

AUCHTERHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING No 295

HELD IN THE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 16 Jan 2014 at 7.30pm

Present:	Grant Anderson, Shiona Baird, Linda Cockram, John Forster, Helen Smith, Garry Stewart
Apologies:	Gavin Christie, Clive Sayers, PC Sean Scanlon; Rachel Green.
In Attendance:	Cllr Sheila Hands and 1 member of the public
Chair:	Shiona Baird

295.1. Chairman's Comments

Shiona welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished all a happy New Year.

295.2. Community Engagement Officer

Rachel Green was unable to attend and sent her apologise. She will be invited to the February meeting.

295.3. Minute of Meeting No 294

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

295.4. Matters Arising

a). Police Matters.

Sean emailed the Police Scotland Consultation Document for Jan 2014. The main points were: -

Members of the public are reminded to remain vigilant against fraudulent activities, in particular advanced fee fraud, - when a person is asked to provide payment in advance of promised wealth, gifts, prizes. **Remember if it sounds too good to be true it probably is!**

Wildlife Crime incidents such as deer poaching and hare coursing are still happening often committed by people involved in other criminal activity and for pleasure. Please report any suspected cases with details of people involved, eg. description and vehicle registration to **Police Scotland** on **101** or to **Crimestoppers** on **0800 555 111**.

Over recent weeks there have been a number of thefts, (and people acting suspiciously), reported in our area of Angus including at Newton of Auchterhouse. Make sure your property is secure, - out buildings and vehicles locked. Report anything suspicious to **Police** or **Crimestoppers**.

b). Road/Traffic Matters

The new road surface in Kirkton of Auchterhouse is slow to dry out and is, consequently, liable to quickly form black ice. The problem has been reported to the Council by several people. Grant has received an email from Douglas Hill, Roads, acknowledging the problem but advising that the asphalt will wear down to expose the aggregate eventually and allow better drainage. Care is required by all users. **Sheila** will take up matter with Roads Dept.

It has been brought to our attention that the responsibility for the grass verge at West View lies with the Council, who will include it in their programme of grass cutting.

The problem caused by water (carrying silt and gravel) running onto the Avenue from the Tayside Forestry field was discussed. The gullies on the Avenue downhill from this point have been cleaned out but at least one is blocked again. **Sheila** agreed to take the matter up with Roads Dept.

Mud left on a public road should not be tolerated. Any incidents where farm traffic from fields has left roads in a dangerous state should be reported to the police without delay. Ring 101.

John reported that a speed survey has been carried out at Braeside but the results not divulged. A request will be made Roads (Traffic) Dept for these.

c). TACTRAN / STPR/NFF2.

Nothing further to report.

d) TAYplan

Linda and Grant completed a questionnaire and submitted it to TAYplan.

e). Angus Local Plan

Nothing further to report.

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f). Keeping the Public Informed

Christmas Cards were delivered to all houses but, surprisingly, only a handful of residents took up the invitation to add their email address to our news group at comcouncil@auchterhouse.com. Following a reminder, after Christmas, a further 30, or so, have subscribed, but this still leaves around 230 houses which will not receive local information that could be of great interest to residents. Anyone who has not given their email address to comcouncil@auchterhouse.com can still do so.

295.5. Planning Applications

There are no new applications. The application for the conversion of Sunnyhall farm buildings into 3 dwelling houses is still pending a decision.

295.6. Correspondence Received

a) Angus Council.

Communities Scottish Gov consultation on microchipping pets can be found at: <https://response.questback.com/scottishgovernment/Oqh1p5rpqm/>

Technical & Property Services Giving advance warning of road closure during a 12 week period from March at Dronley Mill.

Community Learning & Development Advising the invitation to attend a Digital Workshop on the use of social media outlets to be held on 25th Jan from 10am to 2pm. **Linda** has volunteered to attend.

b) Others

Scottish Government. Their consultation on Community Empowerment ends on 24th Jan. Unfortunately we were not informed formally by the Council. **Sheila** will investigate.

295.7. FINANCE

Balance at 31 Dec was £2,128.50 with £353.10 in cheques for expenses to be cashed.

295.8. OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Dr John Brush's Weather Report for 2013 has been emailed to all subscribers to comcouncil@auchterhouse.com. It is noted that John makes the following points; - "the weather station continues to operate, but it is now getting pretty old (much of the actual measuring equipment was originally installed in 1996) and if replacements for some of it are not made soon, then I may not be able to continue to keep these records. The main computers are 5 to 6 years old and they will have to be replaced soon especially as Microsoft are about to stop supporting Windows XP. Any replacement computers will have to have the Windows 7 operating system."

295.9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY 20 Feb 2014 at 7.00pm