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MONIFIETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2021

Chairperson: Sheena Cochrane

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

Others: Leanne Wilson, Marcus Flucker. Murray Ross.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Sheena Cochrane welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting.

Apologies were received from Rob Crossland, Hazel Brand, and Councillors Whiteside, Lawrie and Hands.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as read.

John Thornton reported he had emailed Councillor Fotheringham regarding the lack of progress in installing the new litter bins in High Street.

3. Grange Primary Project

Morag Oldham, head teacher, Grange Primary has approached the Community Council for assistance in approaching the Monifieth Community for their views on making more use of the Grange Primary grounds. She feels the grounds are underused and is investigating ways of opening them up to more public use at different times when they would normally be closed e.g. school holidays, weekends and evenings. Sources of funding are being sought and ideas from the pupils include an amphitheatre built into the banking for performances by school and community groups, loose part play to promote co-operation and encourage STEM activities, all weather sports areas for school and community use, large activity area - fort, sandpit and climbing wall, regeneration of the forest area to include a forest library. It is felt all or some of these ideas would encourage an excellent free resource where families could enjoy quality time together while improving their mental and physical wellbeing. Discussion followed with agreement that it was a very good idea, the full implications of which could be investigated further by initiating an online survey in the first instance. Ben Nicoll is to reply to Morag.

4. Victoria Street Safety Issues.

The matter of road safety over the whole length of Victoria Street has been raised by a concerned resident, in particular the area at Seaview School and the Health Centre. The street carries a much heavier volume of traffic than previously and this issue has been discussed by the Community Council many times over the years, with the Police and Angus Councillors involved. Traffic surveys have been carried out and attention will continue to be given to the area.

5. Correspondence.

Email re Anguswide Events Network meeting. 14th September. Ben to attend.
Emails re Defibrillators. The matter of defibrillators was raised following the installation of several in the town. To clarify an issue raised, Sheena Cochrane confirmed the Patient Advisory Group at the Health Centre had approached the Community Council for advice and financial assistance. They had thereafter obtained and installed 2 machines, 1 in Maule Street and 1 at the butchers in High Street. Contact has

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been maintained with the group. It was proposed one of our machines could be installed at the chemist at the Health Centre. Sheena Cochrane to approach Edith Christie. There has been consideration by Angus Council to install a machine on the exterior of a council house in Ashgrove as there is deemed to be a need for one in the area but the request to use the shop at Ashgrove was turned down. Technical survey being carried out by electrician re installation at the Bay Diner and the Vault.

Rob Crossland reported a possible breach of planning conditions at a house in Grangehill Drive. Being followed up by Angus Council planning department.

Emails and letters re the Dightly Bridge replacement. Discussed and support agreed.

Letters and emails re housing developments at Victoria Street by Taylor Wimpey and Barratt. The matter was discussed and there was agreement these were not a good idea due to the overcrowding of the surgery and schools. The total lack of consideration for the infrastructure of the town should be pointed out and it was agreed we should seek the views of the community via facebook.

Stewart Ellis reported he had received the Angus Council grant.

Letter received from Angus Council re Gambling Act 2005 - Draft Statement of Principles. There is an ongoing public consultation and views were sought. We have no comments on the subject.

All correspondence was cascaded to Councillors.

6. Social Media Report

Ben had no updates for Social Media, the main subjects having already been covered at items 3 and 4.

7. Treasurer's Report

Stewart Ellis reported the current balance is £17798.63.

8. Planning Matters.

Rob Crossland unable to attend. Planning matters relating to Taylor Wimpey and Barratts already discussed under correspondence. John Thornton reported there were 3 applications for planning permission in June 2021 viz. Extension to house and erection of new dormer at 37 Panmure Street, a PAN at North Victoria Street for residential development, already noted as causing concern, and installation of a mast, antenna and dishes for Airwave emergency services at Tay View car Park replacing a decommissioned site at Barry Downs. (This apparently relates to The Riverview Car Park, not Tayview). Applications for July were a garage conversion at 15 Dightly Street, use of a building as store at former Panmure Hotel, formation of dormer and replacement window at 45 Princes Street, and a single storey extension to rear elevation at 62 Dalhousie Street.

For the August meeting, applications were the PAN relating to approx. 300 units in fields to north of Ashludie Hospital site, extension and alterations to house at 17 Ferry Road, extension and alterations to house at 23 Panmurefield Terrace, alterations to church at Hill Street to form 4 dwelling houses, single storey extension to 13 Durham Street, extension plus garage and attic conversion at 4 James Herald Tce., rear extension at 51 Dalhousie Street, and installation of 24hr. external prescription dispenser at Ashludie Pharmacy.

The change of use of land to residential curtilage and erection of garage at 114 Ferry Road was refused. Discussion followed re the new High school which should be completed within 4 years. A swimming pool has been included in the design. It would appear the building, on completion, will not be of sufficient size to accommodate the number of pupils, a ridiculous situation, and it was suggested we enlist the support of Graham Dey, MSP. It would be appropriate to have carried out work on the matter and have a solution to present to our MSP. Our local Councillors should also be asked to assist. Leanne Wilson is to approach the current rector, M C McNally, whose position is to be taken over by Mr Dingwall after the holidays.

9. Police Report

No report.

10. Angus Councillors' Reports

No report, all Councillors currently delayed in a full Angus Council meeting.

11. Public Questions.

Murray Ross posed the question that the timing of the applications by Barratt and Taylor Wimpey may

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be a cynical ploy, making use of the fact the local development plan expires this month (September) and with no formal legislation in place this could be pushed through. Peter Morrison suggested local councillors be approached to use emergency powers to extend existing local plan. As a Council, we object to 300 plus new houses while there is no provision for improvements to the infrastructure of the town.

12. AOCB.

Leanne Wilson introduced Marcus, one of the school prefect members (Josh, Nathan and Ryan being the others) and he was formally welcomed to the meeting. Leanne Wilson reported on the appointment of the new head teacher and intimated the intention was to repeat the hamper project. Full support from the Community Council was unanimous.

John Thornton reported it had been agreed to drop the Blue Seaway lighting project, which would require the matter to be returned to the Community for their agreement. The participatory budgeting team will assist. It was agreed to try to use the money, if agreeable, for replacement of some of our Christmas lights or for the formation of the new Community garden at the tennis court. Costings for each will be obtained.

Stewart Ellis reported on the provision of a Commemoration Garden and also provisional plans for a sensory garden at the new High School. Possible funding sources to be examined and Leanne Wilson to carry out research at the school.

The Christmas Lights switch on this year was discussed at length due to the continuing Covid 19 situation and while it was agreed it would have been good to have the actual physical event, circumstances, including the lack of any ability to limit numbers due to the open aspect of the site on the High Street, dictated that it would be irresponsible to proceed with a full public event. There was unanimous agreement. The same format as last year will therefore be followed and organisations will again be approached to provide a video for streaming.

Sheena Cochrane asked if meetings could be resumed at the cabin, incorporating Zoom technology but this was thought to be quite difficult. It was agreed Zoom meetings, which have been a success, would continue at least until Spring next year.

13. Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be at 7pm. on Thursday 14th October, 2021, via Zoom.

Secretary's Note. The next meeting of the Community Council will be at 7pm on Thursday 18th November 2021 via Zoom.

PLEASE NOTE. Meeting is one week later than normal.

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