

Royal Burgh of Forfar Community Council
Minutes of meeting on 20th April 2023 at 7 pm at the Cross Forfar.

Present:

Community Councillors: - , Graeme Clark (GC), Tom O'Brien (Tob), Eleanor Feltham(EF), Kathryn Patullo(KP), Dave Gardner (DG), Marley Hunter (MH) and Angela Gillies (AG)

Apologies: - Jacqui Garvin, R. Wardhaugh, James Gray-Cheape and Ian Dickson.

Minute Secretary: - None

Angus Councillors: - Lynne Devine (LD), and Ian McLaren (IM).

Others; -

1. Welcome and Apologies – The Chair Dave Gardner welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies noted. The chair for the next meeting will be Marley Hunter.

2. Minutes from previous Meeting: Proposed by KP Seconded by AG.

3. Matters Arising from previous Meeting: Cllr Devine said that the EV charger in the Myre car park was now fixed. Cotton of Lownie solar farm – application not in yet, advised locals to set up a group to co-ordinate their efforts to protest the development. Gave advice on what criteria to use to put a protest in against. EF carried out a site visit with some of the residents and advised them to ask for the panels to be moved at least 100m back from the road as a buffer zone. It was also mentioned re the road etc flooding in that area may be worse if the panels to close to the road due to water runoff.

GC talked about the “*promoting active walking and cycling in Angus*” and the proposed route from Forfar to Kirriemuir. GC said that a small group from the community council had walked the old railway line from Padanaram to Kirriemuir to assess its suitability as a route. There are a few issues with access and blocked under passes at the bridges. The route along the road is not really suitable due to safety concerns. GC wrote to Angus council but received no reply as yet.

4. Chairperson’s report: Nothing to report, DG thanked all for attending.

5. Secretary Correspondence/Report: TOB mentioned the **PAS** proposal looking for projects to fund to look into active travel in Angus, the group agreed that TOB would put in a note of interest on behalf of the community council (cut off date 21st April 2023), will need to speak to council officer, Cllr LD said she would contact them for the group. Citizens advocacy worker had been in touch to ask if they could attend a meeting and give a talk on the role they play. This was agreed, Tob to contact and arrange a date. TOB also mentioned the “*Live better, Live longer event*” on the 11th of May at the Reid hall.

TOB also raised the point about getting replies to emails sent out requiring an answer, important to get replies so the thoughts of the community can be gathered.

TOB asked the councillors if from the next meeting they could send their report before the meeting and comments or issues can be raised. This will hopefully save some time at the meetings so there is more time for guest speakers etc. Cllrs agreed to do this.

6. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer and secretary to attend at bank and sort out paperwork.

7. Police & Fire Service Report: None.

8. Local Councillor Update: From this meeting moving forward only 2 of the local councillors will attend the meeting on a rotating basis each month. This month Cllr Devine and McLaren attending.

Cllr I. McLaren- Mentioned Carseview rd. and the litter reported to the council which was cleared up quickly. The new poles for the path lights at the Loch are up but the lights not fitted yet. The issue with the

path and barriers at Peacock has now been sorted so it is now safe to walk along the road there. The yellow lines at the Brechin rd. have been done. There is a wheelchair issue with the dropped kerbs at Ewart's the butchers, people are parking on the double yellow lines and blocking the kerb access. Wardens are going to look into this as even with a blue badge the dropped kerb should not be blocked.

Cllr Devine- Mentioned the issue with the ground opposite the Zoar Inn by the school, it is flooding, and the ground is very boggy, this is to be looked at. Also spoke to roads re the new path at Myre ground and the issue with the mud on the path, the path is working well. Reported that there has been an increase in Strang's mortification applications which is good. Been meeting with housing about issues particularly with repairs. Gala week is 18th – 25th June 2023, history walks to take place during the week re the witches. Mentioned the witch trials and that there is to be a memorial at the VAA to commemorate the deaths of the women concerned. There has been a lot of interest from French people about the witches and there have been articles in the press and on TV.

9. AOCB: EF raised the issue of the leaflet from SSE put through her door re the East coast 400KV phase 2 pylon line and new substations. This project is for upgrades to existing lines and a new one. One of the areas is between Forfar and Padanaram. There are public meetings but the closest to Forfar is Westmuir the far side of Kirriemuir. EF contacted SSE about a meeting in Forfar and district but was told to ignore the reference to Forfar, there has been no reply to the email sent. The dates for consultation take place between May 9th-17th. **See appendix 1** for leaflet and notes from EF.

TOB mentioned the resilience meeting that he and GC had with Jennifer Anderson CLD worker and council officer from roads. The meeting went well and the flooding in the town was mentioned, the council officer told us about the work done to alleviate this happening again. Some of the measures include drawing the water away from the roads and on to fields and drainage ditches. An old drainage ditch was found which has been cleared and more drain cleaning to take place. In terms of sandbags etc, work to be done on finding a place to maybe store some for future use close by and signage to close off the road. Further meeting to take place.

10. Subgroup updates:

- i. Quarry subgroup (RW/EF): - No update.

11. Planning Applications: The site at Suttieside was discussed and the meeting attended by members of the community council. Some issues were raised and are to be looked at by the developer. These include flooding issues and the site of the batteries. A discussion took place around what comments the community council could make on the planning application and if these were valid arguments. The issue of Scottish government support for these solar farms was raised as a stumbling block to any problems with these farms and stopping them. Community council agreed for EF to put a statement on the planning site with the points made by the community council for and against the application.

12. Date and time of next meeting: The next meeting of the Community Council will take place at 7 pm on Thursday 18th May 2023 at the Cross-meeting room.

Appendix 1

AOCB EF

Date of meeting 20th April 2023

SSEN — Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks EAST COAST 400kV Phase 2 - Kintore to Tealing.

Public events are being held between 2nd May and 17th May that covers their preferred corridor route B - between Brechin and Forfar as shown on their project documents. The area covers the westside of A90 at both locations.

Public consultation venues restricted to Brechin, Westmuir and Tealing.

I enquired on my own behalf why Forfar did not have a venue given it is the administration headquarters of Angus and the majority of applications for grid connection will be requested from this area.

I was told to dismiss the reference to Forfar as confusing and no community engagement timetabled for Forfar or Padanaram and to attend either Westmuir or Tealing.

Copy of leaflet.

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks
TRANSMISSION

East Coast 400kV Phase 2
Public consultation events

SSEN Transmission are developing proposals between Kintore and Tealing via Fiddes to build a new 400kV connection between these sites enabling the significant power transfer capability needed to take power from onshore and large scale offshore renewable generation connecting on the east coast of Scotland.

The East Coast 400kV Phase 2 project will seek to establish a new 400kV network and reinforce sections of the existing electricity transmission infrastructure.

We are inviting members of the public and all interested parties to attend our drop-in consultation events and give their views on the following proposed projects:

- Kintore – Tealing 400kV OHL (overhead line)
- Tealing 400kV substation
- Fiddes 400kV substation
- Alyth – Tealing OHL Re-conductor
- Tealing – Westfield OHL Re-conductor

Come along to one of the following sessions and meet with our project team who will be there to talk through the details of the projects and answer any of your questions:

2 May (2-7pm)	Kirkton of Skene – Milne Hall
3 May (2-7pm)	Ardoe – Ardoe House Hotel
4 May (2-7pm)	Laurencekirk – Dickson Hall
9 May (2-7pm)	Brechin – Brechin City Hall
10 May (2-7pm)	Kirriemuir – Westmuir Hall
11 May (2-7pm)	Tealing – Tealing Village Hall
17 May (4-6pm)	Virtual event*

*Joining details available on website

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Liaison Manager:

Martha Smart
SSEN Transmission
200 Dunkeld Road,
Perth, PH1 3GH

TKUP@sse.com
+44 (0) 7721 407 513

Find out more and register for project updates by visiting the project website using the below URL or by scanning the QR code.
bit.ly/3TLC02A

All venues have disabled access; for any other accessibility requirements please get in touch.

SSEN Community @SSETransmission
[ssen-transmission.co.uk](https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk)