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MONIFIETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 11th MARCH 2021

Chairperson: Sheena Cochrane

Present; Ben Nicoll, Jack Brand, Peter Morrison, William Mutch, Stewart Ellis & John Thornton.

Others: Councillors Beth Whiteside and Hands. Members of Public; Leanne Wilson.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Sheena Cochrane welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting.

Apologies were received from Dawn McGaughay, Rob Crossland, Derek Uchman, Hazel Brand, M C McNally.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as read. Proposed by Jack Brand, Seconded by Sheena Cochrane.

3. Correspondence

All emails have been cascaded to Community Councillors
Emails received via Councillor Hands relating to Community Fund to tackle litter and fly tipping, Angus Alive app launch, new phone line for parents and carers in Angus concerned re welfare of children during the pandemic, 24-7 mental health and wellbeing support for young people and weather warnings.
Email confirming membership of PSGA.
Email from Councillor Whiteside regarding location of gritting bins and road and pavement snow clearing.
Letter from Angus Licensing Board re application from Bowmans Coffee House for a Provisional Premises Licence. Discussed. No objections.
Email re Anguswide Events Network Zoom meeting. Attended by Ben and Jack.
Email from Angus Council re Housing Needs and Demands Assessment consultation. Completed by Sheena Cochrane.
Email re Angus pothole link app.
Email re training support for Microsoft teams. Ben Nicoll attended.
Email sent to Rob Hill acknowledging work carried out on building at Blue Seaway and the boardwalk.

4. Seagreen Project

Ben Nicoll reported on the Community Benefit funding received from Seagreen which amounts to £5,000 per annum, over a 3 year period. The money will be available to small community groups which can apply for up to £1,000. Micro grants can be used for activities which “enhance the quality of life of local residents, contribute to vibrant, healthy successful and sustainable communities and /or promote community spirit and encourage community activity” The official forms have been signed and an advertisement drawn up. The Community Council may use part of the money for a particular project but require authorization from the fund managers. A proposal has been made to update the Christmas street lights which we feel would be of benefit to the Community after the long struggle during the Covid 19 pandemic. Peter Morrison proposed the lights could be replaced gradually over a period of time. It was agreed this would be a prudent approach given the high cost of Christmas light units. There would also be the advantage to the environment and of lower electricity consumption if replacements were of the LED type.

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5. Social Media

Ben reported taking part, along with Jack Brand, in an Anguswide events group Zoom meeting which discussed the Christmas lights events of 2020 which were severely curtailed. There was a varied response from different Community Councils, some not having organized any events. Ben felt our virtual events were probably the best in the county, due to streaming of input from community involvement and the streaming of the actual light switch on. It was noted that Carnoustie still had their lights in situ and switched on, this being down to their interpretation of the Covid 19 regulations. Sheena was of the opinion, and all present agreed, we had complied with Angus Council's directive to take down the tree lights by the 15th of January and took down all the lights at the same time. Ben reported during the Anguswide meeting, an Angus Council representative had stated Monifieth, like all Angus burghs, may have to contribute to running costs of lights in the future. It was also reported Angus council are keen to do away with "over street" lights. This is believed to be because most lights are strung from existing lamp standards- Monifieth does not have this problem with separate poles for the banner and lights.

6. Treasurers Report.

Stewart Ellis reported the balance was £16661.97. He asked if PC McGaughey and the Scout Group would be in a position to revive their projects which were to be funded with the Lottery VE Day money prior to being halted due to the pandemic. Secretary to contact both.

7. Planning Matters

Rob Crossland unable to attend and sent a report regarding planning applications for February and March meetings, none of which gave any cause for concern. Those for February are an extension and dormer conversion at 65 South Ramsay Street, and an attic conversion and new dormer at 56 Brook Street. For March, a garden landscaping, fences and summerhouse at 41 Lorne Crescent, rear extension and dormer at 133 Ferry Road, a single storey extension to rear at 12 Grange Gait, an extension at rear of 61 Margaret Lindsay Place, an extension at rear of 19 Grange Road and alterations and extension at 14 Angus Crescent. Rob reported on the previous application for 2 houses at the old Panmure Hotel. A previous application had contained similar proposals and had been withdrawn due to several objections. He feels this may follow a similar path and the application could fail or be withdrawn. Councillor Whiteside reported on the slight change to the line of the cable being installed by Seagreen resulting in it being slightly nearer Monifieth and the A930. Councillor Hands stated that the local development plan, about to be started, will reflect changes in the world and the position of Monifieth in the grand scheme of things with the environment being taken into account much more due to the climate challenge. It was agreed this was an appropriate position to take. Councillor Whiteside said local events will resume over the whole area. She referred to Monifieth and Carnoustie being regarded as dormitory suburbs and would more housing be required in both. The question was asked if Monifieth could support more housing and it was agreed this was not possible with the current strain on school and medical services. Part of the problem is that Monifieth and Sidlaw are dumped in with Dundee with regard to housing need in the area. The subject of the 73 bus travelling along Hill Street west of Victoria Street and Durham Street was again raised with complaints having been received as to the unsuitability of the route for the buses. It was pointed out there are no bus stops along this part of the route and, in fact, Bill Mutch said he had spoken to the traffic commissioners who were unaware of the new route, which had been instituted by Strathtay Scottish following the withdrawal of the no.75 service. The buses were reported to be speeding, while the roads had not been incorporated in the priority gritting route.

8. Police Report

In the absence of a police presence due to pressing duties at this time, John Thornton reported he had received and cascaded the Police Report to all Councillors. The main theme of the Police report this

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month relates to the "Police Scotland Get Consent Campaign" in which the aim is to drive perpetrators, or those at risk of offending, to the website campaign pages so they are educated on the issue of consent (sex without consent is rape) both within and out of a relationship, in order to stop offending.

"what3words". Members of the public calling the Police can now use a mobile app to identify their location when they are in a remote or unknown area. The Earth has been divided into 3x3 metre squares by encoding GPS co-ordinates to give each square a unique set of 3 words. We are encouraged to download and use the app as an additional resource for the community.

Locally, 122 calls have been made to the control centre during the period 09/02/21 to 09/03/21 with 25 crimes being reported, these including theft, assault road traffic offences, threatening behaviour, vandalism, attempted fraud, breach of bail and drink driving.

An attempted robbery occurred about 9pm Wednesday 24th February in Ferry Road near to the Nisa store, in which a young girl was attacked by a tall male wearing a black hooded jacket. Fortunately the girl was not seriously injured and the male ran off in the direction of Monifieth town centre. John Thornton asked if the level of lighting in the area could have been a contributory factor and it was agreed this could be looked at. Councillor Whiteside to contact lighting partnership.

9. Angus Councillors' Reports

Councillor Whiteside reported on the big item from the last Angus Council meeting regarding capital investment in a new High School for Monifieth with detailed planning to go ahead with a public consultation to take place.

Councillor Hands had proposed an amendment, which was defeated, with regard to a community resilience plan for each area in which volunteers would be matched with tasks and they could make use of funds allocated. Ben Nicoll commented there was no bipartisan approach taken.

10. Public Questions.

Councillor Whiteside asked about the situation at Monifieth High school. Leanne Wilson replied it had been an extremely stressful week with the senior management team doing outstanding work to ensure safety for all, following Scottish Government guidelines. Pupils are all very keen to get back to school.

11. AOCB

Ben Nicoll raised the matter of the planning application at 114 Ferry Road. An enforcement notice should have been served. Councillor Whiteside to enquire.

12. Date and time of next meeting.

The next meeting of Monifieth Community Council will be held on Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

Secretary's Note.

The next meeting of Monifieth Community Council, which is the AGM, will be held on Thursday 13th May 2021 at 7pm via Zoom.

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