

Carnoustie Community Council



29th March 2021, Carnoustie Community Council Minutes

Attending: J Rhind, A Murray, A Laing, N Ross, P Manley, L Marr, D Taylor, M Forbes, E Oswald, J Roberts, D Rorie, Angus councillors D Cheape and B Boyd, and observing C Berg.

Apologies: Cllr M McDonald, P Lockhart.

Minutes of previous meeting: The minute of the meeting of Feb 22nd was considered and accepted as a true and accurate account of events. Prop EO, Sec LM.

Angus councillors: Council business continues in Forfar but now with a minority administration. The CAT whereby the Men's Shed take over the Panmure Centre, with community groups getting use of the building as required, is progressing slowly. Recent CC involvement in some faltering local projects has resulted in their revival and significant progress. Restoration of the Fairy Steps is now going ahead with volunteer support. Some building work is required at the bridge and fencing has to be erected, but a problem remains with insurance and liability at the site needing to be resolved between AC and the landowner. Cllr Cheape reported a section of the core path network needs attention, details and photographs had been circulated prior to the meeting, and it was agreed a "sympathetic tidying up" would be best without covering this country track with tarmac. DT mentioned his Criminal Justice team could help with this project. Any attempt at trying to limit who can use or drive on this pathway is problematic. Progress is continuing with the Golf Heritage Trail and Town Centre Fund projects. The meeting thanked those members involved in revitalising these local undertakings. With continuing travel restrictions and possibly no foreign travel permitted this summer, the meeting asked the Angus councillors to urge AC to be prepared and make adequate provision for a large influx of visitors especially with regard to emptying litter bins, cleaning up the paddling pool which is a major attraction, and generally keeping the seafront clean and welcoming for visitors.

Finance: Before the meeting the Treasurer had circulated the March accounts, the final ones for this financial year prior to annual audit, and at the month's end they show a balance of some £14,600, with £660 or so ring-fenced for Christmas, some £1700 for Covid relief and £10,000 or so earmarked to fund the Carnoustie Butterfly. This £10,000 having been donated jointly by SSE and the NHS Community Trust. The Financial report was accepted. Prop DAR, Sec NR.

Planning: AM reported that only two applications had been made to AC Planning Dept. since our last meeting, neither of which was controversial or required comment from us. The suggested future development at Panbride Rd mentioned at our last meeting remains “on the table” but whatever happens is far off and subject to considerable scrutiny.

East Haven: With foreign travel significantly restricted or possibly banned altogether this summer, tourist attractions in the UK can expect greatly increased visitor numbers this year. To this end East Haven Together, in consultation with AC and other community groups, have come up with a Visitor Management Strategy. This excellent document was circulated to the meeting and gives an outline of the approach to be adopted to accommodate the expected influx of visitors.

Seagreen/SSE/CBF: Following the presentation from a deputation from SSE at our last meeting there have been no further developments on the Seagreen front. Work on the project continues with significant noise and disturbance at the landfall area. We are still waiting for a reply to some queries we put to the SSE staff member dealing with the CBF and accordingly that subcommittee has nothing further to report meantime.

Town services: The Carnoustie Recycling Centre will move to summer hours from 1st April. The hours are on the AC website. The R&A are hoping spectators will be permitted onto the course, possibly socially distanced, when the AIG Women’s Open comes to Carnoustie from the 16th-22nd August. EO reported he was moved to complain to AC recently about the filthy state of the Fox St underpass. It was cleaned soon after. The Early Learning Child Care Centre has recently opened and there is a nice new parking area adjacent at Laing Park. The Carnoustie Community Garden, Food is Free, has risen from the ashes following last year’s fire with much support from local people, and the farmer who supplied the original poly-tunnels has generously replaced them. Potholes have appeared all over, there is even a pothole complaint link on the AC website, and EO has reported the ones near his house on Ireland St. He has also been in touch with Seagreen and Network Rail about the state of the coastal path at Barry Station. There has been an increase in heavy traffic here with no designated path for cyclists and walkers. He has also contacted the AC member of staff responsible for this area.

Butterfly: Work on the Carnoustie Butterfly is progressing well and hopefully this tourist attraction will be unveiled with appropriate publicity and fanfare in time for the tourist season. In response to some resistance from Colourful Carnoustie the structure will now be sited on a slight gradient adjacent to the skate part, near to where the caterpillar grew, and will be seen by everyone walking on the seafront path and will form an exciting addition to the town’s attractions and places of interest for visitors and locals alike.

Police: There was again no police report.

Christmas/Decorative Lighting: The Christmas street lights, bar two tricky ones, were taken down on Sunday 28th March and are stored in the shed. Some are well past their expected lifespan and will need replaced or restrung. The Christmas subcommittee has organised a “Go Fund Me” page on social media and the local public have already donated some £1500 to fund new lights. This is in addition to the £600 or so in the bank. Some lights were left on

the Kinloch trees as was the “Carnoustie” sign with a view to switching these on and giving the town some decoration when the AIG Women’s Open is in town in August. We plan to try putting up bunting this year and this will be discussed further at our next meeting.

Correspondence: DAR reported we are invited to comment on AC’s Sexual Entertainment Venue Licensing Consultation, details of which he had circulated prior to the meeting. Information on this is on the AC website for public comment. The meeting was surprised AC was concerning itself with this topic at any time and particularly at this inopportune moment with recent adverse public comment surrounding the status and treatment of women generally. The Secretary’s suggestion of organising a fact-finding mission was not taken up. DAR was tasked with compiling a reply to AC and will circulate this to members shortly for their approval. Gather has made an application to AC Legal and Licensing Dept. for variation of their alcohol license from off-sales to include on-sales. DAR will reply to the Clerk of the Licensing Court that we have no objection or strong feelings on this and have no further comment to make.

AOCB: Everything relevant had been covered in the Agenda.

DONM: We meet again at 7pm on Monday 26th April.