

ARGUS

Newsletter for Auchterhouse

APRIL 2011

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ISSUE 17.04

The meeting was held in the Village Hall, at 7.30 on Tuesday 19 April 2011

Present: Grant Anderson; Shiona Baird; Linda Cockram; John Forster; Clive Sayers and Garry Stewart.

In Attendance: Councillor Jean Lee; Councillor John Whyte; PC Sheena Melvin; 3 members of the public.

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POLICE MATTERS

Sheena Melvin was welcomed to the meeting. She gave the report: All householders should be cautious of Cold Callers. Bogus callers use many tactics to sell goods and services such as one-off "sign up" deals. Consult the Angus Reputable Traders Scheme for a list of businesses that have been vetted by Trading Standards. Please ensure that all gardening equipment is secured out of sight, and beware of fuel theft - check your oil tank regularly and report any suspicious activity to Tayside Police 0300 111 2222.

TRAFFIC MATTERS

The bins at the bus stop has been moved back from the main road (B954) to improve the sight-line for drivers when approaching the junction. Councillor John Whyte and Garry have looked at the options for creating a footpath for pedestrians between the road end and the path just north to the old railway bridge, so that anyone may walk up towards the Avenue with greater safety than at present. John has asked the Roads department to consider the possibility of a path along the north side of the road (left side of the road going up to Sunnyblink). Failing this the construction of steps up the embankment from the core path (leading from the road end to the old railway line) would be followed up. Steps should preferably be on the north side after a path is constructed under the bridge, but it could be on the south side (although this would mean pedestrians having to cross the road on the bridge). Roads Department are to check safety of branches on old trees overlooking the road.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Alterations to Bankfield, Balbeuchley submitted. There was no objection.

ANGUS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Members of the public had voiced concern that the Community Council had submitted the site next to the school for future development without full consultation with the community, and that this development would change the area causing a proliferation of developments in the future. Shiona explained that the C.C. was invited to comment on the 2 part questionnaire on land use, issued by the Angus Council just before the November meeting giving insufficient time to make comments at that meeting. As there was no meeting in December a working party was appointed to study the consultation document in December and submit response by the 23 December deadline. This was done in time after circulating members by email with our proposed submissions including the proposed site. No other development has been proposed for our area and there are none outstanding on the current LDP so this one site is likely to be the only site for development over the period of the next 10 year plan.

There has been no information of the progress of the LDP.

HILL WATER

The public meeting on this matter was held on 29 March as scheduled. Action to resolve the problems and bring the water flow under manageable control were drawn up. Grant Anderson had done considerable work to detail and quantify remedial action. Angus Environmental Trust has been approached to seek available grants - a reply is awaited.

FOR MORE INFORMATION and Minutes go to www.auchterhouse.com

As has already been circulated by email a warning was sent out from the above advising of possible poisoning of a dog in Dronley Wood. Until the cause of death has been discovered all owners are advised to keep their animal on a lead.

SCHOOL PARKING

Councillor Jean Lee raised the problem of parking on the road at the pedestrian gate for the school (before and after school)

She suggested that now there was a car park laid out at the Hall it should be used more, however this could lead to the return of hazardous conditions where cars manoeuvring could be in danger of knocking down children walking in the school lane.

She also considered removing the 'prop-shed' and having a drive through lay-by as an option. This would mean removing the new car park and needing a new shed to contain all the equipment currently in the 'prop-shed'.

No decision was reached on any of these matters.

WIND TURBINES

There has been some concern voiced about the wind turbine just erected on Scotston Hill.

Although an abbreviated version of the history follows, the full details may be accessed online by going to:

Angus.gov.uk then going to
Services, then

Planning;
Application Search;

Application No 09/00161/FUL;

Document type - Report 20/8/09.

This should open a 7 page report giving all the details to satisfy most enquiries.

PLANNING HISTORY

D18722 Planning permission was granted for a turbine measuring 45 metres (147.7 ft) to blade tip on this site in August 1993 This was not implemented.

D21362 Planning permission was granted for a turbine measuring 56.5 metres (185.4 ft) to blade tip in February 1996. This was not implemented.

05/00186/FUL Erection of a 30 metre (98.5 ft) Wind Anemometer Mast approved November 2005

05/00187/FUL Planning application for a 1.5MW turbine measuring 90 metres (295.38 ft) to blade tip was withdrawn in February 2009.

RECENT APPLICATION

Planning permission is sought for erection of an 800 KW wind turbine, measuring 56 metres (183.8 ft) to the hub and 79.6 metres (261.25 ft) to blade tip.

As can be seen the final height of the turbine is less than previously applied for. The conversion from metres is not exact but gives those of us not fully converted (mentally) to metric an alternative idea of sizes.

While covering the matter of Wind turbines it may be of interest to learn that there is an application by the Grants, West Mains to "Erect Temporary, 40.5 metre (132.9 ft) High Anemometer Mast. If wind readings are successful an application for a turbine would follow in a year or two. The site is on West Mains hill 510 metres west of the farmhouse".

GUILD COFFEE MORNING

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

SATURDAY 11 JUNE

Not 4th

All other arrangements as for the previous week

EDITORIAL

The election

So the election is all over, and we have a Scottish Government with decisive power-what that will mean we will have to wait and see. Meanwhile we must congratulate our new MSP for South Angus, Graeme Dey on his election with such an excellent result.

It is a well known fact that our MSP's are not called on to attend Holyrood for more than three days, but perhaps in the fullness of time he could manage to come and talk to the Community Council about his aims and intentions for this constituency -we might even get a good turnout from the public!

School parking

Councillor Lee has a point in suggesting that parents might try to park in the new Hall Car park instead of reducing the road past the school railings to single track. Fortunately there has not been a collision yet - perhaps a "car chicane" is a good way of controlling traffic speed. Why not try that on The Brae?

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 17 MAY 2011

AT 7.30 pm

In

THE VILLAGE HALL

ALL WELCOME