

INVERESK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 16th January 2023 at Inglis Memorial Hall, Edzell

Present: Gus Leighton (Chairperson), Claire Wilson (Minute Secretary), Judith Gallacher, Pamela Cottam and 2 members of the public.

In attendance: Cllr Nicol, Cllr Scott, Cllr Beattie and Sgt Tracy Brown of Police Scotland.

Apologies: Alan Budge (Treasurer), Kate Skene (Planning Contact), Dick Robertson, Tony Seivwright and Ann Johnston.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Proposed by Gus Leighton and seconded by Judith Gallacher. The minutes will be posted to the Community Council website and sent to Angus Council and the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for distribution. **Action: Claire**

Planning and CNP Report

There has been an application submitted for another large shed at Balrownie. As only neighbours within a 20m radius are informed by the Council Gus had distributed flyers through doors at Balrownie and Little Brechin (which lie out of the statutory 20m limit) to make them aware of the application. Judith stated that there have been a few objections to the application submitted online. A member of the public felt that there would not be an increase in traffic as the grain would now be stored on site after drying so would not be transported to various points for storage. There was also concern voiced regarding the bridges in the area due to the large lorries now using the route.

There was communication received by the ICC regarding proposed planning at Gannochy and concerns re: flooding. The ICC have reached their limits in regard to this site. Gus has asked Cllr Beattie to see if a site visit with the Planning Department would be possible.

Cairngorm National Park

There are plans to restore some of the peat areas at Invermark. No update at this time.

Aberdeenshire

Glendye Windfarm proposal: see www.energyconsents.scot/ApplicationDetails.aspx. No recent movement on this but a watching brief will be kept.

Treasurer's Report

Alan was not at the meeting to provide an update.

Alan is still awaiting confirmation of the internet banking. All paperwork has been submitted. The year-end accounts have now been sent to Angus Council.

Police Report

The Police Report had been distributed to all the Community Council members before the meeting. The Police will continue to monitor vehicle speeds in the area as staffing and time allows. Several motorists have been warned regarding their speeds during the last monitoring.

It was also confirmed that the pop up policemen have been used in the area to deter speeding.

For non-urgent issues local residents can contact the local police on

taysidebrechinedzellcpt@scotland.police.uk

Recurring items

Speeding within Edzell

There have only been 5 responses to the Facebook post regarding additional street furniture and traffic islands at the south end of the village. The Police representative stated that St Cyrus has put bollards on roads in their area to control traffic and these were regularly knocked over by larger vehicles.

A member of the public stated that it was not boy racers who sped in the village but mainly the village residents. On Dunlappie Road it was voiced that it was mainly people attending the Golf Range/Course. The Golf Club has already been contacted to remind their members to adhere to the 20 mph zones.

This item will now be moved onto the unresolved items as it is unsure what more the ICC can do at this point, and the Councils budget is limited to assist in such issues.

Crossing Attendant at Edzell Primary School

Gus gave a brief history of the employment of the Crossing Attendant at Edzell School.

The Crossing Attendant has been given notice that her employment will cease at the end of this school term (March). The Parent Council have started a petition online and Gus encouraged everyone present at the meeting to sign the petition. A member of the Parent Council attended the meeting and stated that a freedom of information request had been submitted to the Council for information and they were struggling to get a few pieces of crucial information. Gus asked the Councillors to assist the Parent Council getting the information required. Cllr Scott offered to assist the Parent Council obtaining information, but the Parent Council have already contacted Cllr Beattie for assistance.

Gus also expressed his disappointment, that despite him contacting the Council regarding the Crossing Attendant on various occasions, he had not been informed of the decision to remove the attendant.

Cllr Nicol stated that it is Tayside Contracts who employ the crossing attendants and the Edzell one was always planned to be a temporary measure whilst the building works at the school were carried out. Cllr Beattie spoke about the Council budgets and stated that the services that people are familiar with now may not be the same services provided in the future due to the huge savings that the Council require to make. Cllr Nicol is no longer on the Tayside Contracts Board. The member of the Parent Council will contact Cllr Beattie directly and he will raise the issue.

Action: Cllr Beattie

Resilience

Menmuir Hall have declined to be used as a resilience hub. They are unable to store the equipment required to be a hub and due to the rural location of the hall it is thought that any storage out with the main hall will be a magnet for theft.

Gus has not heard back from the Glenesk Trust re: use of Glenesk Folk Museum as a hub. Claire will forward on Dalhousie Estates contact details for Gus to contact them. **Action: Claire/Gus**

HGVs through Edzell Arch/A90 junction at Northwaterbridge

Issue continues both for north and south bound HGV's. Judith wondered if the HGV's Sat Nav's are sending them via Edzell even for north bound traffic. Cllr Beattie will look into this through his Scottish Parliament role. **Action: Cllr Beattie**

Judith reported that another meeting with MSP's, Aberdeenshire Council and the company responsible for repairs on A90 (formerly BEAR Scotland) is to be organised but as yet no date has been set. The priority system for the Edzell Arch is planned on a trial basis – no date as yet for commencing.

Speeding in Inchbare

No recent update. The Pop-up Policemen have been placed in Inchbare and the Police will continue to monitor vehicles speeds when able.

This item will now be moved onto the unresolved items as it is unsure what more the ICC can do at this point, and the Councils budget is limited to assist in such issues.

Recycling bins at Tarfside

Tony will speak to the Cairngorm National Park re: bins for Tarfside. Tony was not at the meeting to update.

Action: Tony

Blue Door Parking

No update from last meeting. Moved to unresolved items as unsure what more the ICC can do at this point.

Connectivity in Glenesk

There is an issue with the landline telephones and routers in Glenesk. It is wondered if the issue is trees which are leaning on the overhead lines around Auchmull. Tony was not at the meeting for an update. There are plans to increase the height of 2 towers in Glenesk which should improve mobile coverage.

Action: Tony

Stracathro Wreaths

Ann was not at the meeting to update.

Ward Councillors' Report

Cllr Beattie stated that Council meetings were now restarting after the Christmas break. He also spoken about the Council budgets. Huge savings need to be made again this year and it was a real concern that people would lose their jobs due to these cuts. Cllr Beattie again stated that due to the budget cuts the services the Council provide in the future may not be the same as the public are familiar with now.

Cllr Nicol and Cllr Scott have both been busy with case work. Cllr Scott spoke about a social supermarket S-Mart which may be set up in Brechin following a current consultation. She also spoke of a new initiative at the Brechin Crickety which will aid working people who are struggling financially. This will include the provision of large warm fleeces (Oodies) and vouchers.

Correspondence

Nil

Brechin Healthcare Group

The BHG report the voucher scheme was successful. They were given £5000 for distribution – they managed to achieve this (including voucher printing costs). They are now applying for more money from Angus Council so they can continue the work over the next 3 months.

Negotiations are still progressing with Brechin City FC in relation to their starting a meeting centre at Glebe Park. Their biggest hold up is planning permission, which was expected in December, but is still ongoing. They cannot proceed with grants, funding etc until planning permission is approved.

Gus asked Cllr Beattie to look into what the hold up may be.

Action: Cllr Beattie

A committee has already been established to get started as soon as planning is given.

The Jenner Centre is currently not as busy, because they have had to cut back due to energy costs. However they continue to open all day Monday for footcare and Tuesday and Friday for hearing aid support. If any group requires the facilities then the BHG will open up to support this.

A member of the public asked if the next roll out of vouchers would be more means tested as she felt some of the vouchers distributed within Edzell were given to people who did not need assistance.

AOCB

Ramsay Street, Edzell

There has been a complaint from a resident regarding the poor condition of the road surface in Ramsay Street. Gus has looked at the road surface and although the top road surface is not in good condition there are no deep potholes. The Roads Department work on a Risk Assessment and as is the road would not meet the minimum standard to require resurfacing. It is unknown if the resident has reported the road condition to Angus Council via their AccessLine. It is thought that the road condition will deteriorate further when the Duriehill Development traffic starts later this year. Cllr Scott informed the ICC that the Inglis Court Development will not commence building until 2024/2025.

Shakin' Brig, Edzell

Judith reported that there were broken slats (covered with mesh) on the bridge. This issue has been reported on AccessLine. It is thought that the bridge is shared with Angus Council and Aberdeenshire Council.

Tree Felling on Edzell Straight

Work has started on clearing the storm damaged trees. Priority will be given to the Wishop Burn area to hopefully assist in reducing the flooding in the village.

The plans on replanting has been seen by the ICC and the only comment made was that it was hoped more deciduous trees would have been planted.

STV had asked for a comment from Gus but he was away at the time and has had no further contact from them. It is thought that the village and surrounding area would be happy that the area is being cleared and replanted.

Flooding at SSE substation, Inchbare and Balfour, Menmuir

SSE has contacted Gus and informed him that the substation had been pumped out during the recent floods. However, on speaking to a local resident it would appear that the pumped out water was redirected into the field which was already causing the flood. SSE confirmed that the recent power cut in Inchbare was not due to the flooded sub-station.

It was voiced that a recent car accident at the area was due to the flood water. The Police Scotland representative stated that this was not the case and water played no part in the accident.

The culvert has now been cleared at Balfour Cottages so it is hoped that this action should resolve the flooding there.

Tayside Contract Community Funding

Judith has applied again for monies to repair the Wishop Burn bridge. We will await the outcome of this.

Pop up Jim

A member of the public stated that they wish to make up a rota for placing the pop up Jim (policeman) within Edzell. Anyone interested should contact EVIS or ICC.

Don Trust

Cllr Scott spoke about the Don Trust. This Trust can help provide facilities for elderly residents e.g for keysafes etc. They are looking for 2 trustees to join. The meetings are usually held every 3 months. Anyone interested can contact Cllr Scott for more information.

Gus thanked everyone for attending.

Next meeting: Monday 20th February 2023 at Inglis Hall, Edzell

Issues unable to be resolved fully by ICC

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>	<u>Date Removed from Agenda</u>
Margie Bridge, Lethnot	Bridge has got several uneven areas on it which has caused accidents to at least 2 cyclists. The Council have assessed the bridge and state the road condition is acceptable. January 2021 - Gus has received a quote for repair of road from Breedons – sent to Roads Dept. February 2021 – Council still maintain surface is adequate and the work unnecessary. Letter sent from MSP to Council in March 2021 – Council maintains road surface adequate.	October 2020. Returned to Agenda January 2021 with quote. Removed from Agenda-February 2021.
Wishop Burn Bridge/Pathway from Little Brechin to Brechin/Pathway from Westside to Inchbare	Applications sent for Safe Route Grant via Angus Council for repair of Wishop Bridge and creation of other 2 paths. All submissions unsuccessful. Judith to discuss with Cllr Braes and plan put in place to resubmit when another appropriate Grant available either via Angus Council or other means. Reapplication for Wishop Burn made March 2022-unsuccessful	Removed from Agenda – June 2022
Blind Corner at Blairno, Lethnot	Tar has been added to edge of road. Council will continue to monitor road and amend signage if required.	Removed from Agenda- November 2021
Buskhead Bridge, Glenesk	Courier reporter keen to do article on closed bridge due to having to wade through the river. Directed to Ken Goddard, Judith and Tony. Updates will be put on the Minutes when available.	Removed from Agenda – March 2022
School Lights Flashing		

	Light need replaced and will be done later in 2022	Removed from Agenda – June 2022
Benches up Glenesk	Bench has been ordered by DD9 connections to place at the top of the Mudloch. Bench should be sited late summer/early autumn	Removed from Agenda – August 2022
Balrownie 30mph limit	Suggestion given to Angus Council to make are 30mph – awaiting decision from Council	Removed from Agenda – November 2022
East Mains Heras Fencing	Not taken down post building. Await sewage pipe work to be completed. Planning aware of concerns	Removed from Agenda – November 2022
Speeding in ICC area	20mph now in Edzell with buffering zones. Rumble strips placed on either end of High Street when entering Edzell. Traffic island sited at north end of village to aid school pupils crossing. VAS signs sited in Inchbare. Buffering zones at either entrance to Inchbare on main B966 road. Pop up Police made available to use at Edzell and Inchbare.	Removed from Agenda – January 2023