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- LOW FLYING

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Present- Shiona Baird; Gavin Christie; Pam Christie; Linda Cockram; and Garry Stewart

In Attendance – Bob Ness; Councillor Jean Lee. Councillor John Whyte, and 5 members of the Public.

In the Chair: Shiona Baird

INVITED SPEAKER

Shiona welcomed Sqn Ldr (retired) John Gilbert, who as RAF Community Relations Officer had travelled from Carlisle. He explained the role of the RAF and the reason for Low Flying in the UK. The time spent on flying training (fixed wing and rotary), which takes place throughout the country, is carefully logged and spread as evenly as possible to every area. Scotland gets only its fair share. All complaints are investigated and, where justified, compensation for any damage or injury is made.

Anyone wishing to complain or to give the RAF notice of an event at risk of disruption caused by low flying is encouraged to contact him on Tel: 01387 381156 or email: LFenquiriesScot@cis.mod.uk

TREASURER

The remaining vacancy on our council can be filled by co-option. The post of treasurer can be held by another office bearer. The secretary agreed to fulfil the role of treasurer and this was accepted unanimously.

TAYplan

TAYplan will report giving an overview of all comments submitted in the Awareness Raising consultation. These will be shown on their website – www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- An application for a 24m wind turbine at Balkello Farm has been submitted. No objection.
- Application for a 2m high wooden fence on 2 sides of 5 Braeside has been submitted. Although considered too high no objection would be raised.
- The plan for landscaping and trees at Braeside needs to be reviewed as the development is near completion. Linda Cockram would take this up with the Development Control office.



Restaurant interior

O PEAR TREE RESTAURANT

The restaurant reopened on Friday 23 October under the management of George Marshall.

George has been in the catering profession for around 27 years, in various capacities including Executive Chef for Royal Bank of Scotland at the Ghyle, serving over 3000 per

day. He is now to be living at West Mains.

The style and presentation has changed quite a bit from the previous restaurant and menu.

Emphasis is placed on locally sourced products ranging from fresh flowers to eggs.

Full details of menus are available on the www.auchterhouse.com website – go to

Businesses-Auchterhouse Country Sports - Pear Tree.

Open on Tuesday to Saturday 10.00 to 20.00 (8pm)

Sunday 12.00 (noon) to 20.00 (8pm)



George, Chris & Genna

Balkello Woodland Meeting

Eighteen people attended a public meeting to discuss the way forward for Balkello Woodland now that ownership has transferred to the Forestry Commission Scotland. Those attending included representatives from the Forestry Commission, Angus Council Ranger Service and the Scottish Orienteering Association.

The main business was to discuss the formation of a local group to be involved in the management and maintenance of the woodland in collaboration with FCS and also seek

the views of local users about woodland maintenance and development priorities. There was no shortage of the latter and a long wish list was produced. The top priorities were grass cutting, opening up overgrown paths, improving drainage, improving the access road and the car park, diversification to encourage wildlife, creating clearings, improving water features and extending the opening hours in the summer. Nearly twenty further issues were identified including signage, dog waste, picnic

tables etc.

The FCS will have a limited budget. They will draw up an action plan, focussing on the priorities identified, and will report back at the beginning of next year. Application for alternative project funding could be applied for by a Balkello group if properly constituted. There was agreement that later opening in the summer could be implemented. The use of the woodland for orienteering events was actively supported. It was agreed that the group present would come under the umbrella of the Auchterhouse Community Woodland Group for the moment and a decision about whether to continue that or form a separate group could be considered at the next meeting.

After we have heard from the Forestry Commission with their proposals we will arrange another meeting. Anyone else who is interested in being involved would be most welcome, especially users of the wood not yet represented such as riders, cyclists and hill walkers.

For more information, please contact Garry Stewart, tel: 01382 320339.

Dronley Wood Autumn Squirrelwatch

Once again, the last two weeks of October saw us in Dronley Wood surveying the squirrel population. We had eight volunteers this time so some of us doubled up to complete all twelve transects.

There were twenty sightings altogether, all of reds. Sixteen of these sightings were in the south east corner of the wood. Obviously a good place for squirrels! The average for

autumn sightings over 5 years is 25.4 so this autumn's total of twenty is much better than the spring total of 4 (compared with an average of 15.75)

A couple of sightings of a grey squirrel in the beech trees by the car park had been a concern (no greys have been spotted in the wood before) but the survey didn't pick up any grey sightings so maybe he has moved on. We still put out food (supplied by

the ranger service) in red only feeders and are hoping the woodland will remain a red squirrel haven for as long as possible.

If you have a bit of time, new surveyors are always welcome.

Linda Cockram
Tel: 01382 320254

PUBLIC NOTICES

W.R.I.

Rachel House Soup
Lunch

In the Village Hall
On Saturday 21
November 2009
Raised £1000 plus
£820 from
Card Sales

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY

19 JANUARY
2010
At 7.30 pm

In the Village Hall
ALL WELCOME

. NOTE TO ALL
READERS WHO DO
NOT SUBSCRIBE TO
THE EMAILING OF
THIS PUBLICATION

Please note that
although many do
not like to give
their email
addresses and thus
save paper they can
and perhaps should
access the
Auchterhouse
website

www.auchterhouse.co

m
for a lot of
information not
immediately
available by

PHONE KIOSK

BT has a public obligation to provide "universal" telephone coverage and must consult the local community if they wish to stop doing this. A.C. does not support this move to get communities (us) to adopt the kiosk.

SCHOOL

The school must be congratulated on being awarded the Green Flag, which is the highest award an eco school can achieve. The Flag will be raised early in the New Year.

There will be a School Show to be held on Tuesday 15 December

All communications about this issue or any other can be made by contacting rbruce@insbriach.co.uk or tel: 01382 320377

CAROL SINGING

**Thursday 17
December at
6.30pm
And**

**Sunday 20
December 6pm**

**Vandalism**

Unfortunately, we have had some damage to school property recently. It appears that local young people have pulled the door from the nursery playhouse and have been leaving cigarette ends in the nursery playhouse. I would ask you to be vigilant on our behalf and to report any suspicious activities in the school grounds directly to the Police. I have spoken to the Community Police Officer regarding this matter.

Auchterhouse Primary Christmas Carol Singing.

The children, Parents & Staff will be singing carols around Kirkton of Auchterhouse village on Thursday 10th December between 6pm & 7pm. We hope this will complement the existing Church Christmas Carol Singing.

Auchterhouse Primary Outdoor Nativity.

We invite anyone from the local area to come along to our Outdoor Nativity in the school grounds on Tuesday 15th December at 6.00pm. Refreshments will be served in the hall from 5.30pm and tea, coffee and mince pies will be available after the nativity. Tickets will be £3.50 for adults and £1.50 for under 18's. Please bring a torch/lantern and come well prepared for inclement weather

BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

