

ARGUS

Newsletter for Auchterhouse

MAY 2011

Tel: 01382 320377

ISSUE 17.05

The meeting was held in the Village Hall, at 7.30 on Tuesday 17 May 2011

Present: Linda Cockram; John Forster; Clive Sayers; Helen Smith and Garry Stewart.

In Attendance: PC Sheena Melvin; 1 member of the public.

Chair: Garry Stewart

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TRAFFIC MATTERS

The Avenue

The Roads Department have replied to the request for a footpath from the old railway bridge to the road-end, declaring that it would have low priority and require purchasing land on the north side of the road as the verge is too narrow. Funding is not available. As an alternative, the construction of steps up the embankment from the core path (leading from the road-end to the old railway line) would be pursued.

The school council would be asked for their opinion.

An inspection of the old trees beside the road has been carried out by the Council tree surgeon. One old ash tree has been classed as unsafe and the owner asked to have it removed.

School Parking

An officer from the Education Services has carried out a study on the use of the area around the Hall for car parking, as requested by Councillor Jean Lee. The risk of accidents which could be caused by drivers manoeuvring in the area while children are walking on the lane has been clearly stated to Education Services. In addition the cost of replacing the "prop" shed (if this was moved as requested) and the problem of finding another site have been highlighted. The outcome of the study is awaited.

A further study of the present arrangement for parking on the road in front of the school has not been requested in this exercise but will be followed up by Councillor Whyte and others - the advantages of using the west gate into the school grounds will be part of this, as it could lead to roadside parking moving westwards and away from the worst of the bend (in front of the school).

The creation of a roadway (with parking) in the field on the west side of the school to operate as a one-way street leading to Bonnyton road

was discussed. This was considered to be a complete solution to school parking with no losers, as parking on the main road would cease (the school gates locked) and children would be able to access the school direct from the new road. The road would become part of any new development for the field if our submission to the Angus LDP was successful. This option will be followed with the Angus Council.

TAYplan

Briefings on the arrangements for responding to the proposed plan have been held. All documents that are part of the plan became available on 1st June. Responses can be made from 6 June to 1st August. The TAYplan website at www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk gives access to these documents and shows the procedure for making responses.

POLICE MATTERS

Sheena gave the report:-

Cars have been broken into (one recently at Balkello Woodland). When leaving your car make sure that valuables are hidden.

Ensure that all gardening equipment is secured out of sight, and beware of fuel theft.

Report any suspicious activity to Tayside Police 0300 111 222.

"Cashback for Communities" has made funds available to support schools

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

HILL WATER

A member of the Angus flood Unit (Roads Dept) and one from SEPAs hydrologist discussed possible remedial action for the area. There was a site visit on 18 May to walk the course.

DRONLEY WOOD

Linda Caston reported that the Forestry Commission (Scotland) had advised her that the dog, which died after walking in the wood, had died from natural causes. It is no longer necessary to keep dogs on the lead.

PLANNING

An application has been submitted for a 40.5 metre mast carrying a wind anemometer on West Mains hill. This could lead to an application for a wind turbine later. There was no objection.

COUNCILLOR'S CORRESPONDENCE

An email from Councillor Jean Lee has shown disappointment in minuting her views. However, the minute had been circulated to Members of the Community council and they had approved it. They put safety of the children first and any change could lead to further problems. The Community Council considered that the loss of part of or all of the hall parking area to a "roundabout" or "lay-by" would be to the detriment of hall users outwith school hours as well as a very expensive exercise. It would also add to the problem of street parking.

FINANCIAL BACKING

The Community Council agreed to making a donation of £200 to the Sports Committee towards their expenses for Auchterhouse Sports Day on 18 June.

CONTACT

For comments, correspondence and any other communications in connection to the ARGUS: email argus@inshriach.co.uk or phone 320377 (Bob Bruce)

AUCHTERHOUSE SPORTS DAY AND EVENING CEILIDH

**Saturday
June 18th 2011**

The Auchterhouse Pipe Band will open the day at 1 pm followed by a children's fancy dress competition. The races will start promptly thereafter.

Ceilidh starts at 7.30pm in the marquee. Galik Bred will again be providing the music at the evening

Tickets will be available on a first come first served basis for the ceilidh.

Contact numbers are 320312, 320400 or 320286.

EDITORIAL

ROADS AND ROAD SAFETY

The discussions that have been going on about both the Avenue and the B954 pedestrian safety, and about safety around the school seem to be full of ideas but getting nowhere. Angus Council pays "lip service" about safety for children but when the chips are down all they can do is plead that there is not the funding available. Perhaps when it reaches decision time for the proposed road and car parking to the west of the school the same reply will be forthcoming.

Do we have to resort to a mass protest such as in Muirhead about safety to get anywhere?

The Community managed to get a 30 mph limit applied to The Brae several years ago but the vehicles are still coming down in the mornings at speeds well in excess of the limit. Perhaps it doesn't matter as there have been no fatalities. Apparently this view pertains too when any limit might be fixed on B954.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2011

AT 7.30 pm

In

THE VILLAGE HALL

ALL WELCOME