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|  | **BLAIRGOWRIE AND RATTRAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL** |

Agreed Minutes of the Community Council ordinary meeting
held on 8thth September 2022 at 7pm at the BaRi Building and online via ZOOM.

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| **ATTENDANCE**BRCC MembersScott MacGregor (SM)David Cuthill (DC)Gina Purrmann (GP)Robin Duncan (RD)Samantha Stewart (SS)Pete Richardson (PR)Lesley McDonald (LD)Jamie Louise Morrison (JLM)Steve Johnson (SJ)Laura Rodger (minutes) | ChairpersonVice-chairSecretaryTreasurer | Councillors Caroline Shiers (CS)Bob Brawn (BB)Press Clare Damodaran (CD)Paul Smith, Fire Service10 members of the public (in person/online) | **ABSENCES**Cllr Tom McEwen (TM)Ian Ewan (IE)**APOLOGIES**PC Peter Duncan, Police Service |
| **Item 1 –** **Welcome and Introductions** SM welcomed everyone to the meeting. A minute silence was held to commemorate the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Decision taken to lower the flag in the Wellmeadow to half-mast. Confirmed that the meeting could be recorded for the benefit of the minute taker. Fire exits were pointed out. | **Actions** |
| **Item 2 –** **Apologies**Apologies were received from the police service.  |
| **Item 3 – Adoption of draft minutes of 11 August 2022 meeting**Amendment to August Draft Minutes from ‘TEAMs’ to ‘ZOOM.’The minutes were proposed by SJ, PR seconded. Decision: August minutes approved with one amendment.  |
| **Item 4 – Co-option of a new member**Jamie Louise was co-opted on to BRCC |  |
| **Item 5 – Matters raised by members of the public**a) Car Park Proposal- deferred to next meeting. b) Planning Proposal for Reform Street2 members of the public raised objections on behalf of local residents/businesses on Reform Street about the planning proposal on Reform Street (the pet shop). They accepted that renovations need to be made, but added that parking on the street is a very big issue, especially during the day. There is no parking planned for the four proposed flats. Businesses already struggle with customers being unable to park near their premises. Part of the building is to be knocked down. They asked why could it not be conserved rather than flattened? The main problems highlighted were: no parking, garden space is being taken away, privacy concern with proposed building plan looking into people’s homes. They shouldn’t be allowed to build on top of the green space. Building up will also block the sunlight. Believe that it is an inappropriate number of flats going into the small space. Air pollution and traffic congestion. Lack of accessibility. Problems with vandalism on Union Street. Planning proposal open until the 16th of September for online objections. GP asked if we knew which new takeaway has been allowed, also are the police aware? CS confirmed that police are aware of the issues and suggested a meeting with the warden to discuss. A member of the public was asked what outcome they would like to see, and SM reminded that BRCC can object, but it only counts as one objection. It is more beneficial for individuals to submit objections. GP enquired if we could perhaps give feedback on how the building could best be used rather than objecting to the planning entirely. DC and SS believed that the committee should have a discussion outside of the meeting in order to then make a decision on whether to support the complaint which has been raised. Decision: a meeting will take place at the end of this week/or start of next week. They will then contact the residents who have raised the complaints and get back to them.  | SM, BRCC |
| **Item 6 –** **Matters arising/reports back****6a. Resilience/Flooding (CS/PR)**The funding application put in to SSEN, received £10,000 funding for flooding in Rattray. Steel container, wheelbarrows, combination locks, flood sacks, etc. RD will be sending a form to SM to be signed. CS added that a that a report has been made and that there will be a study of flooding in the town. **6b. Climate Action (DC/GP)**GP would like to share a sheet about where to recycle items around the town. The climate café picked berries and sold them at Braemar day and by BRCC at the Highland Games – contribution to avoiding food waste. Efforts made to plant a meadow have paused while awaiting communication from PKC about land ownership.**6c. Twinning (GP)**SM stated that at the Highland Games, the Mayor and Depute Mayor were there for the whole day. They seemed to enjoy themselves and they didn’t want to leave. The Twinning Agreement was signed. Received a gift of posters to display in the town. We have been invited over to France next year. GP added that new connections were made with the High School French Department and the Pipe Band. Thanks to the head of the French department for acting as translator. Thanks was also given to Nest volunteers, Provost and Chieftain. The mayor and depute took away the idea of citizen of the year and young person of the year. They also would like to propose a mental health bench trail in their own town. SM confirmed that the Twinning Agreement will be displayed for people to read if they wish to do so**6d. Noticeboards (CS/SM)**SS pointed out that there are three noticeboards in the Wellmeadow and that it had been suggested that one should be moved up to the library. There is a delay with the library. A new suggestion was put forward that it should be moved up to the area near BaRI box (where the ATM used to be). All were in favour of this suggestion. SJ noted that there is a new noticeboard at Fergie Park**6e. Maintenance in Blairgowrie and Rattray (CS/SM)**SM said that not much has changed since the last meeting. Another meeting for this side of the river will occur on Monday morning at 10am. CS encouraged people to make comments on the online consultation. SM stated that an update was sent in to the council, repairs are still needed at Ferguson Park. CS responded that matting has been fixed, but they have not made the other repairs. DC pointed out that there is a vast difference between how maintenance is handled in Coupar Angus and in Blairgowrie and Rattray. SS confirmed that another meeting is planned for Friends of the Cemetery and that this will be advertised.**6f. Football Pitch (CS/SM)**SM and SS had a meeting with the community development officer. Discussed how best to get in touch with them and how they could best support the football teams. He will be liaising with the football teams and other community groups who are using the pitch. Football team leader let us know that they were back where they started regarding fees. Member of the public stated that the lease is open for anyone to view. The lease for Blairgowrie Juniors Ground and the Pavilion was held by the Davie Park Sports Association (signed in 1996) and was due for renewal in 2016. Before any charges were made for the 3G pitch, research was conducted on prices in surrounding areas. The prices which were set are competitive. Meeting was held on the 20th of July which resolved around 95% of the various issues. CS pointed out that BRCC were happy to support the transfer of the lease. Football team leader said at no point were they notified of the prices that would be set. BB suggested that this discussion should be happening in private between the two conflicting parties with BRCC mitigating. Football team leader asserted that there was misrepresentation to the youth football team, these claims were refuted. CS stated that quite a lot of things had been said on this topic which are not 100% correct and that it was unfortunate that these issues were being discussed on this platform. The way to move forward is by creating a business plan to make the juniors sustainable, like the other groups who are facing a similar set of circumstances. SS added that these issues do not relate to BRCC. Our role is to take on board the concern that the Youth Football team is being priced out, and to support them in being able to continue. Therefore BRCC is liaising with the community development officer (who is keen to help the youth football team to become sustainable). DC noted that a key point that has to be addressed is, why the arrangement that they thought had been made, changed. A meeting will be set to discuss all of the above issues.**6g. Town Flag (SM/SS)**No update given. To be moved to bottom of agenda: awaiting new information.**6h. PA System for the Town (SS)**Memorandum of understanding still to be drafted. **6i. Fireworks**SM £3000 had to be raised and this target has not been met. RD explained that while doing the accounts for the year end, there was more money in the fireworks budget than he had thought. The festivities fund (that fireworks were amalgamated into) as it stands is at £2050.25. Fireworks fund stands at £2500.25 as a result of a £450 pledge. £1600 will need to be refunded if fireworks don’t go ahead. There is a £500 shortfall. RD talked to the person who did the fireworks at Braemar Night. If we tell them our budget, he can work towards that. LM replied that these are hypothetical funds and there is no fireworks group. It is not up to BRCC to put on the fireworks. GP added that feedback from a community member was that it would be excessive for BRCC to put so much money into fireworks at a time of financial hardship. SS also noted that a call for support went out on social media: no donations, no one offered to help, feedback was negative. A member of the public asserted that it would be morally wrong to put on a fireworks display during the current economic climate. Another member of the public asked if there could there be another community event? Food, sparklers, music, etc. A fireworks display isn’t necessarily needed. LM liked the idea but emphasised that it does come back to who is going to organise it. We need help to run this worthwhile event. GP suggested that the day before, young people could make lanterns. SM proposed a vote on whether BRCC should fund a fireworks display. 2 voted in favour for fireworks, 7 voted against. Decision: BRCC will not fund a firework display, but will support an alternative community event. | RDGPSSBRCCSSBRCC |
| **Item 7 – New Projects**As discussed above (6i). |  |
| **Item 8 – Traffic Matters**DC informed that Ruby place is going to be closed, but doesn’t appear to be affecting High Street. BB reported that a meeting was held regarding various situations. Lidl (Hazelwood Road) going to be a complex issue because it has not yet opened up. When it is open, a traffic assessment will be done. It may well be that the junction will be traffic lighted, but it depends on volume of traffic coming through. 30mph sign will be sited near the bus stop at Ardblair Terrace. Proposal to put a park and stride system along one side of the road (so young people can be dropped off and walk to school). The residents at Ericht Court have asked for handrails to be put up, which is quite easy to do, but they are looking for resources to do it. Regarding Beaches Road: there is no residents-only parking in Perth and Kinross, but they are going to propose a trial run (the first in P&K). There will have to be a charge for a parking permit. This means that there will be an expectation that residents-only parking will be enforced. No point in charging people if anyone can come along and park there and no one will enforce it. Will be Monday-Friday (08:30-17:00). Three pairs of speed cushions to be put in on the Coupar Angus Road (40mph zone). Transport Scotland are awaiting a decision on making a blanket 20mph zone in residential zones.  |  |
| **Item 9 –** **Planning Matters** As previously discussed (item 5b) |  |
| **Item 10 – Police & Fire Reports** **Fire Report:**Apologies given for absence last month. Mobilised 40 times in August across P&K. Community Safety Engagement – 28 home fire safety visits in August. Young Firefighters are back at the station (SCYD and RAF Cadets). All operational intelligence visits have been completed and information is up to date. Hydrant testing is continuing, 50-100 more to be completed. Bench added to the ‘happy to listen’ bench trail. Lastly, a couple of new drivers. They have recently passed their emergency response training. Another couple of more people are also going through this training. Firefighter Greg McCulley received his 20 years of service good conduct medal.**Police Report:**Coffee with a Cop plans are underway. These have worked very well in other areas, encouraging people to come along, have a cup of tea with the local Community Officers and chat about local matters. When details are confirmed this will be put out on social media and other platforms. Housebreaking advice given: Over the last few months Police in Perth and Kinross have seen a rise in housebreakings. Although Housebreaking can occur at any time of the year, as the nights get darker, houses can give the appearance of being empty due to lack of lights etc. The risk in all circumstances can be greatly reduced with the use of Crime Prevention measures, they will greatly reduce both the chances of your home becoming a target. A few prevention measures would be inside/outside lighting, alarm systems, CCTV and the securing of doors and windows. Also careful consideration should be given to what you post on social media sites, especially if you are going on holiday or going out for the evening. |  |
| **Item 11–** **Chair’s Report**Nothing to add which has not already been discussed during the meeting.  |  |
| **Item 12 –** **Treasurer’s report** BRCC -Finance report at 31st August 2022A/c 768 -We had a balance at last meeting of £48.41 Received £150 from PKC. Cost of £30 for minutes and £27 for a Quaich. Closing balance: £141.41 in the accountA/c 560 balance is at £6235.28. Comprised as follows: Resilience £3763.46, Well/defib- £168.05, Bench- £253.52, Fireworks & Festivities fund - £2050.25 of which £1600 to be refunded if fireworks do not go ahead.£10000 is being obtained from SSE for resilience purposes however currently forms lost in post so I will e-mail further copies and hopefully funds will be received soon.Graham Edwards have agreed to make up and check accounts.There may be some adjustment to the figures in the make up. |  |
| **Item 13 –** **Secretary’s Correspondence**GP highlighted various correspondence which had been received. PKC is encouraging any women who would like to explore participating in politics to attend events they are facilitating. Our BRCC elections are coming up. AGM is the next meeting. There are 15 seats on the community council. If 15 or fewer nominations are received, there is no election. Anyone who is currently on BRCC has to put in a new nomination form if they intend to stay on. Get Out Get Active events are starting up in Rattray Hall on Wednesdays sponsored by Get Out Get Active Tayside. PKC would like community councils to make everyone aware of the importance of having a power of attorney. They are concerned that every year across Scotland, people lose capacity.  |  |
| **Item 14 –** **Councillor’s Reports**CS: Glenalmond Playpark, Ferguson Park play area has been visited to explore issues regarding the maintenance. Meeting being held at PKC next week to get timescales. Queries regarding house issues, community councils may want to meet and talk to the housing committee. Good time to remind people they can use the MyPKC app to report things like empty grit bins to the committee. Well done to all involved in Braemar Night and the Highland Games. BB: Yesterday it was in the papers that there is extra funding for Perth City Hall Museum. All Union Flags should be lowered to half-mast due to the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. |  |
| **Item 15 –** **AOCB**Thanks to the community and volunteers for supporting the Highland Games. Freedom Coach was very well received. New signage went up around town which helped people to get to the games. Community Tug of War went very well and was won by the ManTalk team. |  |
| Date of Next Meeting: 13th October 2022, 7pm at the BaRi Building & 6.45pm online. |  |

Distribution (email unless specified)

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