

INVERESK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of meeting held on Monday 19th August 2024 at Tarfside Hall

Present: Gus Leighton (Chair), Claire Wilson (Minute Secretary), Ken Goddard, Alan Budge (Treasurer), Dick Robertson and 7 members of the public.

Apologies: Graham Dallas, Kate Skene (Planning Contact), Cllr Beattie, Cllr Nicol, Cllr Scott and Police Scotland.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. The minutes were proposed by Ken Goddard and seconded by Dick Robertson. The minutes will be posted to the Community Council website and sent to Angus Council and the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator for distribution.

Action: Claire

Edzell Friendship Agreement with Sauze d’Oulx in Italy

Maureen Wedderburn attended the meeting to promote resurrecting the friendship agreement with Sauze d’Oulx in Italy that was agreed in approximately 2017. Sauze d’Oulx has signage in their village which acknowledges the friendship agreement and Maureen has now secured funding to have similar signage made and erected at the main routes into the village. It is also hoped that the school and youth groups will form a connection with Sauze d’Oulx and perhaps visits can be arranged in the future. Maureen has been working with EVIS and they have developed a leaflet with information regarding the friendship agreement. Maureen stated that the Major of Sauze d’Oulx has offered to come to the “unveiling” when the signs are in place.

Police Report

The Police Report had been distributed to all the Community Council members before the meeting. Gus read out the report at the meeting which included the local crime figures.

Police Scotland encourage people to join their local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

The local Police are struggling to attend ICC meetings due to their shift pattern. A request has been made to look at the date of the ICC meetings so that Police attendance would be available. It was agreed to discuss this at the AGM in November.

Planning and CNP Report

Kate Skene was unable to attend the meeting, Gus gave a brief report on the applications for the Inveresk Community Council area.

- Various applications for Newtonmill – none can be viewed from the road – agreed no comment required from ICC.
- Balrownie Farm application for 2 weighbridges - agreed no comment required from ICC

Treasurer’s Report

Opening Balance		£575.83
Hall Hire Tarfside Hall (August meeting)	-	25.00
Secretary Fees (June)	-	<u>50.00</u>
Closing Balance		<u>£500.83</u>

Gus attended a meeting regarding creating an Angus Community Council Forum and it was noted there that the minimum number of meetings a Community Council must hold a year is six.

SSEN Transmission East Coast

This issue is ongoing.

Gus gave a brief outline on the issue and the actions which have been taken both by ICC and other Community Councils in the Angus and Mearns area in association with other groups.

Gus has asked the MP and MSP for the area to revisit the holistic design as it was performed in 2020. SSEN is looking to Community Councils to work with the local communities to collate the feedback received and comment on an environmental impact statement. This is a huge piece of work and is felt by ICC to be beyond the abilities of Community Councils not only in manpower but also financially.

Gus gave a brief talk on the poor biosecurity measures currently in place for the planned application and the huge risk to the farming community in this area.

Gus is to speak at the Menmuir area meeting on 25th August and Graham is to take part in the SSEN online event on 28th August.

Action: Gus/Graham

Recurring items

Whishop Burn Bridge

No update. It is thought that the hold-up is finding some group to take on liability for the bridge following its refurbishment.

Edzell Muir

The travellers have left the Muir, but 2 caravans were left which have now been removed by the Council. Toilets and rubbish have also now been removed, barrier has been closed and the vandalised wooden barrier replaced.

Representatives of the Flood Group and ICC have met with the Council to look at the plans to use the North end of the Muir as a potential holding area for flood water. The Council have agreed to extend the ditches around the Muir, plant hedges around the High Street side of the Muir then sow the area with wildflowers with mowed pathways to allow walking access to the area.

Grant money could be available for the plans, but the grant would be easier to access if public money could also be raised to assist with this. There have been several offers of donations from locals.

One member of the public left at this point

Shaking Bridge, Edzell

Cllr Scott had sent an update from Angus Council via e-mail. Aberdeenshire Council are leading on the repairs to the shared bridge. The current understanding is that the bridge is in a position of requiring a full refurbishment after various repairs through the years. Aberdeenshire are currently investigating funding options; they are also looking at ways to keep the structure and individuals safe from unauthorised access. Currently the working estimate is £400k for the refurbishment. To complicate things, the bridge is also a listed structure.

Aberdeenshire Cllr George Carr has proposed a meeting with Gus in Edzell one Saturday morning following contact from the ICC. Gus suggested that it may be more appropriate for Cllr Carr to meet with the local Councillors to discuss the bridge repairs. Cllr Scott is happy to discuss a meeting with Cllr Carr if he contacts her directly. She confirmed that, in the past, she has been in contact with Cllr Evison (Aberdeenshire Council) regarding the bridge repairs.

Inchbare

Westwater Bridge

Repairs have been commenced, although scaffolding remains in place, so it is unsure if there is still some remedial work to be done. Gus has asked that chevrons are erected on the side of the bridge to prevent further accidents.

Resilience Hub

Unfortunately, it has not been possible to find a person or body to take responsibility for the equipment or operation of the Resilience Hub at Inchbare. Gus will organise the equipment to be moved to Tarfside's Masonic Hall to establish a Glenesk Hub.

Lethnot

Potholes

The potholes within the Menmuir/Lethnot area are currently under repair.

Ward Councillors' Report

No Councillors attended the meeting.

Cllr Scott has sent an update (see Shaking Bridge). She also sent an update on the former Inglis Court site in Edzell. The Service Leader, Housing has just returned from Annual Leave. She is awaiting a costing from Parks to landscape the area and will get back to Cllr Scott with an update.

Brechin Healthcare Group

The BHG have now moved to their new premises at 24 Clerk Street, Brechin. They are holding open days on 27th and 29th August from 1400-1900hrs where anyone is welcome to attend.

They continue to provide footcare and hearing aid services which are popular. They have also started an arts and crafts group.

Hear me counselling have returned to using the facilities. There are also plans for a yoga group to start using the facilities.

Dick distributed the DD9 magazine at the meeting.

Correspondence

No correspondence had been received.

AOCB

GDPR Officer for ICC

All Community Council's within Angus should have a Data Protection officer as per Scottish Government. Currently the minute secretary has covered the role, but it is now required to be a member of the Community Council. Again, there was no volunteer to take on the role.

Community Council Forum

Gus attended a meeting regarding establishing a Forum with a representative from all Community Councils within Angus to aid networking and to try to give Community Councils in Angus a "bigger voice" and possibly places on Council committees. It was felt that Angus Council would only recognise such a Forum if all Angus CCs were involved.

Anti-Social Behaviour Officer

The Anti-Social Behaviour Officer is to attend the October meeting of the ICC to gather views from the community to be included in Angus Council's Anti-Social Behaviour strategy.

November meeting of ICC

Claire has been unable to confirm the booking of Inglis Hall, Edzell for the November meeting. This is due to the feasibility study possibly being completed and it is unsure who will take on the running of the hall following this. It was agreed to book the Panmure Hotel for the November meeting. Alan will contact the Panmure to book.

Action: Alan

Publication of meetings of ICC

A member of the public asked where the meeting dates and venues of the ICC were published. The dates and venues are published on the ICC website, but a member of the public stated that the website was not easy to navigate. It had previously been discussed regarding having an ICC Facebook page but as no one was happy to manage it this idea was put on hold meantime. It was discussed re: putting the dates in The Courier but again as very few people buy a newspaper now this was also not thought to be a good way to reach the public. This item can be discussed at the AGM. Claire will also check whether the dates can be posted to the Angus Council web page.

Action: Claire

Campsite at Tarfside

Residents of Tarfside attended the meeting with numerous issues of anti-social behaviour at the campsite at Tarfside. The campsite is on land owned by Dalhousie Estates and is free to use all year round. There have been issues with vandalism, young children wandering unattended beside water, noisy and drunk campers, vehicles being driven all night (usually to the toilet block) which disturbs residents, human excrement and toilet paper down by the river when people have not used the toilet block, smell of sewage from the toilet as the septic tank unable to cope with the number of campers. There have also been more camper vans using the site who are disposing of their chemical toilets and waste down the drain where the water tap is. When residents have confronted campers displaying anti-social behaviour, whilst most campers have been pleasant the residents have been verbally attacked by a minority.

Gus agreed to contact Dalhousie Estates with the residents' concerns and will contact Angus Council (who own the toilets) to ask them to empty the septic tank more frequently and to ask them to look at funding available to provide appropriate disposal facilities for camper vans.

Action: Gus

ICC Future

Alan will put a post on the Edzell Facebook page to encourage people to attend the AGM in November and also to encourage people to join the Community Council as the ICC is in danger of not being formed due to lack of members.

Action: Alan

Ride the North

This event will take place this weekend and there will be lots of cyclist on the roads within the ICC area and especially in Edzell as there will be a checkpoint on Edzell Muir so cyclists will enter the village down Dunlappie Road, along Dalhousie Street and Church Street then leaving the village by the High Street through the Arch.

Gus thanked everyone for attending.

Next meeting: Monday 16th September at Menmuir Hall

Approved on 16th September 2024

Gus Leighton

Unresolved Issues by the ICC 2024

Unresolved Issue	Comment and date removed from Agenda
Resilience Hub	Lethnot Hub – equipped and staffed. Edzell and Little Brechin have equipment available and will require to organise premises and volunteers. Inchbare unable to obtain support for storage of equipment and manning of hub so equipment relocated to another location in Tarfside Removed from Agenda September 2024