



**Muirhead, Birkhill and Liff Community Council  
Draft Minutes of meeting  
Held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**Attendance:**

Chair: Stuart Grubb

Secretary: Avril Kidd

Treasurer:

Community Councillors: Margaret Dunning; Liz Cargill;

Angus Council Officers: Hong Zhang

Elected members: Cllr Doran; Cllr Whiteside

Police: Constable Martyn Brennan

Members of the public: none

**Apologies:**

Community Councillors: Grant Kidd; Rose Jenkins; Keith Kirkhope

Elected members: Cllr Melville;

**Minutes of previous meetings**

- Approved at meeting 15/05/24

**Police Report**

**Recent crimes/issues in the area:**

Assessment period – 20/03/2024 – 15/05/2024

There were **27** calls to the Muirhead, Birkhill, Fowlis and Liff area during this assessment period.

**9** crimes were recorded. A break down as follows: -

Group 1 – Crimes of violence - **0**

Group 2 – Sexual crime. **0**

Group 3 – Crimes of dishonesty (includes shoplifting & fraud) - **5** crimes recorded.

Group 4 – Crimes involving property damage - **0**

Group 5 & 6 – Miscellaneous/ other crimes including threatening & abusive behaviour, offences against emergency workers and retail workers - **2** crimes recorded.

Group 7 – Motoring offences – **2** crimes recorded.

**Emerging issues locally:**

Several residents have contacted Local Community Police Officers regard vehicles allegedly speeding through posted 20mph limits.

Those residents who have contacted Police have been spoken too and advised regards the rules relating to this scheme introduced by Angus Council.

We will continue to carry out high visibility patrols and checks as and when time allows.

**Other topics of note or messages:**

Calls to the Police and recorded crime are both down on the last assessment period. Calls to the Police during this assessment period are the lowest they have been since 2023.

Can we please remind all residents about the importance of home and vehicle security, ensuring vehicles and doors are locked, no valuables are left in vehicles overnight and that all residents review their own home security, for example – lighting, CCTV, Ring doorbell camera's, lines of sight to your own and neighbours' properties etc.

Should any resident wish a **FREE** crime prevention survey then the Community Police can be contacted using the direct email address [TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk)

We are keen to arrange another 'Catch up with a Cop' event if residents think this would be of benefit. The last event was poorly attended however if there is an interest in us doing it again, then we are keen to engage with the Community Council and residents on the best way to do this.

## General Agenda

<b>Community Resilience Planning</b>	NCR for Community Councils	17/01/2024	<p>Rose shared an update on our resilience planning. There is a draft funding request that will be submitted National Centre for Resilience Community Councils</p> <p>&lt;<a href="https://www.gla.ac.uk/research/az/ncr/howtoworkwithus/#applyforfunding">https://www.gla.ac.uk/research/az/ncr/howtoworkwithus/#applyforfunding</a>&gt;</p> <p>Open to: Scottish Community Councils</p> <p>Grant Amount: £500</p> <p>Application Deadline: 31st January 2024 (£600 of MBLCC money was approved at the meeting to be used for matched funding) for a Resilience Event as part of our Community communication plan).</p> <p>This comprehensive funding request application covers all aspects of resilience – flooding, winds, extreme snow, ice, power outages . This will allow for further funding requests to be investigated for equipment identified in the Resilience plan (e.g generators for community halls, pumps, sandbags ).</p>
		20/03/2024	<p>An application has been made to the National Centre for Resilience fund for £500. This will allow us to fund the costs of undertaking a consultation with the local communities to understand their needs. It will also help us to formulate a plan and identify other projects that we can apply for funding for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify Community groups and hold working sessions with them to understand their needs/ where they could be part of the Resilience plan</li> <li>- Identify Community members who could be part of a Resilience Group</li> </ul>
		15/05/2024	<p>To give our resilience planning efforts a boost, we are pleased to announce that we have been successful in securing a modest but important grant of £500 from the National Centre for resilience. To obtain this, we put together a plan to encourage community participation in developing a resilience plan. Our intention is that with a plan, we will be in a position to make further bids for capital funding to help support the purchase of equipment and upgrades which would enable the community to support each other during a range of events including floods, major snow, storm damage, etc. We will now start to roll out our community outreach plan and seek to get further involvement from residents in our area. We would be grateful to hear from volunteers who would be willing to participate and help shape the plans.</p> <p>£500 grant approved – fill in the banking form to receive funding</p>
	SSE	17/01/2024	<p>Rose did speak to SSE in 2023 who pointed us to their website and a community grant scheme once we have a resilience plan in place.</p>
	Site Visits	17/01/2024	<p>Hong suggested we setup site visits for the areas that were flooded with Angus Council/Scottish Flood Forum/Farmers as a good starting point for what could be done to help prevent/deal with flooding. A member of the public with SEPA</p>

	Resilience Event	<p>17/01/2024</p> <p>20/03/2024</p> <p>15/05/2024</p>	<p>Experience informed us that Farmers need a license from SEPA to allow dredging of burns now.</p> <p>MBLCC plan to host a public resilience event with various emergency responders such as Scottish Power, Scottish Flood Forum, Fire brigade, Police. Explains to households what they might want to put into place themselves (Household resilience); Possibly do DeFib awareness talk ; Perhaps some CPR training. Jennifer Anderson from the Angus Council Resilience team suggested a Saturday morning in March with some refreshments and some fun things for children to do. Once there is an agreed date with a quorum of attendees this information will be shared as widely as possible and start asking what Volunteers could bring to a allow us to create a Skills/Assets Register.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At this event we may look for Volunteers to work with the CC on a Community Resilience Team</li> <li>- It would be useful if the community were able to point out areas at risk on a map at the event (e.g. which public roads were flooded (and where) along with private properties that were also flooded.</li> </ul> <p>This was replaced by the Flood Mobile. This event was organised in collaboration with Angus Council and was noted as being very well attended today.</p> <p>Based on the discussions that were had one of the next steps is to work with the Scottish Flood Forum on our flood map. They will help us to translate our sketch information into a digital map that we can share with SEPA, and it may lead to the identification of other actions that can be taken to alleviate local issues. RJ to action sketch flood map and pass to Scottish Flood Forum.</p> <p>Much was said of the impact of farming in the area. RJ will discuss with some local farmers to understand what they can and cannot do, and the regulations that they work under (e.g. SEPA). RJ will report back at the next meeting.</p> <p>At the last meeting we took notes of areas that were hit during recent spates of flooding. We further followed this up with a Facebook post seeking more information from the Community. This was met with an enthusiastic response and all the data was recorded on a map which has been sent to the Scottish Flood Forum. This is an organisation that supports communities at risk from flooding. They have advised that they will help us to digitise this information and we hope to be able to use this to inform future resilience plans.</p> <p>In addition to this, there has been much discussion in many of the meetings regarding the management of farm land in our area, the management of waterways, the roles of SEPA and famers, and whether this could have had a detrimental effect and exacerbate the flooding that we saw in 2023. Rose has</p>
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			spent some time with local farmers to understand the responsibilities of the farmers, the regulations that they are working under and their approach to land management. This has been an interesting exercise and Rose will seek to share relevant information at the next meeting and through our resilience planning project.	
<b>Traffic and speeding</b>	Pop Up Jim	17/01/2024	Ready for deployment. Requests for Jim to be deployed at various places to be added to a spreadsheet.	
		15/05/2024	Has been deployed in Muirhead, Liff, Fowlis and road to Piperdam / Lundie	
	Speed Detectors	17/01/2024	There are 4 detectors on the main roads through Birkhill/ Muirhead two are owned by Angus Council and 2 were bought by the previous MBLCC :- 2 in Birkhill on Coupar Angus Road. - One beside Asda Petrol Station - One beside the Bowling Club 2 in Muirhead (both Swarco with a date on them of June 21) with serial numbers 16689 and 16670):- - One on Coupar Angus Road opposite the church - One on Newtyle Road opposite the back of the old nursery	
		17/01/2024	MBLCC have previously asked Angus Council under an FOI application whether they own and maintain the cameras. The response was that they did not. The previous mins of MBLCC meetings have also been searched for any details relating to the cameras. At the meeting the details of ownership and responsibility were discussed again. Cllr Whiteside has spoken to Craig Hudson from Angus Council Roads department and he is happy to be contacted about the speeding signs. Email sent.	
		15/05/2024	Craig Hudson said he will look into this as soon as he can. ACTION Needs followed up.	
		Traffic Police	06/07/2023	Members of the public asked why traffic police have not attended Birkhill/Muirhead in months especially on a Sunday morning when there is a group of motorbikes who round the corner at Adil's then speed out of the village. ACTION - Stuart to add this to the police feedback form
			15/05/2024	ACTION – Liz to check and report to police via email
	Reducing Speed limit in Birkhill/ Muirhead to 20	04/05/2023	All roads being reviewed at the moment by roads teams and will be complete by end March 2023	
		17/01/2024	Update from Cllr Whiteside : the result of the recent speed limit review and specifically 20mph) are with Transport Scotland. However Craig Hudson is going to discuss the route between Muirhead and Liff at this month's traffic coordination meeting.	

		15/05/2024	CLlr Whiteside reported that there will be some funding available for this but it's to be decided if there is to be a blanket approach or target some areas with traffic calming
	Traffic Calming measures in Muirhead	12/01/2023	Put in place in December 22. How will Angus Council measure success? We need the old data and when will we get updated data?
		04/05/2023	Graeme Dailly Director of infrastructure and Environment invited to our meetings. Said he will come along to meet with us at the same time as the Community Police Officer
		15/05/2024	ACTION Stuart to contact Graeme Dailly to see about site visit
	Path from Backmuir Woods to Liff School is needed	02/03/2023	Could we use part of the field as is done between Liff and Fowlis? Sidlaw Path Network say that Angus council have said they will be doing something
		04/05/2023	ACTION – discuss with Graham Daily when he attends meeting
	Pedestrian Crossing in Muirhead needs moved to the shop side of the road	07/09/2023	ACTION – discuss with Graham Daily when he attends meeting
	Parking at Schools	15/11/2023	Police suggest reporting illegally parked car Registrations via community police email
		15/05/2024	ACTION – Stuart to try to obtain the Birkhill PCC report about traffic options
	Parking on pavement outside the Pharmacy in Muirhead	17/01/2024	ACTION - CLlr Doran will bring this up with Police - COMPLETE
		15/05/2024	Parking on pavement in Angus' grace period is almost up. ACTION – Avril to post information on Facebook
<b>Correspondence</b>		15/05/2024	Community Council Engagement Survey needs completed by 17/5/24 – input discussed at meeting and completed online on 16/5/24
<b>Funding Opportunities</b>			We now keep a list of possible uses for funding to allow us to react more quickly when the correct funding opportunity comes in. Once suggestion boxes are in place they could be used for this.
		15/05/2024	Funding options discussed but none to follow up
<b>Finance/ Treasurer</b>	Dual Approval Process from COOP bank	15/05/2024	We have an outstanding invoice for the hall room hire which has not been paid due to the dual approval process from COOP bank not working

Planning	NPF4 Update	15/11/2023	MBLCC have responded to Angus Council's call for interest in participating in the creation of a local area development plan. Members are reminded that the minutes of July 2023 explain the importance of the new National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and how this feeds into our ability to have a greater influence on shaping the MBLCC built environment.
		17/01/2024	Rose working with the planning officer to provide the MBLCC input in greater detail
	Complaint 23/00756/FULM. Solar farm behind the Roundie and East of Stoneygrove	17/01/2024	<p>There was an issue identified with Angus Council's planning department reference planning application 23/00756/FULM. This is for the installation of solar panels on the land behind the Roundie and to the east of Stoneygrove. This application is in addition to those reported above. There was an issue identified with Angus Council's planning department reference planning application 23/00756/FULM. This is for the installation of solar panels on the land behind the Roundie and to the east of Stoneygrove. This application is in addition to those reported above.</p> <p>This planning application was approved and news of this was conveyed in the Courier on the 12th of March 2024. It was brought to the attention of the Muirhead, Birkhill, and Liff Community Council on the 15th of March 2024. The community council members were surprised at this because we were unaware of the planning application despite receiving the weekly planning lists. When we receive these we search through for the ones that are noted as assigned to our Community Council in the information. We did not find this application.</p> <p>We were aware of this development as the applicants came to one of our meetings to discuss this with us in 2023, and they spoke to us as part of their initial consultation prior to making a full application. We had members of the public in attendance as well at the time, and there were concerns raised at that point about the access routes and impact of traffic on Gourdie Brae and towards Liff.</p> <p>We were unsure how we could have missed the full application being submitted as we would have wished to comment on any proposals that could cause implications for traffic access and egress and general road safety, and we would have reflected the concerns raised in the consultation had there been no changes to the initial proposals that were presented. Upon further inspection, we can see that the application was wrongly assigned to Monifieth Community Council. As a result, we did not find the application in our weekly searches.</p> <p>We were very concerned that due legal process has not been followed; the application was not validated correctly with the basic details, and as a statutory consultee we were not afforded the opportunity to comment on this application due to, we assume, an administration error on behalf of Angus Council. The application being wrongly assigned to Monifieth</p>

			<p>made it unsearchable for us or anyone living in our area who may have had an interest in commenting.</p> <p>In light of this, we have written to the Council and asked how this could have happened and why no one in the planning committee checked that it had been correctly assigned, and whether there is any recourse that would allow the population of the Muirhead, Birkhill, and Liff Community Council to review a major proposal that significantly affects them. The initial response that we received was unacceptable as this basically blamed the Community Council for not checking the addressing on the several pages of documents that are issued on the list each week. We wholly rejected this position and submitted a formal complaint detailing our concerns and asking for information on how this could have happened and be prevented in the future again.</p> <p>CLlr Whiteside and CLlr Melville also raised their concerns that this had happened. As a member of the Planning Committee they had read the associated reports during the meeting and assumed that our lack of response meant no concerns had been raised.</p> <p>We await a formal response to our complaint. In the meantime, a statement has been posted on the Facebook pages.</p>
		15/05/2024	<p>We received a response to our formal complaint today (which should have received over two weeks ago) after formally raising the issue again last week where we asked for an urgent response as they are not following the Public Bodies Complaints Handling Procedure . They have changed their process to help ensure this doesn't happen again by adding in a senior officer review to check the correct CC is mentioned in planning reviews.</p>
	New Battery Storage West of Templeton	15/05/2024	<p>We also made the community aware of planning permission out with our area for the creation of a new battery storage system and associated works. This is to be on land 200m west of Templeton. We are NOT a consultee, but residents can comment on the application and review this.</p>
	New Planning Applications	15/05/2024	<p>Since the last meeting there have been 2 planning application for our area - one for Planning Permission in Principle to build 2 new houses on land in Invergowrie, and the other for full planning and listed building consent for works to a farmhouse in Lundie. Both have been advertised on the internet facebook pages.</p>
<b>Social Media and Comms</b>	Facebook insight	15/05/2024	<p>Total Followers 1,459 (from 1,433)  Last 90 days (16Feb to 15May) - Post Reach of 2.1K – down 10% on prior 90 days. The post with the largest reach of 1.3K was on 2<sup>nd</sup> April (The Flood Map). Live video of Flood Mobile and Flood Mary had 1.7K views.</p>



	Communicati on plan	20/03/2024  15/05/2024	Avril met with Hong to discuss  ACTION - Avril to work on a straw horse version for review - COMPLETE Straw horse available for review. ACTION CC to review it then Avril to send to Hong
<b>Defibrillators</b>	Liff Village  Birkhill/ Muirhead	17/01/2024 15/05/2024  17/01/2024  15/05/2024	Funding application submitted to National Lottery by Stuart Delayed by 2 months at National Lottery  The online tracking system seems to think there are TWO at the bowling hall ACTION Ken to check who is the 'owner' of these ACTION Avril to check if there is one at Servite Housing that could be confusing the issue - COMPLETE Servite housing do not have a defibrillator

**Date of next meeting:** 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 7pm (Tom Brown Room, Millenium Hall, Birkhill)

For up-to-date information visit our Facebook page at

[www.facebook.com/MBLCommunityCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/MBLCommunityCouncil) or Website at [www.MBLCC.co.uk](http://www.MBLCC.co.uk)

Minutes of meetings are held here : [Meeting Minutes \(mblcc.co.uk\)](http://www.MBLCC.co.uk/Meeting-Minutes)

(<https://mblcc.co.uk/Meeting-Minutes>)



Contacts for MBLCC - [chairman@mblcc.co.uk](mailto:chairman@mblcc.co.uk) ; [treasurer@mblcc.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@mblcc.co.uk); [secretary@mblcc.co.uk](mailto:secretary@mblcc.co.uk);  
[planning@mblcc.co.uk](mailto:planning@mblcc.co.uk)

Follow the MBLCC Public Channel on WhatsApp: <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaLQjGo3mFYA7zz9v61U>

### Useful links and email addresses

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/>

<https://www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk>

There are various ways to contact the police to report anything happening. Via the Community Council report, calling 101 or by emailing the community mailbox directly [TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk)

Registration numbers of vehicles illegally parked (such as dangerous parking or obstruction) can be emailed directly to [TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:TaysideMonifiethSidlawCPT@Scotland.police.uk).

Please note that if a car is reported as stolen then turns out not to be stolen but just abandoned you will be asked to report it to Angus Council for it to be removed.

[https://www.angus.gov.uk/bins\\_litter\\_and\\_recycling/litter\\_and\\_flytipping/report\\_an\\_abandoned\\_vehicle](https://www.angus.gov.uk/bins_litter_and_recycling/litter_and_flytipping/report_an_abandoned_vehicle)

Any road or street issues should be reported via the Angus Portal here

[https://www.angus.gov.uk/roads\\_parking\\_and\\_travel/roads\\_and\\_pavements/report\\_a\\_pothole\\_street\\_lighting\\_or\\_other\\_roadstreet\\_issue](https://www.angus.gov.uk/roads_parking_and_travel/roads_and_pavements/report_a_pothole_street_lighting_or_other_roadstreet_issue) or scan the below QR code

