

Royal Burgh of Arbroath Community Council

Notes of Meeting Held at 16 Barbers Croft, Arbroath on 6 February 2024

Apologies: Jamie Mackay, Serena Cowdy, Lois Speed, Mhairi Dickson

Presentation on Arts Murals Installations (by Morag Smith)

Cheryl Smith agreed to explore the Art project with a number of suggestions made by members of the public attending the meeting.

Councillor updates

Martin Shepherd:

- Angus Council budget under discussion. It's getting harder to achieve savings. Has concerns about relations with wider community as it's harder to give good news
- Visited Perth and Kinross Council – useful discussions
- Casework on flooding – areas are being flooded that previously haven't been.
- School Friendly Zones – had meetings with stakeholders. (public debate on parking restrictions and impact on residents not being able to park near their homes without getting fixed penalty notices. Some public attendees felt there had been no consultation with local homes affected).
- Brechin bridge will reopen at end of February.

Brenda Durno:

- By-election in may as Councillor Fairweather leaving
- Arbroath will be getting a Starbucks next to the West Links
- Working on Beach huts and the Campervan 'problem' (raising an income
- Kirkton Garden starting in 2 weeks time

Treasurer's Report

£8,853.30 balance. There is still £1,000 of Micro Grants money to be spent. Approval of annual accounts deferred until audited.

Planning Update

Application for outdoor seating at Corn Exchange – concerns about vehicle access for local businesses and those with mobility issues. Also questions about how well used it would be – no sunshine until late afternoon. Agreed to submit these comments to Angus Council Planning Dept.

Seagreen Funding Projects

Attempting to arrange Macro-Grant information tables in local supermarkets. Interested organisations will be able to complete a Notification of Interest form. The ultimate decision on applications will be Sea Green.

Micro-Grants (£500 grants) – 2 to 3 years funding still to come.

Police Report

Sergeant Greave of Carnoustie attended as Arbroath Community Police officers unavailable. Needed to correct the crime statistics in the report:

183 crimes should read 132

Group 1 – 1 not 3

Group 2 – 3 not 23

Group 3 – 38 not 48

Group 4 – 18 not 20

Group 5 – 18 not 15

Group 6 – 35 not 49

Group 7 – 19 not 27

Councillor Durno asked if statistics could be broken down into Angus Councillor Wards.

Asked if would prefer own Community Officer to attend Community Council Meetings or would any available Community Officer be acceptable – Council preferred own Community Officer but any other officer welcome to attend if local Officer unavailable.

Arbroath Harbour Repairs & Renewals

Alex Smith reported that West Breakwater was damaged during Storm Babete. If the breakwater fails, then the sea front including the Signal Tower would be unprotected, so this needs immediate attention. Harbour gates need replacing and the Black Shed Pier is sinking. The slipway also needs repairs. He estimates around £4 to £5 million needed.

Councillor Durno said although local Angus Councillors are raising the same concerns, other Angus Councillors suggest it is not a priority to repair the harbour – effectively 2 councillors against 13.

Councillor Shepherd said there is funding for repairs in Angus Council's 3 year plan, but not £5 million.

AOCB

Arbroath Connections raised the issue that they had been given 8 weeks notice to quit Angus Carers Centre. Arbroath Connections are the only organisation that offer day care centre for those with Dementia. They need to find £80,000 a year to fund the service if it is to continue.

Date of Next Meeting

5 March 2024 at 6:30pm.

