

AIRTH PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of general meeting held on 25th September 2019 in Airth Primary School.

Members present.-, Robert Smith, (R.S.) Jon Anslow, (J.A.) Aileen Amos, (A.A.) James Toal, (J.T.) Steven Sloper, (S.S.) Murat Dilek, (M.D.) Jacqueline Drew. (J.D.)

Also present was Cllr. Laura Murtaugh.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Jane Rae, P.C. Pete Dunlop, Cllrs. Joan Coombes and Jim Flynn.

2. The minutes of the June meeting had been circulated and were accepted as a correct record of the proceedings. Proposed by A. A. and seconded by R.S.

3. As P.C. Dunlop had been unable to attend, A.A. read out the police report. Between 25th August and 24th 7 crimes were recorded. These include road traffic offences, thefts, vandalism and antisocial behaviour. 2 are detected and the rest have lines of enquiry to be completed. During this period there were 60 calls to Police from this area but some of these were duplicated calls. There were no drugs offences detected and no reports of wildlife crime.

Also during this period there were a number of motoring offences and accidents reported, but these were mostly on the nearby motorway.

It was noted that there was no mention of the major accident which had occurred at the bottom of the Moss Road.

Comments were made regarding the disruption caused by the partial closure of the Moss Road due to the work to build two new bridges over the Pow Burn adjacent to the Peat Works. This work is being undertaken by Stirling Council and may go on until the end of the year.

Police Scotland are launching a new process for public consultation by making it available on line and accessible all year round. The survey can be found on the police Scotland website – www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

4. Matters arising from our last meeting.

The convenor J.A.n said that he would contact Falkirk Council again with regard to them paying our insurance. A.A. said she would contact Zurich insurance to arrange for cover for our Christmas lights event.

The steps and kerbing at the cemetery have been assessed but no work has been carried out as yet. Cllr. Murtaugh will check on the progress.

R.S. had written to Hacking and Paterson and Angus MacDonald M.S.P. regarding the dangerous trees between Kennedy Way and South Green Drive. The replies indicate that quotes for the work had been obtained and permission was being sought from the residents of Kennedy way. Cllr. Murtaugh said that as an affected resident she was unable to discuss this but did confirm that the cost per resident was approximately £50 and she had paid her share. It was agreed that the correspondence we have received be passed on to the South Green Drive residents as there was little more we can do on this issue at the moment.

R.S.

had written to the Scottish Government regarding the request for a 20mph speed limit

through Airth but has had no reply as yet. Cllr. Murtaugh has reached an agreement with Patterson`s Quarries that there H.G.Vs. will observe a voluntary 20mph limit when going through Airth, however we understand that work at their sand quarry at Throsk has finished.

No work has been done to alleviate the flooding and sewerage problem at the entrance to Letham Terraces as yet. We have been lucky recently that the periods of high rainfall have not coincided with the extra high spring tides this autumn. S.S. mentioned that the cleaning of the ditch from Letham Cottages may have helped the situation.

5. Correspondence. As listed below.

24/6/19 E mail from Sally Sharp of F.C. regarding the circulation of the weekly planning list.

28/6/19 Letter from Paul Wheelhouse, Scottish Government Minister for energy informing us that they have extended the P.E.D.L. 162 held by Ineos for a further 12 months.

2/7/19 E mail from Brian Pirie of F.C. regarding community grants from Tesco.

17/7/19 E mail report from the Community Safety team.

29/7/19 E mail from Gordon Johnston and Strathclyde University regarding a health and well being survey.

10/8/19 E mails regarding the steps at the cemetery from J.D. and a reply from Cllr. Murtaugh.

19/8/19 E mailed brochure from Festival Lighting.

19/8/19 E mail from Emma Paterson with information on a new dementia carers group.

19/8/19 Letter from F.C. licensing board informing us of an application for an alteration to opening hours for the bar at the Welfare Hall.

20/8/19 E mail from Mhairi Chalmers of F.C. regarding recruiting members for the Children`s Panel.

25/8/19 E mail from J.A. requesting a change of date for the September meeting and A.G.M.

29/8/19 email from Ian Penman of Letham confirming that the Letham residents have no wish to adopt the telephone box at Letham Cottages. This will be removed by B.T. Fact Sheet from the Scottish Government regarding Land Reform.

Prohibition of waiting order from F.C. relating to the A905 Airth Main Street.

27/8/19 E mail from R.S. with dates for our meetings up until 17th June 2020.

30/8/19 E mail from Edinburgh airport regarding their airspace Change Programme.

9/9/19 E mail from Brian Pirie of F.C. regarding a Community Council Forum meeting on the 26th September.

18/9/19 E mail report from the Community safety team.

12/9/19 copy of the letter R.S. wrote to Michael Mathieson, Cabinet secretary for transport.

12/9/19 Letter from George Russell Construction Ltd. Informing us that they have application P/19/0578/PPP for the Hill of Airth development.

18/9/19 Letter from the Scottish Government acknowledging receipt of our letter regarding the 20 mph limit.

17/9/19 Enquiry from Sid Peaty as to why there had been no minutes posted on our website since May. Aileen had replied and informed him that the June minutes could not be posted until approved at the September meeting.

Notification of a revocation of a disabled parking space at High Street Airth.

Notification of a road closure of the Halls Of Airth Road between 19/9/19 and 27/9/19.

Emails from Angus Duncan of F.C. and M.D. regarding a cycling event by Grangemouth Triathlon club.

23/9/19 E mail from Stephen Thomson of the Dogs Trust regarding rehoming dogs.

24/9/19 E mail from F.C. regarding the Falkirk Area Bus Stakeholder Group meeting on the 24th October in the municipal Buildings. R.S. attended the inaugural meeting and will try and attend this one.

13/9/19 Letter from Ineos regarding the Community liason Group meeting scheduled for the 11th November. A.A. normally attends these meetings.

25/9/19 E mail from J.T. regarding extreme sea level events which are predicted to occur annually by 2050.

25/9/19 E mail police report from P.C. Pete Dunlop.

6. Treasurers report. A.A. intimated that we had £796.54 in our admin.account and £3274.25 in our Christmas lights account. The estimated cost of putting up and taking down the lights is £ 2131.02 this year.

7.Round the Parish

Airth/Dunmore. M.D. and A.A. referred to flooding on the road near the Parsonage which appears to be coming from the field at the north side of the parsonage. R.S. mentioned that a lot of drains in the area seem to be choked with debris and must be due to be cleaned. This process is usually done annually.

J.T. had received complaints from Dunmore residents about noise from the Parsonage It was suggested that the Dunmore Village Association lodge a complaint with F.C. and A.A. advised J.T. on the procedure for making a complaint.

Cllr. Murtaugh will make enquiries about the progress of repairing the steps at the cemetery.

Letham. S.S. said that a contractor had been working on the sewage pumping station at Letham Cottages.

8. Data Protection.

A.A. stated that she was very uncomfortable about being held responsible for storing sensitive information and had spoken to Brian Pirie of F.C. about it. He informed her that she would require a lockfast cabinet and a lock on her bedroom door if she is holding personal information and sensitive documents.

J.A. will write to Brian Pirie with our concerns as unpaid, under resourced volunteers, for being expected to comply with strict data protection rules.

Murat suggested a locked cabinet within the school might be an answer and S.S. mentioned that a secure server may be required.

9. Planning.

Fairfields on the Moss Road. There is an application for the discharge of a restriction which restricted the development to 5 houses. This application relates to 2 houses at the back of the development with very large gardens. We presume that the intention is to sub divide the gardens to for additional plots. If the restriction is lifted, they will need to submit plans and a planning application. No comment to make on this at this stage.

The application for 108 homes on the escarpment is nearing completion. John Milne will ask the developer to come to our meeting to give us an update. (Since the last meeting this application has been approved)

There is an application for a Marine Licence for carrying out major works on the Kincardine Bridge. A public exhibition of the proposed works will be held in the Kincardine Community centre on 29th October.

George Russell construction have lodged a planning application in principle for the Hill of Airth development which includes a visitor centre, restaurant, and retail unit as well as 22 bungalows behind the Manse. The application seems to address some of the comments which were made during the consultation process in that the access point has been moved further north, and if granted will replace the existing access from the B9124 on to the A905 which would be closed to all traffic except for access to the Manse, Dunmore House and the East lodge. This should improve the road safety at that point. The principle of the Visitor centre with much needed facilities was still supported by most but there were concerns raised about the legality of restricting the sale of the houses to over 55s. J.A. noted that he had suggested a roundabout be constructed at the access to the A905 and S.S. commented that the housing site would be visible from viewpoints 8 and 9 at Letham Terrace which is part of the conservation village. He also pointed out that the proposal contravenes several planning rules and is not supported by F.C. in the Local development plan report which will be lodged with the Scottish Government reporter for ratification. It was agreed that we would organise a public meeting as soon as possible to gauge the opinions of the residents before we put in a formal response to the application. A.A. will contact the planning official to inform him that we will be making a response. S.S. voiced his concern that if we supported this application we may set a precedent should we have to comment on an expected application relating to Dunmore woods.

10. Garden Competition.

The annual garden competition was judged by the owners of the Torwood Garden centre who generously donated vouchers for the prizes and also gave a tea for two voucher to every entrant

First was Drummond Penn, second Sandra McLaren and Third was Margaret Rennie.

11. A.O.C.B.

R.S. informed everyone that we can expect extremely high tides up to 6.3m from the 28th September until the 3rd October and again from the 27th until the 31st October.

The convenor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

The date of our next meeting is Wednesday the 23rd October in Airth Primary School.