

ARGUS



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COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

*Present - Shiona Baird; Gavin Christie; Pam Christie; Clive Sayers; Garry Stewart.
Apologies - Linda Cockram; Joanne Elwin; Bob Morrison; Cllr Margaret Thomson; and
Cllr John Whyte.*

Attending - PC Gwen Loudon

POLICE MATTERS

Gwen reported on current Police matters.

Everyone's attention is drawn to making sure their property is secure. There have been cases of housebreaking in the area. Make sure external doors and windows are kept closed and locked even when at home. Have lights or radio coming on, (using a timer) and especially in the late afternoon.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Angus Council's Planning Enforcement Officer hopes to visit the Braeside Development this week to determine what breaches of planning approvals have taken place. He will discuss the situation with colleagues and create a plan of action to rectify these.

On our behalf, Linda has lodged a letter of objection to the application for a house (conversion/demolition of barns) on the land west of the Balkello reservoir. It contravenes the Local Plan (and Angus & Dundee Structure Plan) for development of land.

There was no objection to the application for a conservatory extension to Kirk Cottage, Kirkton of Auchterhouse.

RECYCLING

A decision on further development of the recycling centre and improvement of the car park is awaited from Morag Grant.

TACTRAN / STPR

John has emailed to say he had been to TACTRAN meeting on 16th. Park and Ride options for west approaches to Dundee were discussed, viz. at Landmark hotel or at Riverside Avenue; - the latter might link up with the proposed development of Invergowrie station. These are in the very early stages as is the Tay Estuary Rail Study. The Demand Response Transport initiative pilot is being trialled in Dundee but may have lessons for us in Angus.

Project 29 (upgrade of Kingsway or Dundee Northern Relief Road option) is still not dead but, with the current and foreseeable economic situation, unlikely to happen.

BOTTLE GREENHOUSE

The school has plans to build a bottle greenhouse and are looking for 1,400 2 litre plastic bottles (coke type). They will welcome your old bottles, washed with labels removed and with their screw caps in place. Just hand them in to the school, please, and help the children to learn about growing their own food.

For those who are interested in the construction and its purpose we have obtained more details.

A wooden framework is built with horizontal wires strung across to hold the bottles in place. The bottles themselves have to be clean. The bottoms of the 2 litre bottles are cut off (by an adult) at the line at the bottom of the bottle where it starts to narrow towards the base. "Tabs" are cut into the bottle neck, which prevents the bottles from sliding down on top of each other. Bottles neatly slide on top of the one below, caught by the tabs. This is important because even though most bottles fit firmly together some are minutely smaller than others. With wind and weathering if the bottles slide down over one another this will create a gap at the top of the wall, allowing hot air to escape, and become draughty, the performance of the greenhouse will drop.

The bottles are stacked in the walls between the horizontal bracing wires, and the last ones at the top have to be fitted individually to fill the last gap.

Once the frame is up and the fencing wires are all in place, with good preparation and planning the bottle walls will go up very quickly.

Volunteers with knowledge of basic joinery and gardening are needed to help take this project forward, and they should contact the School (tel: 01382 320373) and ask to speak to Ann Stott who is coordinating.



Photo 9: Stacking the Bottle Wall



Photo 11: The last Row of Bottles



Photo 12: Completed Greenhouse

EDITORIAL

At the risk of sounding political your attention is drawn to the proposals currently being considered by Dundee Council for an application to erect two wind turbines in the area of the port.

The turbines are intended to be about the same size as those at Michelin, and may well be a blot on the appearance of the riverside. In addition they could detract from the views enjoyed by inhabitants not only of Dundee but of Tayport.

It would seem that the use of tidal turbines would not only be more efficient but less environmentally damaging

Auchterhouse Community Woodland Action Group (ACWAG)

(Balkello and Dronley)

and Auchterhouse Squirrelwatch

A.G.M.

Thursday 15th April 2010 at 7.30pm
Auchterhouse Community Hall

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 20 April 2010

At 7.30pm

In

Village Hall

All Welcome

All Welcome

Elections are required for the offices of convenor, secretary and treasurer. Nominations welcome.

Nominations are also welcome for membership of committee.

If anyone is interested in being nominated, please contact the secretary, Linda Cockram, Tel 01382 320254

linda@lcockram.fsnet.co.uk