

AUCHTERHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING No 321

HELD IN THE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 16 February 2017 at 7.00pm

Present:	Shiona Baird, Ian Clark; Linda Cockram, John Forster, Kieran Forster, Helen Smith, Garry Stewart, Liam Yule.
Apologies:	Cllr Sheila Hands,
In Attendance:	PC Steven Wilson and 24 members of the public
Chair:	Shiona Baird

1. Chairman's Comments

Shiona welcomed all councillors and members of the public and congratulated them on an excellent attendance.

2. Minute of Meeting No 320

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

3. Matters Arising

- The original plan to discuss communication with Angus Council and other authorities plus consulting the community was postponed because of a very full Agenda; - it will be held at the next meeting.

4. TOPICS

a). Police Matters.

PC Steven Wilson updated the council on criminal activity in our area. There had been a case of attempted theft last month; of motor bikes using Balkello Woodland and some residents at Auchterhouse Park have complained about boys with BMX bikes using the wood there.

*Be vigilant and report anything suspicious to **Police Scotland on 101** or **Crimestoppers** (anonymously) on **0800 555 111**.*

b). Road/Traffic Matters

Steve has monitored the speed of traffic in the area and made his presence felt. He will continue to visit when time permits. People should not hesitate to report speeding drivers to the Police on **101** with details of time, car reg. and make etc.

The Roads Dept has agreed to organise a road sweeper for our rural roads.

Report any road problems to Angus Council Access line 03452 777 778.

c). TACTRAN / STPR / NPF2.

Nothing to report.

d). TAYplan and Angus Local Development Plan

Nothing to report.

e). BT Phone Box

BT has agreed to the community adopting the kiosk in the village for our own use. A contract has been drawn up and will be signed and returned to them with the payment of the £1 fee. Suggestions for the possible uses of the box are now sought; - a home for a library, a defibrillator, wildlife information etc?

f). Sale of Dronley Wood

We have been advised by Forest Enterprise Scotland, FES (part of Forestry Commission Scotland) that they need to sell part of their estate in order to raise funds to finance planting 10,000ha of new forest each year. As a part of this, they wish to offer Dronley Wood for sale to the open market – *Drimmie Wood near Blairgowrie will also be offered up*. Before doing this the Community have the right to declare an interest and investigate a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the wood into community ownership or lease; this note of interest has been lodged. The benefit of the wood to the community was discussed and on a show of hands, of all present at the meeting, there was a unanimous wish to pursue a CAT.

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It was pointed out that this disposal of the wood by FES contravened their own disposal criteria stated in their New Woodland Investment Programme directive. **Shiona** agreed to challenge this with the FES

An open discussion on the application for a CAT and on the raising of funds, including an application to the Scottish Land Fund, followed. It was decided to form a working party of volunteers to take this forward and to meet next Thu (23rd) in the hall at 7pm.

g). Community Communication

All material for the next edition of The Newsletter should be passed to Aileen by 22nd Feb. Any photographs or stories about the area would be most welcome. Publication is planned for the last week of the month.

Sandra Ewing and Aileen have agreed to produce a calendar for 2017 showing photographs taken by Sandra in the area at different seasons of the year. This will be available for sale towards the end of the year with proceeds going to a local good cause.

5. Planning Applications

- a) No new applications.
- b) Updates:
 - Demolition of Farm Buildings and Erection of 4 Dwellinghouses at the Neuk Farm 16/00468/FULL, - approved.

6. FINANCE

Balance at 31 Jan was £1,794.31.

7. Correspondence Received

- a). **From Angus Council:** - emails circulated to members.
 - Email re Local Housing Survey.
 - Email re consultation on future of Scottish Planning System which runs until 4 April; see <https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/planning-architecture/a-consultation-on-the-future-of-planning/> -
 - Email re SFRS CPR training. This training and use of facilities could be valuable if a defibrillator is purchased – see 321.4. e) above
- c). **Others**
 - Email from FC Scotland re Sale of Dronley Wood. – see 321.4.f) above
 - Email from BT Payphones agreeing to us adopting the Phone box and supplying a contract.
 - From Special Olympics Tayside requesting our support for athletes competing in National Games 7 -12 Aug 2017.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Dog mess on the Playing Field is becoming a problem. The Parks dept has confirmed that dogs are allowed on the field but must be kept on a lead and all poo removed immediately (*there is a bin at the toilets*). Parks Dept. will erect new warning signs at the gate to this effect.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY 20 Apr 2017 at 7.00pm