

## Letham & District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on: 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 at 7.30pm in Letham Feuars Hall

**Present:** Wendy Cameron, Karen Smith, Isobel Sword, Gail Smith, Karen Kose, Tracy Andrews, Sandra Macrae, Debbie Dallas, – also Mrs Phyllis Jolly

**Via Teams:** – attempted connection but were told the ‘meeting hadn’t started’ despite it running in the Feuars Hall

**Apologies** Cllr Nicoll, Cllr Cowdy, Cllr Shepherd, Cllr Cruickshanks, Mhairi Dickson, David Lumgair and Sergeant Gary Miller (Police)

### **Amendments to previous minutes:**

- In regards to the undermining of the river retaining wall Mrs Jolly clarified that this has been ongoing since 2013
- The information included in the previous minutes that had been shared by Isobel was questioned as there had been no discussion opportunity related to this. Wendy confirmed that she raised the points shared by Isobel. Mrs Jolly wanted her objection to their inclusion in the minutes noted.
- Mrs Jolly requested clarification of the time scale for minutes of meeting being published on the Angus Council website before they had been approved at the following meeting. Debbie apologised for this error, she has been sending the minutes to Lynn Hally, who publishes them online for the Council, at the same time as the rest of the committee.

**Action:** Debbie to email Lynn Hally and inform her that from this point onwards she will receive the minutes of the meeting after they have been approved. Therefore the minutes of the June meeting will be approved/amended in August and published then.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** proposed by: Karen K

seconded: Tracey

### **Matters Arising:**

- **Legal position of the path** – Wendy has been in touch with Thorntons but not had all the information yet. Karen K questioned how Steven Mitchell could sell the access to the path if this had already been gifted to the Community. Sandra asked why Wendy would meet with Thorntons and it was confirmed that they are the solicitors used by the Mitchell family at the time of the bequest. Mrs Jolly said it was an unusual situation having the same solicitor acting for both parties. Mrs Jolly indicated that the legal advice being used is a 14 year old document and shared a ‘Servitudes and Rights of Way’ document with the meeting.

**Action:** Wendy to meet with Thorntons and seek complete clarification regarding the ownership of the path

- **Position and Repair of the Retaining Wall** – Isobel advised that she spoke to a bridge engineer and he confirmed that it will not be repaired as part of the 10m rule but MIGHT be repaired as part of the flood risk management strategy. Before Storm Babet Isobel was told that there was a plan. Mrs Jolly advised that she received an email on 23.05.24 stating that the wall will be repaired. The repairs have been needed since 2013 and the delay has made the situation worse. Mrs Jolly also advised that some of the works will be undertaken by the end of September 2024, however the detail of the works isn't specified. Mrs Jolly suggested that the previous flood risk assessment, from 2013, will need amending and updating following the more recent floods.
- **Defibrillators** – Sandra shared that a defibrillator at Jubilee Court now has permission to be installed on an external wall – but the Council have asked for residents to then fund the installation and ongoing costs, which is not possible. Karen S suggested drawing up an action plan for the defibrillators and Wendy suggested having a sub-group to oversee this. Crowd funding was suggested and this would need an action plan. The Crowd Funding would aim for 2 cabinets and 1 new defibrillator (move the defibrillator from the KeyStore to Jubilee Court in a new cabinet and install a cabinet and defibrillator in Craiche). Isobel advised that the Pensioners group will pay for replacement batteries due next year, approximate cost £400. Karen S has had a message in September 2023 from Arran Low regarding a defibrillator on the Scout Hall, organised by the Scouts, although this hasn't happened yet. Once new defibrillators are installed there will be HeartStart training available. Karen K suggested contacting the Hotel to help with fundraising .

**Action:** Wendy to speak to Davidsons again regarding moving the defibrillator in the Pharmacy (currently only accessible 9.00am-5.30pm, 6 days a week) to outside in a cabinet that they provide.

**Action:** Karen S to get up-to-date prices for cabinets and defibrillators

**Action:** Karen K to contact Mhairi Dickson regarding help with Crowd Funding

- **Cosgrove Award** – no nominations so far. Isobel to put another notice into 'In the Pict-ure' and Wendy to put information on the Auld Letham FaceBook page – hopefully resulting in nominations for the August meeting.

**Action:** Isobel and Wendy to share information again

**Action:** Wendy to organise a Community Council FaceBook page

- **Paths Group** – Alison Towns has a letter prepared for Wendy to send to the Council regarding the un-maintained land. The paths group now have the costings for the materials they need and the gravel has been ordered. The paths group may want to hire a machine to lay the pipe work. Wendy asked for clarification regarding the paths group – are they a separate entity or come under the Community Council or The Feuars? It is The Feuars. The group can be asked to do work for the benefit of the village. Karen K said that she has been approached by Mario Rizza asking for the Community Council to discuss the grass cutting at The Greens – he has been advised to make this request to The Feuars. Mrs Jolly asked about the 'step to the bridge' mentioned in previous minutes. She said that the foundations are now exposed and this needs repairing and suggested a contractor be employed to do this. Wendy suggested that there are limited volunteers and money for repairs. Tracey asked whether the Village Lottery could be approached as Mario had said at the previous meeting they would help out with things in the village.

**Action:** Wendy to approach Mario Rizza, as representative of the Lottery, and ask about repairs to the bridge

- **Police Report** – Data from May shared with the Community Council members by Sergeant Miller prior to the meeting.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Solar Farm Plans – planning permission has been declined due to certain policies not being met
- Community Councils Forum – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> or Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August are the 2 suggested dates for the meeting at 6.30pm. Isobel and Wendy can attend the meeting if it is online

**Action:** Isobel to reply to the email with the date that suits best

#### **Treasurer Report:**

**Footpath Account:** £3400.89

**Defibrillator Account:** £2218.12

**Community Council Account:** £255.16 (Parish Online invoice has been paid so this is now less £120 )

#### **AOCB:**

- Sandra asked about notice boards in Craiche and Bowriefauld

**Action:** Someone to check whether there are notice boards

- **Resilience Meeting in Village Hall:** Wendy, Karen S and Isobel all attended – along with a lot of residents as the meeting was in Letham. SSEN said that if Letham loses power they can change where the electricity is directed and prioritise vulnerable households. They can deliver generators to homes. There is some funding available for resilience hubs. Hall Committee have looked into getting a generator – they now have the plug installed outside the Hall. SSEN have a hot food truck. Wendy shared that CLEAR have a FaceBook page so can share information about the food truck. Karen S advised that Police were at the meeting and said that if you have CCTV then you must have signs up, this includes 'Ring Doorbells' etc – ideally a video doorbell should be registered with ICO (Information Communication Office). There is a Council Officer responsible for Bio-diversity in Angus. SEPA suggested planning trees to prevent flooding

**Action:** Wendy to contact the Bio-Diversity Officer and invite her to a Community Council Meeting and/or a CLEAR meeting

- **Letham History:** Sandra highlighted that Letham has an interesting history and there should be a notice board for tourists to read and she asked permission to go ahead and research funding for this. She has a friend who has a job preparing historical walks information and she will ask him to help her with this. Wendy gave consent for Sandra to go ahead with the plan on behalf of the Community Council

**Action:** Sandra to investigate the funding for information boards in Letham

- **Funding for Paths:** The 'Paths for All' funding needs to be looked into

**Close:** Wendy thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.53pm

**DONM:** Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024