

AUCHTERHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING No 272

HELD IN THE PARISH HALL ON TUESDAY 17 May 2011 at 7.30pm

Present:	Linda Cockram, John Forster, Helen Smith, Clive Sayers, Garry Stewart
Apologies:	Grant Anderson, Shiona Baird, Gavin Christie, Cllr Rob Murray, Cllr John Whyte,
In Attendance:	1 member of the public, PC Sheena Melvin
Chair:	Garry Stewart

272.1. **Chairman's Comments**

In Shiona's absence, on holiday, Garry chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.

272.2. **Minutes of Meeting No 270**

The minute of the last meeting, which had been circulated, was approved.

272.3. **Matters Arising**

a). Police Matters.

Sheena gave the report.

Cars have been broken into (one recently in Balkello Woodland). When leaving your car make sure valuables are hidden, eg. in the boot. Ensure all gardening equipment is secured out of sight and beware of fuel theft. Report any suspicious activity to Tayside Police 0300 111 2222.

"Cashback for Communities" have made funds available to support schools (through Community Safety Joint Service Team) in biking projects and fashion projects (for girls); - Clive would follow up on this.

b). Traffic Matters

The Roads Dept have replied to the request for a footpath, from the old rail 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. Funds are 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 followed up. The school council would be asked for its opinion.

An inspection of the old trees beside the road there has been carried out by the Council arboriculturist. One old ash has been classed unsafe and the owner requested to have it removed.

An officer from Education Services has carried out a study on the use of the area around the hall by the school for car parking, as requested by Cllr Jean Lee. The risks of accidents which could be caused by drivers manoeuvring in the area while children are walking on the lane have been clearly stated to Educ Sces. Also, the cost of replacing the prop shed (if this was removed as requested) and the problem of finding an alternative 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 Cllr 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 would be followed up with the Council.

c) TACTRAN / STPR

There was nothing further to report.

d) TAYplan

Briefings on the arrangements for responding to the proposed plan have been held. All the documents which are part of the plan become available (on-line and in libraries) on 1st June. Responses can be made from 6 Jun up to 1 Aug. The TAYplan website at www.tayplan-sdpa.gov.uk gives access to these docs and shows the procedure for making responses.

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e) Angus Local Development Plan

There has been no information on the progress of the LDP. The draft (Main Issues) report is expected in Jul.

f). Hill Water

The remedial action proposed has been discussed with a member of the Angus Flood Unit (Roads dept) and also with SEPA's hydrologist for the area. He will make a site visit on 18 May to walk the course.

g). Dronley Wood

Linda reported that FC(S) had informed her that the dog, which died after walking in Dronley Wood, had died from natural causes. It is no longer necessary to keep dogs on the lead.

272.4. Planning Applications

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

272.5. Correspondence Received

a). Angus Council

Chief Exec Dept.

Confirmation that the topic for general discussion of: - "Documents and questionnaires given out by the Council with insufficient time for consultation by the public" would be on the Agenda at the next bi-annual meeting with community council to be held on 8th June in Angus House

Roads

- Reply to request for pathway to road-end stating there are no plans (nor money) for this. see 272.3 b)
- Copy of letter to landowner requesting action to remove a dangerous tree near the road-end.

Members

- From Cllr John Whyte an email re pathway at road-end, - see 272.3.b) above.
- From Cllr Jean Lee an email re April minute 271.7.b), expressing disappointment with the minute and stating her position on safety and parking for the school. This had been circulated to members. Members agreed the minute and were unanimous that, in their opinion, cars manoeuvring in the hall grounds when children are walking in the lane would place them at risk and should be avoided. The safety of children is clearly the main concern of everyone involved in finding a solution. They also felt strongly that the loss of part or all of the hall parking area to a "round about" or "lay by" would be to the detriment of hall users (in non school hours) as well as a very expensive exercise. see 272.3.b) above. It would also exacerbate the problem of street parking

b) Others

Angus Local Access Panel

Invitation to attend their AGM in Forfar Academy on 19th May at 7 pm.

TAYplan

Forwarding May Newsletter and posters to advertise forthcoming events.

272.6. FINANCE

Balance at 19 Apr was £1,770.14.

272.7. OTHER BUSINESS

a). It was agreed to make a £200 donation to the Sports Cttee towards their expenses for Auchterhouse Sports Day on 18 Jun.

272.8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY 21 Jun 2011 at 7.30pm