

MOUNT BLAIR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC MEETING

DRAFT

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the 31st session of Mount Blair Community Council held in the Session House, Kirkmichael on May 14th 2007.

PRESENT

A Duncan, D MacIntyre , D Michie, M Purdie, I Rimmer, A Stewart and 4 members of the public.

APOLOGIES

Cllr E Grant

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Proposed by M Purdie and seconded by A Duncan.

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MINUTES

Re farm animals on roads

D MacIntyre contacted J Murray (PKC) after last meeting and letters were sent out to farmers with land adjoining main roads in the area prior to lambing time.

Post offices , all results collated. Basically, it would be better if neither were closed.

Consultation for car park on Bannerfield in March. Report was sent to P&K Council.

REPORT FROM CHAIRMAN

The Windfarm community fund will be available (monies will be available for voluntary groups) for both the communities of Alyth and Mount Blair. It will be on a grant application basis, a small sub committee with members from each area will sit around twice a year to discuss applications over £1000. Scottish Communities Foundation (SCF) will hold public meetings in each area prior to commencement. SCF to oversee distribution of funding.

REPORT FROM SECRETARY

Two SSSI notifications, other correspondence and the results of recent community polls were available to view at the meeting. The results of the community polls can also be viewed at www.the-glens.org.uk/community-council.html.

We received a letter from the Council re Gritting and snow clearing asking our views on how it was this year. It was felt that this year snow clearing etc had been very good. One question was "what was the last time (i.e. afternoon /evening) that the A93 was gritted". Reply to be posted on www.the-glens.org.uk.

In follow up to the Access meeting which recently took place at the Log Cabin Hotel, D MacIntyre is to organise a follow up Open Day at the Session house on the 30th May and will leave material up for a week in case anyone who is interested to see it can't manage along on the day. The materials on display mainly cover Strathardle. The Scottish Rights of Way Society has supplied details of rights of way in the area and a draft copy of the core paths network (which is still subject to negotiation with the relevant landowners) will also be available to view. It is the intention after consultation to establish a steering group to take matters forward.

POLICE REPORT

No one from Police present.

J SMALL MEMORIAL

The consultation was well attended and there was strong support for repair and reinstatement in a similar location although perhaps some more consideration should be given to exact location to ensure firstly that the memorial is not damaged again and secondly to make the junction safer.

John Manning thanked the organizers of the community consultation, said that the report was excellently done and would be valuable for getting funding. The next step is to arrange the exact location for it as there was some ambiguity as to the exact location. D MacIntyre to include this on the consultation taking place on May 30th.

PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT EASTER BLEATON

The community council was asked by A Stewart if they would contact the Planning Dept. to point out that the junction onto the A93 from Easter Bleaton is particularly dangerous with there having been two fatalities, numerous accidents and countless near misses at or near this junction. Increasing the traffic using this junction will only make it more so. Also that developments of this type are not seen in this area and as such are not in keeping.

D MacIntyre agreed to write to PKC, but not having seen the plans did not feel that the Community Council was competent to comment on the "in keeping" aspects of the proposal.

MOUNTAIN BIKE DEVELOPMENT

There is a very small chance that somewhere in Glenshee may be chosen for a commercial mountain bike development. This could be good for tourism in the area and may improve amenities for locals. It is not likely, however, that this will be on Forestry Commission land as they have identified a elsewhere in Highland Perthshire for their sole commercial mountain biking facility in the area.

AREA REPORTS

BRIDGE OF CALLY

Flashing lights at north end are in hand, and the streetlights are now operational.

KIRKMICHAEL

A Duncan reported that using the Bannerfield is increasingly difficult due to the amount of paperwork involved. £5 million public liability insurance is required. It was pointed out that PKC were supposed to protect user groups (i.e. not making it difficult to use) when they took over the admin of the site. Matter referred to Cllr Grant.

Also reported that someone had offered to clear the ivy from the war memorial.

GLENSHEE

M Purdie reports that he has been sent the Cairngorm National Park plan and also the Core Path network plan. These are available to view at the Session House.

The Heather Hopper new bus service has been published, the 205 service from Deeside through Glenshee starts on the 30th of June till the 11th of August, 6 days a week, 3 days it will go by Pitlochry and 3 days by Blairgowrie.

M Purdie also reported that the Glenshee Tourist Association have decided that due to the lack of skiing recently they are trying to promote Glenshee as a year round destination for tourists. They are organising signage at each end of Glenshee and hope to use laybys for interpretation boards. This will involve other agencies like P&K Council, and VisitScotland to approve signs etc... P&K Council agreed to investigate funding. Hopefully the signs should be in place by next tourist season.

BLACKLUNANS

A Stewart requested that M Purdie inform the Glenshee Tourist Association that some Glenshee residents are not happy with the content of the proposed signs.

BRIDGE OF CALLY

Flashing lights at school now in hand (and should operate at correct times)
Street lights now operational.

AOCB

Electoral changes, we now have 3 elected councillors, how does this affect the community council? The community council is not politically orientated so this will not affect the CC. However it was suggested that we notify all 3 of the dates of the CC meetings.

The stART festival weekend was a great success Ann Bailly thanked all volunteers and was pleased with the uptake in Kirkmichael and the amount of local people who went to the bonfire in Rattray.

As a result of the festival new dance classes in Ballintuim Hall have started, indicating the festival's success in stimulating new activities in the area.

NEXT MEETING

Will be held on Monday, September 10th 2007, in the Session House, at 7:30pm.