

Letham & District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on: 15th May 2025 at 7.30pm in Letham Feuars Hall

Present: Wendy Cameron, Isobel Sword, Karen Smith, Tracy Andrews, Sandra Macrae, Gail Smith, David Lumgair, Debbie Dallas, Cllr Nicol, Cllr Cowdy, Cllr Shepherd, Police, Mr R Dhinsa, Mr T Rizza

Via Teams: not available

Apologies Karen Kose, Cllr Cruickshanks

Absent Mhairi Dickson

Amendments to Previous Minutes:

- Cllr Nicol requested that the previous minutes made reference to her previous correspondence on the matter of the footpath

Approval of Previous Minutes: proposed by: Tracey
seconded: Isobel

Police Report:

- In April there were 39 calls, 13 crimes (1 x non-sexual violence, 2 x Dishonesty, 1 x Anti-Social, 7 x Road traffic offences and 1 x Group 98) with an 31% detection rate – this is an increase of 7 crimes recorded compared to the previous month
- Cuppa with a Cop have been cancelled so Constables Greig and Watt will join with the Cosy Cuppy meeting on 30th May

Matters Arising:

- **No parking notice outside the Key Store/Post Office –**
Sandra has written a letter to the Chief Executive that she's happy to submit if all the Community Council members are in agreement. Sandra shared that she has not received any acknowledgement of the three letters she has previously sent to Angus Council. Isobel suggested adding a comment regarding the need for crossing the road if there are yellow lines as all cars will park on the other side. This will have an impact on un/loading and also disabled people. Sandra has written the letter in a personal capacity so Cllr Cowdy suggested submitting another letter from the Community Council. Cllr Cowdy advised that any members of the public can attend a Committee meeting and do a 10-minute input. Isobel offered to accompany Mr Dhinsa should he wish to attend. Sandra shared that she will also include in her letter the number of large

agricultural vehicles that are now traveling on Dundee Road and that these add to the danger on the corner by the Key Store. David stated that there has never been an accident on the corner so in his opinion there is no need for double yellow lines. David pointed out that you can still park there if you have a disabled badge anyway. Cllr Cowdy advised that the proposals for Letham are part of a raft of measures across all of Angus and that the Community Council need to bring to the Committees' attention the unique village context of Letham. Sandra suggested that it is one particular resident who has drawn attention to this with Angus Council. Isobel shared that it is remiss of the Council to not consult with the Community Council. Cllr Cowdy will contact the head of Roads Department on Friday the 16th and ask if they had notified the Community Council and check they had acted appropriately. The Police advised that the Roads Department have informed them of the consultation process. The Police have previously been told that no double yellow lines were going to be installed, this was in 2023. While there is no date for the Committee meeting comments and objections need to be submitted by 16.05.25. Sandra advised that any letters being sent by members of the public should go to the Director of Infrastructure and Environment at Angus Council.

Mr Rizza suggested that currently with no double yellow lines it means that cars and drivers approach the corner cautiously and a change may make the situation worse. Discussion moved on to the Exclusion Zone. Cllr Cowdy informed that this is now permanent and she has had no constituents approach her about this. Mr Rizza suggested that the Exclusion Zone should have a 'drop off' area. Cllr Cowdy agreed the displacement of traffic is having more impact than changing behavior. Sandra suggested having a fuller discussion at a future meeting. The Police offered to support traffic wardens regarding parking offenses. Mr Dhinsa shared that on a recent visit down south cars were parked on the pavement otherwise emergency vehicles can't get through. Mr Rizza reported that a few cars on Blairs Road have had their wing mirrors hit now that a car is parked fully on the road. All were in agreement that the Community Council letter will say 'no' to double yellow light and that we resent the lack of consultation

Action: Isobel to submit a letter on behalf of the Community Council by Friday 16th May

- **Meeting regarding local development plan –**

Isobel advised that this has not had any progress despite asking for them to give us a presentation. The Community Council wants to be part of the discussion regarding the updating of the plan. Isobel will make contact using the email address that has been shared with her. Cllr Nicol asked about the progress in getting a directory of contacts. Isobel shared that there is a new email address to use and then they pass it on to the relevant person

Action: Isobel to make contact again using the new email address

- **Defibrillator update –**

Karen S advised that the signs are ready at Astute and also the applications for two new defibrillators and cabinets are approved so they will ask for payment soon. Karen S has asked a BT Open Reach employee how you go about using an old phone box and was advised that this is through the 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme. Isobel shared concerns about the electricity standing charges that might be applied. Tracy investigated the 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme and it would appear it costs £1 and BT pay the electrical charges. Tracy offered to look into this further. Karen S asked who to contact regarding installation of defibrillator at Jubilee Court. Sandra advised it would be Claire Warrander. Cllr Nicol will find out who to contact at Angus Council regarding installation once the new defibrillator and cabinet have been delivered. Karen S requests installation before the 20th June as this is when the batteries and pads expire. Karen S advised that new signs will also be needed for Jubilee Court, possibly two to have on two different walls

Action: Tracy to investigate the 'Adopt a Kiosk' scheme

Action: Cllr Nicol to contact Angus Council regarding installation at Jubilee Court

- **Cosgrove award –**

No nominations received yet. Isobel will put reminder on Auld Letham Facebook page again. Nomination forms are available from the bookshop

Communication:

- Sandra advised that the sign for Dempster Place that had been obscured has now been addressed by the Council and the resident is most impressed

Treasurer Report:

Footpath Account: £2778.79

Defibrillator Account: £3156.90

Community Council Account: £406.25 still a small amount belonging to CLEAR

Karen S advised that ICO money is being refunded.

Karen Smith advised the accounts have been prepared and submitted for auditing

Sandra asked about rent of the Feuars Hall for Community Council meetings and Isobel advised that none is paid

Isobel shared that the Broadband has been cancelled due to the closure of the Basement as £60/month is too much to pay for the Community Council to be able to have Teams meetings once a month. Isobel suggested using the Village Hall meeting room for a Community Council meetings as they have Broadband

installed and a payment could be made towards this. David suggested that room may be too small. Wendy will investigate using the Village Hall

- **Planning -**

Update from Cllr Nicol regarding Dundee Road site - the planning officer has visited the site and advised that they should apply for planning permission for their use and development. This application will then allow for public comment

AOCB:

- Cllr Cowdy shared what has happened at the Council level regarding the new roles Councillors have chosen and which Committees they sit on. There will be no impact on Letham Community Council. Cllr Cowdy was happy to answer any questions but none were raised. Karen S recognized the involvement of the Councillors in the Community Council and all agreed this is beneficial
- Karen Smith raised a complaint from a resident that Root 1 are burning black plastic plant pots. Gail shared a video of a fire at Root 1. Cllr Cowdy suggested that the resident should contact Environmental Health via the Access Line or the Community Council could do it through the new email address. Karen S will advise the resident to make contact
- David raised a concern that when Council staff work at the cemetery they don't always shut the gates after they have finished and requested that the Councillors report this. He also advised there is sunken ground on the right hand side and this fills with rain water. Cllr Nicol will investigate this

Close: Wendy thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.54pm

DONM: Thursday 19th June 2025