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

Approved Minutes of the Community Council ordinary meeting   
held on 9th June 2022 at 7pm at the BaRi Building and online via Zoom

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ATTENDANCE**  BRCC Members  Scott MacGregor (SM)  David Cuthill (DC)  Gina Purrmann (GP)  Samantha Stewart (SS)  Pete Richardson (PR)  ProCom  Steve Johnson (SJ)  Laura Rodger (minutes) | Chairperson  Vice Chair  Secretary | Councillors  Caroline Shiers (CS)  Bob Brawn (BB)  Tom McEwen (TM)  Press  Clare Damodaran (CD)  Fire Service  3 members of the public | **ABSENCES**  Alexander Thomson (AT)  **APOLOGIES**  Ian Ewan (IE) Robin Duncan (RD)  Police | |
| **Item 1 –** **Welcome and Introductions**  SM welcomed everyone to the meeting and ran through fire safety. SM reminded that meetings are recorded for the minute taker only, no objections were raised.  AT sent an email of resignation to BRCC and emphasised that he would perhaps like to re-join BRCC once he has more time to dedicate to the role. This resignation was accepted and SM extended his thanks to AT for all of his hard work during his time as a councillor. | | | | **Actions** | |
| **Item 2 – Apologies**  IE and RD sent their apologies. | | | |
| **Item 3 – Adoption of draft minutes of 12 May 2022 meeting**  Minutes accepted following minor amendments.  Decision: DC proposed, and PR seconded the approval of the minutes. | | | |
| **Item 4 – Matters raised by members of the public**  **a. Tourist Attraction Signs**  A member of the public brought up the issue of there being a lack of brown information signs as you come into the town. Such signs (as on the road to Alyth) advertise what there is to do in the area. CS pointed out that attractions must measure up to a certain standard to qualify on for display on brown signs. DC recommended that we should find out if attractions in Blairgowrie meet the requirements.  CS and GP both suggested that this should be forwarded on to BEPTA. SM will forward this on. | | | | SM | |
| **Item 5 –** **Matters arising/reports back**  **5a. Resilience/Flooding (CS/PR)** PR updated that we will find out if we qualify for the SSEN funding in late July. Memorandum of understanding is being held back until funding is in place. SM met with the police and fire services to discuss proposals to get everyone together to drill scenarios and figure out where flood resilience fits in to existing resilience plans. PR added that by doing this, we can work to everyone’s strengths.  **5b. Climate Action (DC/GP)** DC informed that Blairgowrie High School is liaising with PKC property services to install new water fountains and upgrade existing ones. DC is waiting for the arrival of a sample reusable aluminium bottle. If these are of good quality, there is the potential of looking into funding options to buy more. Attempting to procure two new recycle bins and pupils are continuing to focus on obtaining green flag award.  GP added that the climate café had great engagement at the Jubilee Event.  DC still waiting for the ranger to get in touch regarding stepping stones project. It is possibly that there could be a new location. A meeting will be arranged to discuss this.  PR added that on July 2nd, a Climate Change meeting in Alyth will be headed up by Clare Cooper between 12pm and 4pm. PR and DC to attend.  **5c. Twinning (GP)** Mr & Mrs Robertson of Blairgowrie visited Brebières on behalf of BRCC and the town, and presented the Quaich and invitation to the Highland Games to the Mayor. In return, a plate and butter dish with the Brebières town crest, as well as a compilation of the annual Brebières concert highlights and an invitation to their annual “Braderie” festival on 18th September were brought back. We have also received confirmation that the mayor and a few others will be attending the highland games. The Robertsons also kindly brought back letters and posters from the Primary School for St Stephens and Rattray Schools.  GP confirmed with the schools that they had received all the relevant materials. As we are approaching the end of term, schools in Blairgowrie will be responding to their counterparts in France at the beginning of the next school year.  A musical connection will be explored in the future. Brebières are keen to host the Pipe Band.  GP has contacted PKC regarding official twinning and is waiting to hear back.  **5d. Macpherson Memorial (RD)** SS confirmed the funding application has been submitted. A discussion took place regarding whether the community engagement carried out could be considered representative. A film has been made of the presentation and may possibly be shared on our online platforms for people to see, pending discussions. A member of the public stated that 28 people were at the presentation, 7 of whom were on the committee. BRCC felt there should be more public consultation in order to have greater likelihood of being granted funding.  SM suggested that wider community engagement should be a priority and as custodians of the bench, BRCC should push for this. An email will be sent to the Macpherson group see if we can continue to pursue this engagement whilst the application is being processed.  **5e. Cottage Hospital (CS)** CS’s meeting with Jackie Pepper, Chief Operating Officer, Health and Social Care Partnership, was postponed. Report back at next meeting. TM said while information re the Cottage Hospital is available, it is not being transmitted well to the public.  **5f. CCTV for the town (PR)** A meeting took place on the 26th of May. A walk was carried out around the town. It was proposed that a camera could be placed on top of the council building which can link up with cameras in the Wellmeadow. Full process of getting CCTV will take around two years. There will be some trees that need to be pruned if this goes ahead. This will be approximately 8 cameras. It may cost around £40,000-£50,000. Funding options available. In Auchterarder, this was a 50/50 split between businesses and outside funding. SS asked what would happen if the Leslie Building changes hands. The WiFi needs to come from a council building. SM added that this will need to be answered. A survey will be conducted in order to measure public opinion. This will be council-led. CS added that we need to find out what would be considered a representative community sample.  This will now be removed from the agenda until there is new information to report.  **5g. Community Action Plan (CAP) (RD/SS)**  This item will be removed as a standing point on the agenda until there is an update.  **5h. Noticeboards CS/SM** All the noticeboards are in great condition. SS will update at the next meeting regarding moving of the noticeboards.  **5i. Representation of Young People SM/SS** SM informed that there is scope to have a young person’s community council at the school. SS added this will likely happen after the holidays now. There has been a lot of interest expressed by young people in finding out more about BRCC. SM will complete the presentation and present this after the holidays. CD proposed that BRCC could attend the Fresher’s Fayre at Blairgowrie High School (September 9th, 11am – 2pm**).**  **5j. Citizen of the Year (COTY) (SM)** COTY trophy, young COTY trophy and group of the year trophy were presented at the Jubilee celebrations at the Wellmeadow. COTY winners will now have the trophy for around 6 months and then the trophies will tour the town as they did this year. SM extended well wishes to everyone in BaRi food store for all they do in the town.  **5k. Town Flag (SM/SS)** No update at this time.  **5l. Jubilee Weekend (SS)** Went very well. Highlights included: face painter and bouncy castle. RD has paid all of the invoices received to date. There is some money leftover from this event. SS put forward the idea that this money be used to purchase a PA system for the town; SM had a quotation for a suitable PA system for this amount. SM highlighted that if BRCC holds a PA system, it can be hired out to other community groups for their events. The cost of purchasing and maintaining the PA system would be recouped by being hired out for community events. All agreed that this should go forward. SS will reach out to PKC to find out if this is a possibility. BRCC thanked SS for all of her hard work. SS thanked all of the volunteers for making the events possible.  **5m. Fireworks**  SM updated that RD has emailed firework supplier. BRCC is currently unaware if RD has received a reply. This email was to find out the price difference between loud and silent fireworks. Once this is answered, BRCC can then find out if the community will support this and the fundraising/organising for it. DC suggested that a lights parade could be organised to prolong the evening. PR proposed a drone light display. This is something which funding may be able to be secured for as it is a new event rather than something which has happened over multiple years. CS gave SS a possible point of contact at PKC to discuss this. | | | | GP  SS, SM  CS  SS  SS/SM  SM  SS, SM  Who? | |
| **Item 6 – New Projects** None this month. | | | |  | |
| **Item 7 – Traffic Matters**  **7a. Mini-roundabouts** DC raised the issue that one of the major problems with the mini roundabouts in Blairgowrie is that there is no consistency with the way in which they are sign posted. On Coupar Angus road going one way there is a give way sign, on the way back, the sign is very high up. BB acknowledged the issue but added that signs are not necessarily needed because drivers should know rules of the road. DC highlighted that uniform signs will increase driver awareness.  **7b. Speeding** BB updated that the issue regarding speed signs on Honeyberry Drive has been taken up. Roads are also continuing to be repaired. A member of the public enquired about whether there would be enforcement of the 20mph zone. CS responded that a police presence is needed in order for this to be enforced. SS stated that Rattray should be 20 all the way through. TM responded that this may happen after the consultation period. A discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of speed bumps/speed cushions. | | | |  | |
| **Item 8 –** **Planning Matters**  SS updated that an email from AT had been received querying BRCC’s response to a resident who wished to lodge an objection to a planning proposal. SS confirmed that the resident had been contacted and that it had been explained that due to the deadline for objections being before the next BRCC meeting, it was not something that the BRCC would be able to formally discuss. The resident was advised of how they could lodge an objection with PKC directly. The resident was happy with SS’s response. SM highlighted that BRCC is comprised of volunteers and endeavour to support as much as they can. | | | |  | |
| **Item 9 – Police & Fire Reports**  **Fire Report:**  There were 11 home fire safety visits over the last month and this can be requested through their website. Completed four operational intelligence visits in local businesses and care homes. Given fire safety talks in schools. One new recruit and one firefighter just passed his HGV. A charity car wash will be held.  **Police Report:** On Tuesday 31st May 2022 Officers from the Community team attended the exclusion zone which resulted in 7 tickets being issues. Adherence to the exclusion zone is being encouraged via the facebook page.  Four disturbances were reported during the month, one resulting in a charge, one in an arrest.  A large roll of electrical cable was stolen from a property in Terminus Street. Motorbike riders should not over estimate their own abilities and should at all times ride defensively. Greater awareness of cycle safety is needed as the nights get lighter and more cyclists are on the roads. Mountain and outdoor safety was also highlighted as pertinent issue with it being emphasised that those participating in such activities should be prepared for changes in weather. The Commander’s Bulletin noted that it is Carer’s Week. Carers Week is a yearly campaign that aims to highlight the challenges faced by carers and recognise the outstanding contribution that unpaid carers make to their families, friends and communities up and down the UK. | | | |  | |
| **Item 10 –** **Chair’s Report**  Continuing to work on all duties tasked with. Jubilee weekend was a great success. Looking for a possible site for the beacon which can be lit for special events. It is a gas beacon, so no worries about embers flying off. | | | |  | |
| **Item 11 –** **Treasurer’s report**  A/c -768  Balance in Account £138.41. May Minutes cost (£30) not yet deducted.  A/c ending 560 -  £3000 credited from PKC. Costs: David Wilson Trophy - £300, Silent Knights - £150, Refreshments £368.5, PA System Hire - £250. Balance this fund £1931.5.  Balance in Account - £6563.75 | | | |  | |
| **Item 12 –** **Secretary’s Correspondence (GP)**  BRCC has been asked to submit a response to a consultation about passive house constructions. Support to encourage people to register has been requested by the Scottish Health Research Register and Biobank, to help further research into various illnesses.  Climate Café held a meeting with the Tayside Communities Climate Action Network, BRCC will receive updates about their work. PKC “Tackling climate change together” consultation for BRCC and members to respond to.  We have had notice from PKC that they are running a competition to encourage glass recycling using the social media tag #GlassBottleFamily  Digital participation consultation sent from the Community Empowerment Officer at PKC. | | | |  | |
| **Item 13 –** **Councillor’s Reports**  **BB reported:** Small traffic matter of a loose manhole cover clicking with cars. It will be rectified as soon as possible. Attending a meeting with Lidl next week to discuss lighting and landscaping at Ardblair Terrace and will also bring up the issue of signage. Different contractors are building each part so it is difficult to solve, but endeavouring to find a solution. It is unknown when Starbucks will be going in. Meeting for planning regarding the recreation centre will be on the 10th of August 2022.  **TM reported:** PKC has a Climate Committee as well as a Commission. The committee will have non-councillors on it. It will pull together what everyone is doing so people can learn from each other. Youth Climate Conference is coming up on 26th of June. Glass recycling is being pushed because people are putting it in the wrong recycling bin. SS highlighted that Davie Park is part of Rattray and it was wrong that Davie Park was singled out on the recycling checks. SM suggested that this issue should be fed back to the council. TM highlights that we have progressed from a situation of being fined hundreds of thousands of pounds for incorrectly recycling to winning an award. SM pointed out that it must be taken into account that once its out at the kerbside, it is not in residents’ control if someone shoves something into the bin while it is waiting for collection.  **CS reported:** a huge well done to SS and SM for their work on the Jubilee Weekend. Meeting with Jackie Pepper was delayed (as aforementioned). Waiting for a reply regarding the patient transport service. BMX track in Rattray is looking for volunteers. Weed management and grass cutting needs to be maintained to a consistent standard. The issue has been raised with PKC and CS is awaiting a reply. Praised BHS for their work on litter, an additional bin has been put in place. Issues of parking has been raised and it should be flagged again at a future meeting. Ukrainian families continuing to be welcomed. SM raised concerns about the amount of parking in the town and the reduction in available in car spaces/introduction of more pay and display. | | | |  | |
| **Item 14 –** **AOCB**  GP would like to know if a location could be found to display the gifts from France, possibly the library or BaRI building. GP proposed that the gifts could be toured around the town to raise awareness of visitors arriving in September. TM noted that if civics at the council is made aware, perhaps the Provost could be involved. GP to investigate.  SM raised that on Armed Forces Day, there will be a congregation at the Wellmeadow. SM enquired whether the armed forces flag could be flown.  Decision: All in favour of this flag being flown. | | | |  | |
| Date of Next Meeting: 14th July 2022, 7pm at the BaRi Building & 6.45pm online. | | | |  | |

**Distribution of minutes (by email)** Local Councillors External

Community Councillors Bob Brawn PKC Community Councils

Scott MacGregor- Chairperson Caroline Shiers Clare Damodaran (Press)

Robin Duncan - Treasurer Tom McEwan B. Leslie (Blair High School)

David Cuthill - Vice Chair

Gina Purrmann- Secretary Approved Minutes Distribution:

Peter Richardson BRCC Website

Samantha Stewart BRDT

Ian Ewan PKC Community Councils