

Letham & District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on: 17th October, 2024 at 7.30pm in Letham Feuars Hall

Present: Wendy Cameron, Karen Smith, Isobel Sword, David Lumgair, Cllr Cowdy, Gail Smith, Karen Kose, Tracy Andrews, Sandra Macrae, Debbie Dallas + Mrs P Jolly

Apologies Cllr Shepherd, Cllr Nicoll, Mhairi Dickson

Absent Cllr Cruickshanks, Police

Amendments to Previous Minutes:

- None

Approval of Previous Minutes: proposed by: Karen K

seconded: Gail

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting AOCB:

- **Tree Felling –**

Cllr Cowdy advised that she is no longer aligned to any political party and is an independent Councillor. She then shared that she had visited the site with a constituent and also Mike Strachan. There has been a breach of the rules and trees have been felled in an area of Badger Setts. Work has now paused. Reports have been submitted to the Police to ascertain if it has been a Wildlife Crime. There is evidence of Badgers, Pine Martens and Red Squirrels in the area. Cllr Cowdy will continue to be involved in conversations going forward and shared that anyone with further concerns should contact her directly

Matters Arising:

- **Police –**

report was emailed to committee members – Police dealt with 744 calls within Arbroath wards, 43 calls within Letham and district: 1 non-sexual crime of violence; 2 sexual crimes; 1 dishonesty; 1 damage and reckless behaviour; 1 anti-social offences and 1 'group 98'

next 'Cuppy with a Cop' will be on Sunday 24th November, 6.00-7.00pm, in the Village Hall

- **Community Council Footpaths –**

The repairs to the river wall in The Den have been completed. Isobel and Sandra have an appointment to meet with a solicitor at Thorntons on Wednesday 30th October to discuss the extent of the path by the river bequeathed to the Community Council.

Prior to the meeting Mrs Jolly had emailed the Community Council to request that documents were made available at the meeting. Wendy said this wasn't necessary as more information will be gained by Isobel and Sandra after their meeting at Thorntons. Mrs Jolly is confident that Thorntons will confirm her ownership of the land in question.

Mrs Jolly shared that the Sycamore Tree Stump that is by the river was due to be removed but due to the location of water mains in the area, some with asbestos, this can't safely be removed. The Sycamore tree continues to regrow saplings and there is currently one on the path, Mrs Jolly has put a tree protector around this to protect it but David suggested the sapling should be removed as it blocks the path. Mrs Jolly has suggested a site visit as part of a meeting. Mrs Jolly shared that she had put information on FaceBook to acknowledge that Angus Council had paid for the repairs to the wall so that all members of the community were informed.

Wendy shared that there was a joint meeting with the Feuars Committee to discuss the green roads, paths and recent planning applications. The plan from this is to have all the paths network identified and the information shared. Gail reported that the sign to the path at Vinney Den needs repainting and Isobel agreed that all the signposts need replacing or repainting.

Action: Isobel to update the Community Council at the November meeting the outcome from the meeting at Thorntons

Action: Sycamore tree sapling to be removed from the path by the river

- **Defibrillators –**

Karen K shared that the Crowd Funding target has been reached! Also, the staff at the Keystore have said that there is a fund to support local initiatives and that they will personally match this. Karen K has also drafted letter to be sent to the Village Lottery group as they have also offered to support the purchase of new equipment. It was highlighted that people not on FaceBook may not know about the Crowd Funding and so information could go into 'In The Pict-ure'.

Karen K shared that she has been looking into the spec of new defibrillators and whether pads need replacing when batteries do etc. Karen S shared that all 3 defibrillators in Letham have reached the end of their 10 year life span and need to be replaced, they can't be refurbished. St John's have said that we can choose the type of cabinet but there is no choice regarding the defibrillator. Metal signs purchased through St John's would cost £18 each.

Karen S confirmed that the application for funding from St John's has been submitted but no reply yet – we can apply multiple times. Karen S also checked and there is no cost for training from St John's.

Karen S shared that Alan Florence has agreed to help with the installation of new defibrillators

Action: Karen K to contact 'London Hearts Charity' worker

Action: Isobel to put information about the Crowd Funding and also the 10 year life span of current defibrillators into 'In The Pict-ure'.

- **Works on land on Dundee Road –**

Cllr Cowdy reported that Cllr Nicoll has an update on this but she wasn't present to update the meeting

- **Chicken Factory –**

Cllr Cowdy reported that Cllr Nicoll is investigating this

- **Water on road near Stables Kitchens –**

Cllr Cowdy's understanding is that Cllr Nicoll is investigating this

- **Dunnichen Straight drainage –**

Cllr Cowdy's understanding is that Cllr Nicoll is investigating this

- **Constitution –**

Sandra suggested that the draft constitution should be read in conjunction with the Angus Council document regarding the establishment of community councils. Sandra raised the following points:

- No. 5 – can remove a member who doesn't attend or moves away but nothing about removal of a disruptive member
- Page 2, item 11 – slight typo and should say 'made' not 'mad'
- To have a special meeting you need 20 residents to sign a request
- Item 12 – advertising meetings in a public place – should this be more specific
- Local paper – should be changed to include notice boards
- Item 15b – remove the '3' from defibrillators and just say defibrillators

It was agreed to adopt the constitution from the draft and amend at a later date

- **Planning & Budgeting –**

Cllr Cowdy shared that she is now on the Planning Committee and so excused herself from the meeting

- **Planning –**

David shared that there has been an application for 5 'glamping pods' by James Shanklin at Saughtmont Covert – there are no issues with this application

- **Correspondence –**

Isobel will attend the resilience planning meeting that we have been invited to

Email has been received from Mrs Jolly regarding the ride on mower being used on the path by the river. Mrs Jolly thought that Wendy was going to speak to the paths group about seeking permission to use the ride on mower, Wendy confirmed that she did and will do again. Mrs Jolly is aware that the access and mutual servitudes is for pedestrians but not vehicles and would like consent to be requested before the ride on mower is taken across her land

Action: Wendy to speak to the Paths Group again regarding their use of the ride on mower

Treasurer Report:

Footpath Account: £3300.89

Defibrillator Account: £2072.16 (£156 has been used for battery / pads)

Community Council Account: £540.16

AOCB:

Visit from Leguillac De L'ache –

Sandra shared that there had been a very successful visit from the twinned community. She also shared a local government document and would like to see more powers being held by community councils

Close: Wendy thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.15pm

DONM: Thursday 21st November 2024