

MURROES & WELLBANK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Virtual TEAMS meeting held on Thursday 17th June 2021 at 7.30pm.

Present: S. Anderson(Chair/Planning); A. Martin(Vice Chair); G. Reid(Treas); Cllr B. Whiteside; A. Fraser; J. Bell; I. Robertson(Stop the Crem); B. Jack; G. Cowper(Secy).

Apologies: Cllr S. Hands D. Murdoch; A. Fraser; J. Bell; D. McNeil(Angus Council); J. Crozier ;K. Gerrard

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

The Chair informed all attending that the meeting was to be recorded and asked if anyone had any objections. No objections were raised.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

These were read and approved with the below amendments.

IR pointed out the error, “typography of the road” should read, “Topography of the road”.

Matters Arising

Proposed Crematorium

IR provided an update on the information being added to the Angus Planning portal.

The headline issue is the applicant needed to provide further information for the planners.

SEPA have logged an objection to the application and the process is in limbo as to when the application will go to Committee. The documents provided by the applicant regarding odour having a slight impact. SEPA have a holding objection on the height of the stack and the air quality assessment. The revised car park plan from 60 to 120 cars has resulted in the conversion of the coach parking area to car parking and also car parking on the approach road area.

Visibility splay objections and no assessment of the roads in the North or West of the site location.

Updated planning statement issued as pitch to address capacity at the Dundee Crematorium, but Dundee has no restraints and site is in Angus, other available land allocation to be checked and a comprehensive assessment required. Applicant states public transport is not an issue for this facility. IR has submitted a further objection, pointing issues out that have been missed. Angus Council have been checking visibility splays at junctions. It was asked when the Angus Roads report would be available to review. The four next steps are report response, Angus Council Built Environment application 25th June response date and extended planning report date. It was good to see that Angus Roads Dept and SEPA are undertaking investigations into the application.

Speeding

AW has witness drivers speeding in excess of the 60 mph down Westhall Tce in the early morning period and the speeding has only become worse during the Covid period. Electric Scooters travelling at excessive speed have also been witnessed, raising concerns it is only a matter of time before an accident takes place. The Westhall Tce area should be included in the 20mph zones. SA raised this issue with Cllrs at the Success For Sidlaw group (SFS) and Cllr Fotheringham was to raise local concerns with the Roads Dept. SA will also raise with Police Scotland to ask for assistance in tackling this issue.

Dog Fouling

BW confirmed this issue had been discussed with colleagues and additional bins to be consider around the Wellbank area and in particular the Primary School. Initiatives are being trialled in other areas by Community Groups, but concern was raised who empties non-council bins.

Play Park Wellbank

Further discussions regarding the play equipment replacement will need to take place with the Wellbank Amenities Association. SSE is supportive of this type of project taking place in the area.

Roads

GC stated there had been a number of repairs carried out at Westhall Tce and resurfacing of Kellas Road. Angus Council have issued a number of road closure notices warning of repairs and the Community Council will try to upload onto Facebook.

AF noted the junction at Murroes P.S is a danger with parents dropping their children off at the School. People are parking on both sides of the road, preventing farm vehicles from passing and putting children in danger. BW will raise with Council Officers regarding yellow lines outside the schools, parents should be encouraged to use the carpark at the bottom of the playground. SA will also raise the issue of yellow lines with Police Scotland. It was also raised that pre-school children cannot use the school bus and or paths to access the school, hence no alternative for parents, but to drop off. Parents feel the car park provided is not suitable with it being far away from the school.

Planters and Baskets

SA had been in contact with Angus Council Roads Department, where discussion was to take place regarding the locations for the planters at the entrance to each village area. It was also raised that clarity of insurances was required by the Roads Dept. Once permits issued the planters can be purchased.

Camping

Concerns over dirty camping in the area and the rising numbers taking up this activity as a result of Covid. IR didn't think the Police are undertaking monitoring of this activity and IR reiterated why the "what3 words" app would be a help to steer the authorities to the trouble spots. SA had raised the dirty camping issue with Police Scotland and they confirmed if notified by residents of such camping in the area the Police would attend.

Police Report- Attached

The report this period had a focus on abuse in the Community and particularly child abuse, with information and contact details should anyone be concerned of such behaviour in the community. There had been 12 calls reporting incidents this period and 2 crimes recorded. AF notified of an incident in April, of two men in a white van attempting to steal metal using cutting equipment which caused a fire to one of the trailers on her site. Fortunately there was CCTV cameras which picked up the individuals. The individuals fled the scene and were witnessed again at Dodd Hill where the Police were alerted and arrested the individuals. The two individuals have been charged and in due course will be appearing in Court.

It was good that members of the Community notified each other to share this information at the time of the incident helping to stop this criminal behaviour. It demonstrated the value of the Community looking out for each other.

BW joined the meeting and was asked about the Roads Dept report being collated for inspection of the junctions around the proposed crematorium site. Residents had spoken with the Council Engineers on the 4th June. BW was going to make enquiries about the report and when it would be available to view. BW also discussed Initiatives in the Community where groups were ordering new, additional dog fouling bins. The ongoing parking issues at Murroes P.S were discussed and the initiatives around Angus schools that stop parking outside the schools. The double yellow lines will be investigated, but it was suggested that some schools had been using parking cones outside school locations to try and prevent parents from parking outside school gates.

Secretary's Report

An application has been submitted to extend the license for the bar and kitchen use at Wellbank Hall, the extension was for an extended 1hr per week, there were no concerns raised.

Treasurers Report

Bank Balance at £4112.45, with no pending payments to be made this period.

Planning

SA stated there were a number of planning applications:

Old Kellas Road- Sun Room

Chestnut Cottage, Kellas- Extension

Kingfisher Place, Kingennie- Roof replacement

Rannoch Farm, Murroes- Formation of a Road

Rannoch Farm, Murroes- Machinery store

Monifieth- 50 new homes by Taylor Wimpey , we await further details, but concerns over the impact of the infrastructure in the area with a further development of this scale, particularly on the local schools and services.

AOCB

Wellbank Hall, no update available. Ongoing next meeting.

Ballumbie Castle Residents Association, no update available. SA stated a new Chairman had been appointed to the Ballumbie Residents Association and it was hoped the new Chair will be able to attend future meetings.

Seagreen/SSE have requested projects for the area in order that funding could be made available for suitable Community Projects, we are looking for input/suggestions from residents in the area.

AF raised the speeding concerns in the area and asked if practical measures could be installed such as sleeping policeman to slow traffic down in the built up areas. BW suggested that such practical measures can only be used on certain types of road and through roads are not suitable for these measures, but BW will confirm with Angus Roads Dept. BW raised the issue of feedback regarding the 20mph zones in Angus and how speeding is one of the top items on residents within Angus rural areas.

GR asked if the Scottish Government has plans to enforce speeding in the rural areas, mobile/fixed speed cameras would help, but if located in the same positions people don't adhere. AW commented, Police would be interested if drivers were travelling at double the 40mph limit on the Kingsway, having a fixed camera would pay for itself in no time with the numbers of speeding drivers. The signs displayed are having no impact. SA and BW will raise with Police Scotland.

NEXT TEAMS MEETING THURSDAY 19TH AUGUST 2021 AT 7.30PM.