

APPROVED

MONIFIETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ZOOM MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18th NOVEMBER 2021

Chairperson: Sheena Cochrane

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

Others: Councillors Beth Whiteside and Sheila Hands, Leanne Wilson, Andy Dingwall, Marcus Flucker.

1. Welcome and Apologies

Sheena Cochrane welcomed everyone to the Zoom meeting. .

Apologies were received from Rob Crossland and Hazel Brand.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting & Matters Arising.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as read.

3. Correspondence.

Email from Community Planning Partnership- Evaluating their Effectiveness. Discussed.

Email re Scottish Government Webinars- Investing in Communities. Discussed. Stewart Ellis to examine funding routes.

Email re Christmas Tree- Ben Nicoll replied- Delivery scheduled for Wednesday 25th.

Emails re Remembrance Day Events. Concern was expressed at the number of participants at the War Memorial, particularly after the Community Council had stated their intention to hold a low key ceremony, in line with last years event. As a result, no road closures were applied for. Rev Reynolds had assumed responsibility for organizing the ceremony and officiated there. Some disquiet was expressed at the tone of the event with no National Anthem, despite this having been requested. Many complaints were received regarding the constant interruptions from the nearby pedestrian crossing which was changing to the pedestrian phase every few seconds despite there being no pedestrians crossing. This was a continuation of a problem of the push buttons sticking, a problem reported to Angus Council many times with no action having apparently being taken, other than the matter being passed to Signals Engineers for investigation and repair. Secretary to contact Chief Executive of Angus Council. This matter has also been reported to the Secretary via a letter from Rev Jamieson.

Email re Boundary Commission proposed changes. Discussed. There are no changes as far as Monifieth is concerned, with Dundee East constituency being pushed eastwards to include Arbroath. No further action.

Letter received from Dundee District Council concerning Broughty Ferry and Monifieth Active Travel with update regarding the Dighty Bridge replacement and other aspects of the project. Discussed.

Letter received regarding an app called Nextdoor Monifieth Balmossie. Discussed. No action.

4. Christmas Lights Switch On.

It was agreed the switch on would take place on Sunday 5th December 2021, around 5pm.

There has been less uptake than last year with only Monifieth High School and Grange Primary sending in videos for streaming in the run up to the 5th. . There will be a livestream on the night of the actual switch on, which will be carried out by Santa assisted by one of his elves.

5. Social Media Report

Ben Nicoll welcomed Andy Dingwall, the new rector of Monifieth High, and expressed the hope the excellent relationship enjoyed under his predecessor, M-C McNally would continue. Andy thanked Ben and assured the Community Council it was his intention to maintain this relationship. He mentioned the school required invigilators for exams in May 2022- this will be advertised to the community via social

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media.

6. Treasurer's Report

Stewart Ellis reported the current balance is £17519.48. Spreadsheets had been sent to Councillors. Stewart proposed the Community Council make a contribution of £250.00 to Monifieth High School for the Christmas Box event. Discussed and agreed unanimously.

7. Planning Matters.

Rob Crossland unable to attend. John Thornton reported there were the following applications for planning permission for November 2021 viz. alterations and extensions at Grange Lodge (2), extension to rear of 20 Durham Street, extensions and alterations at 17 Wood Lane, extension to house at 44 Ferry Road and change of use from office to residential flat at 79 High Street. None of the above give any cause for concern. Rob has pursued the situation at 5 Grangehill Drive re possible breach of planning conditions with no result as yet.

8. Police Report

No police present. An email was received from Ch. Insp. Leanne Blacklaw, who has replaced Wayne Morrison as Angus Local Area Commander. She is pleased to return to Angus, the place of her birth, and looks forward to working with all the local communities. Leanne has intimated some changes within the Division with Chief Supt. Phil Davison replacing Ch. Supt. Andrew Todd on his retirement. We wish him well. The inspector for our area, Gary Aitken, has moved on and been replaced by Insp. David Gibson. Leanne assures us her team are fully committed to doing their best to keep Angus communities safe and has offered to have an introductory meeting with herself and Inspector Gibson. Discussed and offer to be kept under review as the next 2 meetings have guests invited already.

9. Angus Councillors' Reports

Councillors Whiteside and Hands joined the meeting at this point and the matter of the possible relocation of the library was discussed. She said the views of the Public have been listened to and there are no plans to move the library for the foreseeable future. Councillors are being kept busy as budgets are being prepared. She also stated she would contact Hong Zhang as no word has been heard regarding the replacement project following on from the decision to abandon the Blue Seaway lighting project.

Councillor Hands stated the bins on the High Street have been replaced which is a very welcome situation which the Community Council had pressed for as the old bins were falling apart and constituted a health hazard at this time of the Covid 19 pandemic. Angus Council have reached agreement with the refuse workers so services will continue without interruption.

A request was made to place the meeting with Shelly Hague, Policy and Planning Manager, Angus Council, early on the agenda for the December meeting.

10. Public Questions.

Stewart Ellis asked Andy Dingwall about the plans for the new school including the sensory garden. Andy stated he is on the project board and will bear this in mind, though the project is at an early stage with the design phase underway and interviews being held for architects. The locating of a community Police office at the school is also part of the ongoing discussions.

11. AOCB.

Leanne Wilson reported the school will be repeating last years' distribution of Christmas boxes to local pensioners and asked for Community Councillors' assistance again. This was agreed and is expected to start week commencing 13th December 2021. Monifieth Befrienders to be contacted for names.

12. Date of Next Meeting.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be at 7pm. on Thursday 9th December, 2021, via Zoom.

Secretary's Note. The next meeting will be on Thursday 10th February 2022.

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