the Field of Refuge has been reported. Stewart will follow this up.

**DONM: Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 7 pm.**

## **Action Points:**

- Gillian to chase up PKC about repainting the disabled bay in Melville Square.
- Andrew will draft a letter from the Community Council to the residents of Melville Lane.
- Gillian to consult PKC about motor homes in Laggan Park Car Park.
- Stewart to check if repair work on the Shaky Bridge will commence soon.
- Terri to share the Legion Park design with the Community Council.
- Gillian will re-share the Calum Bachell email with the Community Council.
- Lorna will draft another letter to Oxygen Conservation about Invergeldie.
- Gillian will raise the broken streetlight with PKC.
- Andrew will email the Rural Hall about an alternative to the official portrait of Charles III.
- Andrew will inform the PKC Empty Properties Officer and Shelter Scotland about the empty property at Invergeldie.
- Stewart will share flood prevention correspondence and new bus timetables with the Community Council.
- Terri to share details of school staffing issues with Stewart and Rhona.
- Stewart will follow up on the progress of the Comrie Croft planning application.
- Andrew will approach Historic Environment Scotland for assistance repainting the Dalginross Bridge.
- Stewart to follow up on damage to Field of Refuge bank protections.