

Royal Burgh of Forfar Community Council
Minutes of meeting on Thurs 18th Jan at 7 pm online on Zoom.

Present:

Community Councillors: - T. O'Brien (Tob), , Graeme Clark (GC), Eleanor Feltham (EF), Robin Wardhaugh (RW), Dave Gardner (DG), Angela Gillies (AG) and Ian Dickson (ID).

Minute Secretary: - None

Angus Councillors: - Cllr Linda Clark

Others; - None

1. Welcome and Apologies – James Gray-Cheape, Jacqui Garvin, Kathryn Patullo, Marley Hunter and Cllr Ross Greig.

2. Minutes from previous Meeting: Proposed by EF and seconded by GC

3. Matters Arising from previous Meeting: RW mentioned the flooding on Lour rd. and said the issue is with the field at the top of the road . The wall along side this field is starting to bow and a lot of water pours through and over it. This may require looking at and work done to protect it from collapsing.

Cllr Clark said that a lot of work has gone into this area by the council to alleviate problems with flooding especially in the town centre which was seen during the recent heavy rainfall. Cllr Clark said it may be an idea to see who actually owns the wall, RW said he would look into this for the next meeting.

4. Chairperson's Report: None.

5. Secretary Correspondence/Report: Received correspondence from SEN about proposed route change from B1 to B1.1, this will still effect parts of Kirriemuir and Padanaram which come under Forfar community council area. Community council will need to respond during next period of consultation. Secretary mentioned Forfar loch and the lack of facilities on the back of a news story about funding for a new play park at Forfar loch and there being no funding available to build it.

6. Treasurer's Report: DG and TOB attended at the bank and went through the process again to add DG. All paperwork correct and awaiting message back from the bank to confirm all is correct.

7. Police & Fire Service Report: None, the monthly Police report will be sent out once received in the next week.

8. Local Councillor Update: See Appendix A

9. AOCB: A discussion took place around Forfar loch, and it was mention by TOB about looking at a local place plan or community development trust to be set up to try and get the park and area around the loch done up and improved facilities. The toilets being closed was mentioned again. GC and TOB both talked about the north side of the loch and the problem with the path having not been upgraded there are issues in the winter especially with the heavy rain where the path is unusable and not great for people with mobility and disability issues. Even people with pushchairs find it difficult to get all the way round. It was mentioned about talking to the different clubs and groups who use the loch to get something done.

RW said that the farmers market is now at Lawson church, he said there is an issue with parking when it gets busy as there is no designated area to park by the church.

EF said that there have been complaints about the Homefinder program on the council website, it has had some issues. There have been problems with the number of applicants bidding for properties and the amount of ID required just to register to be able to bid on houses. A discussion followed on social housing and the lack of it in some areas and the difficulty in finding land for the council to build on. GC mentioned some old building which are decaying to the point of needing to be demolished. 2 areas were the old Wellbrae school and the building on South rd. by the fire station which is in a pretty bad state. Could this land not be used for housing along with other brownfield sites.

10. Subgroup updates:

- I. Quarry group (Lairds) **See appendix B for notes.**

11. Planning Applications: Information on local place plans and planning See appendix C.

12. Date and time of next meeting: The next meeting will be on Thurs 15th Feb 2024 at The Cross meeting room Forfar at 6.30pm for AGM and 7 pm (19.00) for general meeting unless advised otherwise.

Appendix A

Councillor Report to Forfar Community Council meeting on January 18th, 2024

We are headed towards an extremely onerous budget, one of the worst I suspect any of us has experienced. Not only are we suffering the effects of trying to keep people in warm homes, out of even more serious debts and children fed before they go to school, we must now make the most difficult of choices we never envisaged in order to ensure we keep statutory services afloat.

Because of the continuing scandal of ever-increasing utility costs, private rent increase and the obscene mortgage crisis, folk are struggling very badly. The Council is working with organisations and volunteers offering warm spaces, ensuring children are offered food and fun in the school holidays, Community groups and churches are collecting uniforms and Winter coats for the many families to avail themselves of them. I have visited many of the events such as these and have collected the coats too. It is quite shocking where we are at present.

The recent storm Babet and its fall-out of flooded homes in Brechin and district has made a very difficult housing situation a whole lot worse but we really must thank the Council's teams, the emergency services and the volunteers who worked tirelessly to look after the affected families. This ever-increasing climate emergency is something we will be financially and emotionally affected by for a long time to come. Our flood defences are something we take very seriously but Planning decisions will play a part in where we allow development in the future as will having local resilience groups.

Dog-fouling and litter remain a blight on our streets and pathways. I've noticed an increase in the episodes of fouling in the dark nights. This is a real blight which I feel is worse when under the cover of darkness. So too with littering. In both cases, there are plenty bins. So no excuse there.

Ends:

Councillor Linda Clark

20th January, 2024

Appendix B

Report on recent progress at Pitreuchie Quarry

A regularly scheduled meeting was held at the end of November 2023. Present were Jamie Laird (Laird) , Willie Booth (Dalglish Associates), and David Hall (Resident & Chair)

Currently Laird are excavating between phases 2&3 of the accepted plan, and as such excavations should now be better sheltered from residents of Pitreuchie Place. Dust and noise monitoring have all been well within limits.

Following the flooding issues from Storm Babet, Laird intend to excavate and construct a sink at the North-Eastern area of the site, sufficient to hold and drain a large volume of runoff from other areas of the site. This, in combination with topographical changes to the site from routine excavation and some additional changes to the slopes (to be agreed with Angus Council planning) should direct any subsequent runoff away from Pitreuchie Place, and either back into the excavations, or towards the sink and Arbroath Road where drainage is better.

Additionally, Angus Council have already undertaken a drone investigation of the culvert under the quarry site and into Pitreuchie Place. This is with a view to adding a drain at the low point between No.'s 56 and 57 to drain either directly to the culvert or into the street and to drains there.

Thanks are expressed by residents for all help offered during the recent flooding by Laird, the Community Council, Angus Council, and councillors.

Appendix C

LOCAL PLACE PLANS

Local Place Plans are community-led, place based plans which provide a vision and proposals for future development in their area.

Groups must be constituted to prepare LPP.s

The adoption of the new Local Development Plan is 2029, submission of the Local Place Plan should be no later than 31st December 2025.

This topic would require additional meetings and public consultation.

More information and resources listed on Angus Council Planning website and a Place Standard Tool.

The lead Manager is Antony McGuinness email LDP@angus.gov.uk or telephone 01307 492044.

Appendix C contd. Planning

Planning applications status at meeting date Thursday 18th January 2024

PENDING

22/00859/FULM	216 Houses east of Garth Farm	Appeal
23/00304/FULL	Lour Road 44 Units	44 units
23/00389/FULM	Scotia Homes Westfield Loan	117 Units
23/00393/FULM	Cotton of Lownie Solar Farm	
23/00469/FULL	Closure northbound Lochland Junction	
23/00481/FULL	Canmore Lour Steading to residential	
23/00776/MS	2 Westfield Loan (Approval of matters)	
23/00802/FULL	Strathmore Hall (Use Vehicle Prep)	
23/00807/FULL	Kingston Place Kingsmuir	
23/00808/FULL	Lochside Lodge 1 st and 2 nd Floor extensions	
23/00855/PAN	BESS 49.9MW Former gas works Carseview Road	
23/00867/FULL	W/shop Queenswell Road commercial garage	
24/00011/FULL	47 Kingfisher Road Change of house design	
23/00841/PPPL	Bell Place demolish existing house and erect new	
23/00761/FULL	Lochmill Forfar DD8 1QZ Demolish farmhouse, erect new	
	Change of use agricultural land to garden ground	

APPROVED

23/00870/FULL	SUTTIESIDE SOLAR FARM	
23/00649/FULL	1 Arbroath Road	1 flat into 2
23/00563/FULL	27 Craig o'Loch Road	2 flats into 1
23/00643/ADV	97/99 North Street	Sign
23/00654/FULL	Erect house Wellcroft Lownie	
23/00657/PRIORN	Agri building Wardmill	
23/00707/FULL	14 Queenswell Road	Gym
23/00717/ADV	67/69 Castle Street	Fascia Sign
23/00726/LBC	51/53 West High Street	Conversion
23/00727/FULL	25 Dunnichen Road	Extension
23/00759/FULL	5 Lintie Croft	Extension
23/00764/FULL	30 Lilybank Crescent	Patio Doors
23/00776/MS	2 Westfield Loan	

REFUSED

23/00621/FULL	Unit Halfpenny burn for Dog Daycare	
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WITHDRAWN

23/00616/FULL	17 Muir Place	Extension
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Planning contact