



Aberlemno and District
Community Council Meeting
Thursday 7th December 2023, 19.00hrs
Aberlemno Village Hall

In attendance:

Community council members: Russell Bruce (RB), Lynn Bruce (LB)

Local councillors: Gavin Nicol (GN)

Apologies:

Isabelle Davies (ID), Councillor Chris Beattie (CB), Angus Council: Sandra Livingston (SL), Angus Roads: Scott Dryden, Police: Sergeant Tracy Brown.

1. **Welcome, housekeeping, attendance and apologies.**
Russell Bruce opened the meeting at 19.03hrs and thanked all attendees for coming along. There were no members of the public in attendance.
2. **Minutes from the last meeting.**
Due to the number of community council members in attendance, the minutes from the last meeting could not be proposed. They will continue to stand as 'draft' until the next meeting.
3. **Matters arising from previous minutes.**
Nil.
4. **Secretary's report and correspondence.**
Russell informed those attending that Jacqui had resigned from the community council and that he had received an email from her on 30 Nov 23, stating:
"I am writing to advise you that I am resigning from the Aberlemno and District Community council."
5. **Treasurer's report.**
The treasurer's report can be found at Appendix 1 of these minutes.
6. **Planning report.**
The report from the planning representative can be found at Appendix 2 of these minutes.
7. **Community council Bi-Annual Meeting.**
This report can be found at Appendix 3 of these minutes.

8. Aberlemno Road closure.

It was noted that the closure of the B9134, was done so, without informing any residents who access their homes using this road. It had also continued to be closed well after the designated date. This in itself is not an issue, however, the courtesy of informing residents was glaring in its absence.

9. Local Community policing Area report.

“In addition, there were a total of 41 crimes recorded within this timeframe, of which none were specific to the Aberlemno and District area.”

10. Road safety.

This report can be found at Appendix 4 of these minutes.

11. Any other business.

- a. Russell talked about the plan for the community council to continue and it was agreed by those attending, that we would be more active in seeking new members. This action will continue until April 2024, which would provide a natural end, due to the financial year, if no other members of the area are forthcoming.
- b. Lynn put forward a future proposal that the ‘Unrestricted Funds’ be used for the good of the community, since no applications have been made formally for any financial support. The idea is to help with the update of the Pictish room in Aberlemno Village Hall, this idea was fully supported by those attending, but will need to wait until the next meeting so that there would be a quorum.

12. Questions from the floor.

There were no questions from the floor.

13. Date and location of next meeting.

Thursday 1st February at Aberlemno Village Hall.

14. Close.

The meeting was closed at 19.36hrs



ABERLEMNO & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

TREASURERS MONTHLY REPORT

October 2023 – November 2023

After the last meeting on 5th October 2023, the following has been completed:

- Farnell Village Hall – payment made for CC meeting on 5th October 2023.
- Two Remembrance Crosses were donated by Russ, Chair of Community Council. They were placed inside Aberlemno Church and Farnell Churchyard. Thank you to Russ. This is a good way of marking our respects of the fallen.

APPENDIX 1

20231207-Minutes

Financial Statement for October 2023 – November 2023

	£'s
Starting Balance	606.06
Income:	
Grant from Angus Council (Restricted)	
Income Total	
Expenses:	
Restricted Funds:	
Farnell Village Hall Hire 5 th October 2023	31.25
Total Restricted Funds	31.25
Balance Restricted Funds	99.81
Unrestricted Funds:	
Total Unrestricted Funds	0.00
Balance Unrestricted Funds	475.00
Balance Carried Forward 31/11/2023	574.81

Aberlemno and District CC - Planning Report Dec 2023

Comments for Planning Application 23/00739/FULL

Submission

Whilst there is no objection to the provision of holiday cottages, the change of use has destroyed the principle of safe off road pedestrian access from the holiday complex at Balbinny to Aberlemno and the bus stops for Brechin and Forfar.

Application ref 13/01096/FULL made provision for a footpath from Balbinny to the Village Hall, Pictish Stones and the bus stops. The footpath went round the back of the converted properties, but this has now gone, incorporated into garden ground. The footpath now only goes to the cottages with no access to the bus stop, so walkers have to leave the footpath through a breach in the wall and walk along a single track road to the rest of the route to village and to the bus stops.

This was also a retrospective application for c/u of agricultural land to form grassed footway between Aberlemno and Balbinny Farm and was the subject of a meeting between the applicant and the Council.

The permission is subject to the following conditions, namely: -

1 That the formation of the proposed footway and all remedial works associated with this shown on the approved plan, including but not limited to the rerouting of the footway to the west of the sheep wash and the rebuilding of the breach in the stone wall to the northwest of Crosston Steading shall be completed within 3-months from the date of this planning permission.

3 That within 2 months from the date of this planning permission the proposed pedestrian barrier shown on the approved plan shall be installed in accordance with a specification that has been submitted to and approved in writing by the planning authority. Thereafter the barrier shall be retained in situ unless otherwise approved in writing by the planning authority.

The current application is in breach of these conditions.

We request that the footpath be re-instated for the safety of visitors and residents. It was in regular use by residents who now have to use the road where traffic has increased due to development locally.

APPENDIX 2

20231207-Minutes

Objection rejected.

With reference to your query regarding planning application 23/00739/FULL.

The roads authority does not have any objections to the removal of a section of path at Balbinny Farm Cottage. The 'path' was created by the land owner approximately 10 years ago, creating a walking route from Balbinny farm to Aberlemno village hall. The path is not a public right of way and the roads authority has no control over it the path.

As the adjacent section of public road has low volumes of traffic and as the roads authority has no control over the path, I do not have any significant concerns over the loss of the short section of path to be lost which would result in pedestrian diversion along the public road for a short distance of 50 metres or so.

The removal of the short section of path relating to 23/00739/FULL is not contrary to any conditions relating to the 2013 application which were recommended by the road's authority. The roads authority's comments on the 2013 application were limited to a request for a pedestrian barrier to be placed at the south end of the footpath, adjacent to the car park at Aberlemno Hall. This was to prevent pedestrians running into the existing car park from the footpath where conflicts with vehicular movements could result.

I trust the above clarifies the road authority's view on the current planning application.

Application still awaiting decision.

Angus Council Bi-annual Community Council Meeting 14 Nov 2023 (Teams)

Update on new Local Development Plan - Angusplan.

The Development Plan Scheme has been published outline timescale for stages of the Local Development Plan and opportunities for involvement (Participation Statement) -

https://www.angus.gov.uk/localdevelopmentplan/draft_development_plan_scheme_and_participation_statement

Community Councils are required to be contacted throughout the process. A new feature in the system is the Local Place Plan where, subject to meeting various criteria, a community can put forward their views on land use opportunities in their area. (Community council members will develop this idea and if viable will inform residents of how we might, with their support, process.)

Local Democracy

Work to date indicates CCs wish for a better relationship with Angus Council. What do we need/want? Is there enough engagement with the Council/ How best to communicate?

Scottish Government published new Model Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils and associated documents. Angus Council will review and contact CCs through the `Community Council bulletin. (No timescale proposed)

How do we achieve better engagement. (Suggest meeting with Sandra Livingston to review our first year?)

Community Council Forum Raised by Tom O'Brian, Forfar Community Council

Have had 50 years of CCs - is it time to review how we work? W Lothian have established a forum and have developed a new way of working with the council through informal meetings, CC Forum reps sitting on Council Committees, working with Council, Health and Social Care Partnership and police to influence policy and service provision. Pro-active approach - would it work in Angus? Would it work nationally. Contact Tom by 1 January if interested.

Local Resilience Hub

Following the latest incidents worked out what was needed and how to deliver. Bid through CC and their bank account to deliver saves, heaters etc (Edzell have well established Flood Group and CC but in conjunction with the village hall could review opportunity/needs in Angus?)

50 years of Community Council

Connection failed so no input.

APPENDIX 3

20231207-Minutes