

# ARGUS

## **OCTOBER COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Present –Shiona Baird; Linda Cockram; Kim Miller; Clive Sayers, and Adam Watts

Garry Stewart was in the Chair (on behalf of Joanne Elwin) and welcomed everyone

## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

**The Chairman's report** was given by Garry, as he had been in the chair during Joanne's absence on maternity leave.

"A frustrating year with very little achieved. No speed limit has been obtained for B954 and The Avenue, nor any restriction of heavy traffic to Braeside development. Some core Paths have been included in the Angus Draft Core Path plan but not all those submitted to Angus Council. The toilet block has been winterised and redecorated. The Strathmartine bus service has been retained. A great deal of attention has been given to Planning Applications for which Linda Cockram must be commended.

Office bearers are thanked for carrying out all their duties diligently, and all members are thanked for their support throughout the year. Thanks also to those who distribute the ARGUS for their efforts".

**SECRETARY'S REPORT** is attached

**TREASURER'S REPORT** is attached

**OFFICE BEARERS** - all four were nominated by Clive Sayers and seconded by Kim Miller, and were reappointed unopposed.

Chairperson – Joanne Elwin

Secretary- Garry Stewart

Treasurer – Adam Watts

Planning Contact – Linda Cockram

## **TRAFFIC MATTERS- PETITION**

Further attempts will be made to achieve a speed restriction on both The Avenue and the B954 around Burnhead. This will include a petition based on the argument that the number of children living in East Mains/ Burnhead area have to cross the road to get to school and buses. Our MP will also be contacted.

## **CORE PATHS**

A letter has been received stating that some of our submitted paths are still requiring further work to be suitable for core paths although they are acceptable for public use.

## **TOILET BLOCK**

Resulting from the work done the facility will now be available for all-year use.

## **PLANNING**

Linda reported –

The application for the tennis court has been received by the Angus Council. It was lodged in the name of, and paid for, by the Community Council. Application for a building warrant has also been made.

The plan for tree and shrub planting at Braeside was being investigated. There would appear to be an extensive list of plants to be placed around the development but no exact detail of what and where.

Responsibility for the reinstatement of the verges on The Brae, damaged by the Braeside development has to be determined. The secretary will discuss this with Angus Council Roads department.

## **POLICE MATTERS**

Theft of firewood, means we should protect our log piles!

## MODERN HOME IN SIDLAWS REJECTED

A bid to create a contemporary home on a wooded Sidlaws site has failed.

Faced with strong local opposition and officials' recommendation of refusal, development standards councillors unanimously refused the scheme for a site at the rear of the now converted Sidlaws Hospital, with one describing the application as a "beautiful house in the wrong place, at the wrong time."

A total of 16 letters of objection were submitted.

They raised issues including its position in relation to the B-listed Auchterhouse Park property, the threat to wildlife, waste management and failure to comply with local plan policies.

In response, the applicant said previous housing bids in the area had been developer-led but this was a single proposal for a family home and no trees of importance would have to be felled.

Officials said the proposal failed to meet policy, but did find some merit in it.

"In terms of design, the proposed house would be contemporary and unique to its surroundings," said Angus infrastructure services director Eric Lowson.

"It is, however, considered that the design and scale of the building proposed is appropriate in terms of its surrounding area and would not create any detrimental visual impact.

"The building has been designed to blend into its woodland setting with a natural green 'living wall.'"

However Sidlaws councillor Frank Ellis said, "There have been a lot of mistakes made in the past in terms of the Auchterhouse area, and planning as well as elected members must take some criticism that proper pathways were not put in, which has caused a lot of problems.

"But the main point in terms of this application for me is one of scenic beauty and I have grave

concerns that, albeit this is a nice house, it's in the wrong place at the wrong time.

"It falls outwith policy and if we were to set the precedent by approving this we would be leading ourselves into huge problems in trying to defend refusal of applications in the future.

"I don't think developing this particular area is the right thing to do."

*(Courtesy of Dundee Courier 23 October 2008)*

## OLD PHONE KIOSKS

A recent report on the red phone kiosks being scrapped, told of how in many villages BT agreed to leave them *in situ* but without the phone equipment.

This was put into operation as often the kiosks are recognised landmarks.

An alternative use has been found by making them into Information centres, with a notice board and the facility to post information.

In the event that we lose the phones in our box, perhaps we should consider such an action.

## AUCHTERHOUSE CHILDREN'S PARTY

Sunday 14 December

Time and Place will be announced later

Joanne Elwin

LETTERS, reports and comments about this or any other issue should be sent to:

E-mail: [rbruce@inshriach.co.uk](mailto:rbruce@inshriach.co.uk)

Tel: 01382 320377

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**TUESDAY**

**18 NOVEMBER 2008 7.30 PM**

**IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

**ALL WELCOME**