

# ARGUS

## **COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The meeting opened with a brief introduction by Bob, welcoming all those present, adding that it was good to see so many present.

Three reports were given – by the retiring Chairman Bob; Secretary Garry; and Treasurer John. These are appended at the end of this issue.

Bob handed over to Councillor Frank Ellis who chaired the ensuing Inaugural Meeting.

Frank thanked Bob for all his work as Chairman over the past three years and in the Community Council for the past fifteen years. He also thanked all the other members for carrying out their duties and ensuring the continuity of the Community Council. He stressed the importance of Community Councils in providing links between the general public and the Public Sector such as the local Council.

Frank mentioned that Auchterhouse was entitled to 9 members but only 5 nominations had been received, these were – Gavin Christie; Linda Cockram; Joanne Elwin; Garry Stewart and Adam Watts.

On the proposal of Garry Stewart, seconded by Linda Cockram, Joanne Elwin was appointed Chair. She then took the chair.

Following a suggestion of Councillor Ellis two residents were co-opted to fill vacancies, these were Kim Miller and Keith Faulder.

Garry Stewart continues as Secretary, proposed by Linda Cockram and seconded by Bob Bruce. Adam Watts was nominated as Treasurer by Joanne Elwin and seconded by Garry Stewart. As Bob was retiring from the Community Council a new Planning Contact had to be appointed and Linda Cockram accepted the post, proposed by Adam and seconded by Joanne.

The formal business was then concluded, and was followed by normal business.

### **TRAFFIC SURVEY**

Councillor Ellis indicated that he will be meeting with the Traffic Manager (a recent appointment) to discuss the on going speeding problems on the B954 and The Avenue. He would also seek to improve the narrowness of the footpath up The Avenue

## **PLANNING MATTERS**

An application has been made for:

Change of use of a field at Old Balkello to an Area for Parking of Private Caravans. There were concerns voiced about the suitability of the access to the site from the Tealing road for cars and caravans, and the Secretary will advise Angus Council of that.

## **AUCHTERHOUSE WEBSITE**

Bob reported that the website was almost complete. A few details about the final content and access to the domain name of [Auchterhouse.com](http://Auchterhouse.com) have to be arranged and any remaining organisations should contact Bob with their information. As the new website will be more flexible it is expected that Minutes and even 'one off' advertisements could be included.

## **ACTIVE**

We understand that there will be a FUNDRAISING event in the Hall on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Stalls will include Christmas Cards and a Craft Stall.

## **VANDALISM**

Damage has been caused at Moredun, the Brae, including apparent attempts at gaining entry. As the house has been empty for several months anyone seen to be acting suspiciously in its vicinity should be reported to the police.

## **RECYCLING CENTRE**

Angus Council has agreed to replace the three panels which were burnt, and will be reviewing the return of bins for paper. We should all make every effort to recycle as much as possible of our household waste. Marchbanks Centre, Harefield Road, Dundee accepts a wide variety of items including: - garden waste; cardboard; paper; metal and wood.

## **NEXT MEETING**

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**  
**At 7.30pm**  
**In the Village Hall**  
**All Welcome**

Letters and comments to Bob Bruce  
Inshriach, The Brae, DD3 0RE

Email: [argus@auchterhouse.com](mailto:argus@auchterhouse.com)

**AGM Reports**

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT October 2006**

As I have previously warned as early as last year, and much more recently, I am now retiring not only from the position of Chairman of this Community council, but also from the Community Council itself. I have felt for some time that the Community Council cannot and will not develop unless new blood is attracted to take it forward.

The Office bearers should not be expected to continue much beyond the standard period of three years, to avoid staleness of ideas.

This past year has not been momentous and will not stand out as having achieved a great deal, apart from the growth of Red Squirrel Watch and the introduction of “First Response” in the Auchterhouse area. Not entirely associated!

Last year I reported that Sven Rijnaker was working on the website, however he left us in the lurch – moving away without so much as a by your leave and with no details of what he had done. We were fortunate in being offered help from Duncan Kennedy, who has a house in the village but lives elsewhere. He produces websites commercially, so we count ourselves lucky that he has been helping to create a new website. Most of the details are almost finalised and *Auchterhouse Community and Parish* website should be available very soon. Some details (particularly of clubs and societies) are still awaited from their Secretaries.

Michael Lockhart who is one of our retiring Councillors deserves special mention for all the hard work which he put in on showing the dangers existing on the B945 and The Avenue – all to no avail, thanks to the singular refusal of the Angus Council’s refusal to accept the need for remedial action.

The next person (not a Community Council member) is Kim Miller. She has been helping with distribution of The Argus since April. Due to personal demands neither Michael Lockhart nor Gavin Christie was able to do any deliveries and Kim offered to take over their areas. Not only has she done the deliveries but she has actually used her own PC and printed all the copies using her time, paper and ink. She deserves a very special THANK YOU. In fact, subject to the approval of the meeting I would suggest that we recognise her contribution with a monetary award.

Joanne Elwin also should be included in our appreciation. She has been closely involved in work for the Annual Sports Day, and although I have not been able to attend these I understand that they are still going strong.

We will be sorry to lose Andrew Skea, since he is moving out of our area, so cannot continue to be an elected member. He has done a power of work on preparation and analysis of the Special Housing Project.

I have already expressed to our hard working Councillor, Frank Ellis my concern over the lack of support that our Community Council has suffered from Angus Council over the past year, but I will once again mention the short sighted attitude of the Recycling department in refusing to replace the vandalised Paper Bin at the Neighbourhood Recycling Centre, and suggesting that to dispose of newspaper, people should take it to MONIFIETH! (so much for the environment)

Although I will not be an elected member it is my intention to continue to try to edit The Argus for some time to come – until there is someone else who is foolish enough and willing to take over

Finally I would like to thank all the members of our Community Council for their continued support – in particular the Secretary and the Treasurer.

I wish the incoming Community Council and its new members every success.

**SECRETARY’S REPORT**

November 2005 to November 2006 inclusive.

There were 8 meetings during the year, held in November, January, February, March, April, May, June and September.

**Attendance at meetings was: -**

<b>Members</b>	<b>Attended</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Bob Bruce	6	75
John Brush	5	63
Gavin Christie	5	63
Joanne Elwin	7	88
Cathrin Howells	4	50
Michael Lockhart	7	88
Andrew Skea	5	63
Garry Stewart	8	100

**Planning Applications** Applications for 22 houses have been submitted to Angus Council from our area:- 3 new houses at Eastfield farm (withdrawn), 1 at Eastfield Steading (withdrawn), 16 at N Dronley (withdrawn), 1 at East Mains Farm (pending) and 1 at Oakwood, Balbeuchley (pending). A development of up to 4 houses at Auchterhouse Park is currently in the pipeline, as are various extensions/summer houses etc. at other properties.

**Topics of Discussion and Action through the year:-**  
**Traffic Survey:** The final report from the Director of Roads was received. Unfortunately he did not agree to a speed restriction nor any further improvement for the | B954 between Cotton of Auchterhouse and Country Sports entrance. This is a major disappointment as accidents continue to happen especially at the Cotton. We will continue to press for change.

October/November 2006

**Footpath to the Avenue:** Discussion on developing the pavement/footpath from the Avenue to the Road-end continues. The Council cannot help, as they have no budget for any improvements!

**The Sidlaw Housing Forum.** The final report on the survey, carried out in the Sidlaw area, was produced and has been well received by the Council. It is to be hoped that the Council will take action to meet the expressed needs and wishes of the residents when planning future houses in the area.

**Website.** Duncan Kennedy took on the task of creating a website after Sven's departure. He is well on the way to completing this and going "live".

**Core Paths** Meetings have been held by our working party with the Council Access Officer and with neighbouring networks (Newtyle and Sidlaw). A link between the old railtrack and Dronley wood has been identified and agreed with the farmer, - financing the instalment of gates has to be determined.

**Recycling Centre** The centre has been operating for 6 months from its new home on the playing field despite having a fire destroy 4 bins and 3 fence panels, within a week of opening. 3 bins were replaced (but not the paper bin), allowing the centre to run successfully. The reinstatement of the paper bin is now much needed.

**Notice Boards** 3 new boards have been made and erected at the Road-end, Hosie Park and Dronley Wood car park. Thanks go to Jim Foote for constructing and installing these

**REPORT OF TREASURER TO  
AUCHTERHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**for the financial year from  
01 OCTOBER 2005 to 30 SEPTEMBER 2006**

At the start of the financial year the Community Council had a total credit balance of £779.98 made up by a Treasurers Bank Account with the Bank of Scotland containing £778.65, and cash in hand of £1.33. This total is a somewhat greater than the previous year's total of £564.70. The Angus Council Grant for the year was £475-00.

Bank interest was £8.95 which compares favourably with the £7.53 of the previous year.

As last year, a request was made to Angus Council for repayment of the Hall rent for the previous year which allowed an extra income of £72. Also a cheque for £90 was received from Angus Council to facilitate the electronic exchange of information. Secretarial expenses for this year are nil, but it is believed that next year is likely to be different. Hall rent totalled £72 during the year. Insurance and Membership cost a total

of £99.25. Also as last year, due to the diligence and generosity of community council members, there have been no bills for distributing Argus this year. Under the heading Sundry Items, a total of £351.69 was spent, this mainly on 3 new Community Council notice boards, and also on weedkiller for Wally's Wynd

These changes and other adjustments have resulted in the year end financial statement showing a credit balance of £902.99, an increase of £123.01. The figures have yet to be audited but are believed to be correct.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Alan Clark for agreeing to act as Honorary Auditor for the past year.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



- Saturday 4th November  
Bonfire & Fireworks Display 6pm  
Buffet £5 per person (available  
after fireworks)  
Everyone Welcome

**WRI SOUP LUNCH**  
In aid of Rachel House  
In the Village Hall  
On  
Saturday 18 November  
From 12 noon to 2pm  
Tickets £4  
Primary School pupils Half price