

ARGUS

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Joanne was unable to be present for the meeting so Garry chaired it. Gavin Christie, Linda Cockram, Keith Faulder, Kim Miller, and Adam Watts were also present. Bob Ness of Angus Council was in attendance along with one member of the public.

TRAFFIC SURVEY

Angus Council Roads department is again lacking in keeping the Community Council in the picture on any developments. Councillor Ellis had no information either. What further action is to be taken is not currently available.

PLANNING MATTERS

Linda reported that there are again three applications under consideration:
Braeside – alteration to plans for 1 of the new builds.

Bonnyton - Outline for 4 houses at Bonnyton farm. This application had been discussed previously, and a letter of objection had been sent to Angus Council. This had been acknowledged.

North Dronley/Hosie Park – Outline for 18 houses. The new application is for even more densely packed housing. Drainage issues do not appear to have been considered yet. Linda Cockram (as Planning representative) is sending a letter of objection.

AUCHTERHOUSE WEBSITE

The URL or website address is:

www.auchterhouse.com.

As the new website is more flexible, Minutes and even 'one off' advertisements can be included. All secretaries or representatives of Clubs/Societies who want to put

announcements in it or this publication should contact Bob with details.

In fact Bob urgently asks everyone with any local information about meetings or functions to let him know. He hopes that The Argus is the source/contact for all local 'goings on'. Without your help The Argus could become like this one every month!!

CORE PATHS

Farmers are unwilling to get into permanent contracts but will help informally. Garry is to pursue the matter further.

LOCAL POST OFFICE

Councillor Ellis has reinforced the letter published previously in the last issue of this publication, seeking support for action to save Rural Post Offices. He suggests that everyone who can should write to the local MP (Jim McGovern) expressing their concern. Muirhead (Five Mile) PO may be on the list of targeted Rural Post Offices.

Jim McGovern MP
9 Tay Square
Dundee DD1 1PB

Or
Jim McGovern MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

Email: mcgovernj@parliament.uk

Postwatch Scotland - has also written with information about Government consultation on Post Office network. The letter says that comments should be in by 14 February, but the website says that it is 8 March. You can find out for your self at the website: www.dti.gov.uk/consultations/index.html

Auchterhouse Squirrelwatch

We'll be squirrel surveying again in Dronley Wood during the first couple of weeks in March (between the 4th and the 19th)

This is for the Scottish Squirrel Survey, a national initiative mapping squirrel populations across Scotland. One of the main goals is to conserve our vulnerable red squirrels.

Last November we spotted red squirrels in Dronley Wood, but no greys. It will be interesting to see what March's survey shows.

Anyone can join in the surveys. If you are interested, or would like to know more, contact

Linda Cockram Tel 01382 320254, e-mail; linda@lcockram.fsnet.co.uk

Sharlaine Walker Tel 07909 754446

Come along to hear Brian Tasker talking about the Dundee Red Squirrel Project as well.

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

Email; argus@auchterhouse.com

The weather of 2006 at Auchterhouse

It can be said that 2006 was not an average year at Auchterhouse. Yet again, mean temperatures for the months were, in general, above average, with July about 4°C above, a surprisingly large figure. September was 2.7° above and October, November, not far behind. March was the only month to be below average temperature.

Rainfall was a little less than usual at 777.77mms (all the sevens!) against a long term average of 840mms. In April there were only 7.8mms, but October had 134.5mms.

Sunshine for the year at 1596.8 hours was 342 hours greater than the long term average, with July's 224 hours and April's 201 hours contributing greatly. January had the least sunshine at 58.8 hours.

The year went out like a lion with some surprisingly high wind speeds. At 1.15am on Saturday 30th December, the wind reached 76mph, and on 31st December, at 11pm I recorded 67mph, which caused the top to break off one of the Scots pines in our garden.

You may be aware that my weather station is now connected to the internet at URL:

www.sidlawweather.co.uk

so you can view the current weather conditions at Auchterhouse at your leisure, together with a 7 day forecast. The site is very much in its initial stages, and I hope to improve it over time. Any comments/suggestions re the website will be welcome.

John Brush

PUBLIC NOTICES

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday

20 February 2007

At 7.30pm

In the Village Hall

All Welcome