

Aberlemno and District
Community Council Meeting
Thursday 1st February 2024, 19.00hrs
Aberlemno Village Hall

1. Meet and greet with tea / coffee.

2. Welcome, housekeeping, attendance and apologies.

Russell Bruce opened the meeting at 19.11hrs and thanked all attendees for coming along.

In attendance:

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

Local councillors: Gavin Nicol (GN), Jill Scott (JS)

Police: PC Joe Gregg (JG)

Members of the Public: 7

Apologies: Councillor Chris Beattie (CB), Angus Council: Sandra Livingston (SL)

3. Approval of previous minutes.

Due to the number of community council members in attendance at the December meeting, it was unable to approve the October meeting minutes. This was done at this meeting.

October meeting.

Proposed: Lynn Bruce

Seconded: Isabelle Davies

December meeting.

Due to numbers, this meeting was unable to continue as a formal meeting and was changed to a 'Planning Meeting' as directed by our Angus Council Liaison Officer.

Proposed: Russell Bruce

Seconded: Lynn Bruce

4. Matters arising from previous minutes.

Resignation of Secretary (Jacqui Thornton) from the community council. The community council will continue until April 2024 when it will dissolve unless volunteers are forthcoming. Roles and skill sets were explained to those in attendance. A vote of thanks goes to Jacqui for the work she did in the Secretaries position.

Defibrillator for Farnell church was discussed. Lynn is going to continue with this ongoing matter. Update will be given at the next meeting.

5. Secretary's report and correspondence.

Nil.

All correspondence will be dealt with by the remaining community councillors.

6. Treasurer's report.

The treasurer's report can be found at Appendix 1 of these minutes.

7. Planning report.

The report from the planning representative can be found at Appendix 2 of these minutes.

8. Local Community policing Area report.

Joe explained the local campaigns, Police website and Neighbourhood Watch.

There was one crime within the Aberlemno and District area.

There was a discussion regarding speeding.

20MPH areas not routinely enforced, except at schools.

The subject of a speed survey was discussed again. This will be followed up by Joe.

9. Road safety.

This report can be found at Appendix 3 of these minutes.

10. 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. Aberlemno website promoted again. Jacqui has agreed to continue adding information requested by the community council members to our specific page.
- c. Resilience Action Plan (flooding). Isabelle asked for volunteers to help with the plan. The village hall in Aberlemno being a designated warm and safe location.
- d. Unrestricted Funds. To this point, there have been no formal requests for any financial support. Russell asked for consideration to be made for the complete sum now held, to be donated to Aberlemno Village Hall, for the express use of revamping the Pictish room and in support of locating the 'new' Flemington Stone.
- e. Lynn talked about the benefit of using Zoom in the winter for CC meetings instead of everyone trying to get to them during inclement weather. The monthly subscription would be covered by the funds not used for hire of venues. The floor suggested using Teams as it was the platform used by Angus Council and other Companies over Zoom. This would be followed up by Lynn and report findings at next meeting.

11. Questions from the floor.

There were no questions from the floor.

12. Date and location of next meeting.

Thursday 4th April 2024 at Farnell SWI Hall

13. Close.

The meeting was closed at 21.00hrs

APPENDIX 1

20240201-Minutes

October 2023 – January 2024

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.
- Payments made to Village Hall for Meetings on 7th December 2023 and 1st February 2024.

Financial Statement.

A copy should be attached to the Minutes and the Agenda of the last meeting.

Financial Statement for October 2023 – January 2024

| | £'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 |
| Aberlemno Village Hall Hire 7 th December 2023 | 28.00 |
| Aberlemno Village Hall Hire 1 st February 2024 | 28.00 |
| Total Restricted Funds | 87.25 |
| Balance Restricted Funds | 43.81 |

Unrestricted Funds:

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Total Unrestricted Funds | 0.00 |
| Balance Unrestricted Funds | 475.00 |
| Balance Carried Forward 31/01/2024 | 518.8 |

APPENDIX 2

20240201-Minutes

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 must 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 subject of a meeting between the applicant and the Angus 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 must use the road where traffic has increased due to development locally.

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 Cottages. The 'path' was created by the landowner 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 the path.

As the adjacent section of public road has low volumes of traffic and I do not have any significant concerns over the loss of the short section of path, 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 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.

Email received from the Planning Consultant, acting on behalf of Mr D Milne at Balbinny Leisure Resort, regarding the planning application in question. It was requested that the Community Council removed their objection regarding the pathway around Balbinny Cottages. The consensus of Aberlemno and District Community Council and the members of the public was that the objection should never and will not be rescinded.

Isabelle will reply to the e-mail noted above and update all at the next meeting.

APPENDIX 3

20240201-Minutes

Since the last meeting on 5th October 2023

Aberlemno

- Storm Babet – problems due to flooding. Our thoughts are with those especially that were flooded out from homes and businesses in Brechin.
- B9134 was closed again on 10th November for 2-3 weeks approx to repair road. Residents were still able to access their properties. No notification from Angus Council about closure.
- B9134 was subjected again to additional traffic as A90 was closed due to fallen power lines – Storms Isher and Jocelyn.
- Potholes on B9134 have been poorly repaired as they are in need of doing again.
- U455 was closed in January 2024 for SSEN to replace Electricity Poles – Large potholes appeared – emailed Angus Council – awaiting reply. Email from Peter Morton, Angus

Council Roads – Road to be repaired at end of February 2024.

- Speeding will always be a problem in Aberlemno as no solution could be sort. Please send all photos and videos of speeding vehicles to Nick McKendrick @ Brechin Police,
-

Netherton

- Bridge Repair? – not sure if any further damage was done to bridge but no further details have been heard from Council yet regarding replacement.

Farnell

- Village road was flooded but no reports have been received about damage etc.