

Strathmartine Community Council Meeting - Minutes

Date 24th October 2024
Location Strathmartine Bowling Club
Apologies Nadine Farquhar, Gillian Todd, Cllr Beth Whiteside
Attendees John Young, Cari Gaffney, Norma Munnoch, Donna Thain, , Graham Robertson, Barbara Christie, Fiona Webster, Christopher Laing, Hong Zhang (Communities Officer), Cllr Heather Doran

Previous Minutes

Agreed and posted.

AGM

Chairperson / Secretary report

Major topics from the past year:

- Resilience activity related to the Dighty.
- Roads / Drains / Speeding / Parking around the School.
- Introduction of dial up bus service.
- 3 new Noticeboards placed in the community
- Tealing Substation / Pylon Upgrade / Battery Energy Storage System
- Community Engagement Initiative
- Future of NHS – Strathmartine Centre

Treasurer report

Opening balance	-	£2,961.29
Angus Council Grants	-	£ 375.00
		£3,336.29
Noticeboards	-	£ 242.27
Audit Fees	-	£ 50.00
		£ 292.27
Current balance		£3,044.02

Planning report

There have been a total of 9 planning applications submitted for our area from 1st January to 23rd October this year with details being shared via our Facebook page and meetings. Most of these are alterations to existing properties, two new buildings, 1 short term let with alterations for wedding venue and a pre-application notice of battery storage at Templeton (consultations held at Birkhill) which we share on our Facebook page. There was also a planning application for a new building at Hillhouse which was refused. The community council has provided comments on planning applications where appropriate. The community council note that there is a large-scale electrical development planned adjacent to our area and we will continue to discuss this at our meetings, sharing information of any deadlines or consultations via the Facebook page. We urge people to be aware of this as this will impact our area.

Election of Office Bearers

Below are the people who have volunteered to be on the committee for the next year. Note we have no volunteer for the role of secretary, and we have been given special dispensation from Angus Council to combine the role of Chair & Secretary.

Chair - John Young
Secretary - John Young
Treasurer - Norma Munnoch
Planning - Cari Gaffney
Resilience - Donna Thain
Members - Gillian Todd
Nadine Farquhar
Graham Robertson

Strathmartine Community Resilience Forum – Update

- Working to identify fields where run off is an issue and related land owners.
- Sink hole identified and needs to be fixed.
- Assessing areas for storage of flood equipment.
- Pipe in the Dighty from road drains at Bridgefoot requires a non-return valve.
- Assessing the potential installation of a river tracking system in the Dighty (live sensor bounces laser off water level- adjacent property gets a screen and alarm) everyone has live access.
- Flood insurance for houses built before 2009, the government will pay the extra for insurance- primary residents only .
- The beavers have now created 4 dams in the Dighty, authorities are working to get the appropriate licenses to have the beavers removed.

Pitempton Road – feedback from Andrea Strachan, Traffic Engineer, Angus Council

Your concerns were raised for consideration at a recent meeting of the Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Group. Representation at this meeting included various Angus Council directorates and Police Scotland, all of whom have an interest in road safety and traffic management. A search of our road traffic accident database confirmed that there have been no recorded injury accident on Pitempton Road within the most recent three-year recording period from 23/03/2021 to 22/03/2024. A speed survey carried out on Pitempton Road recorded an average speed of 28mph and an 85th percentile speed (the speed at or below which 85% of vehicles were travelling) of 30mph. A site visit carried out on Pitempton Road confirmed that there is insufficient verge width available for the installation of official passing places. Taking the above into consideration the Traffic Co-ord Group agreed that there was not significant speeding and/or road safety issue on Pitempton Road and that the introduction of a one-way traffic management system and/or passing places was not appropriate. I trust the above clarifies the situation, however, if you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Community Speed Watch - Martyn Brennan Community Policing Team

What is Community Speed Watch –

1. A local initiative to empower residents to self-monitor the speeds of vehicles through their local towns and villages.
2. Volunteers operating with approved equipment to record details of speeding vehicles.
3. Details of all information recorded will be forwarded onto Community Police Officers who will issue warning letters to drivers.
4. The Community Speed watch is a self-funded scheme, and all financial assistance should be sought from within the relevant community to procure the necessary equipment.

The aims of Community Speed Watch –

1. To work in partnership with members of the community to improve road safety.
2. To provide a visible prompt for motorists entering the local area and to be a positive deterrent to speeding motorists.
3. Encourage drivers to drive at, or below, the posted speed limit.

We would like to invite representatives from all Community Councils to an information evening at Wellbank Village Hall where Ronnie and I will deliver a presentation on the scheme and answer any questions that representatives may have, and we will go through the steps that need to be taken in relation to setting up a Speed Watch initiative –

Wellbank Village Hall
Monday 11th November
7.30pm – 9pm

Update will be given at our next Community Council meeting.

Proposed Questionnaire / Community Engagement Plan

We have been successful in receiving a grant from Angus Rural Partnership to allow us to work with Glamis Consultancy to carry out a community survey. Having met with Colin Smith from Glamis Consultancy we have created an outline plan which will see us firm up the questions by early December, distribute the leaflets door to door through the community early January and finalize the feedback by mid February. Colin will come along to our next community council meeting to present the finished leaflet to be distributed and take any questions regarding the process. He will also come along to our February meeting to present the results. There will be an option to complete the questionnaire online or hardcopy. Suggestion boxes will be placed next to the noticeboards at Rosemill and outside Strathmartine Primary to allow the collection of hard copy feedback forms.

The aim is to take the community feedback and create a community action plan and also allow us to input into the Angus Council Local Place Plan.

Tealing Substation & Pylon Upgrade / Battery Energy Storage System – Templeton Farm

The Community Council will continue to highlighting to the Strathmartine residents the plans relating to these proposals and urge people to voice any concerns through the appropriate online groups / links as communicated. Substation updates regarding consultation meetings will continued to be shared in Facebook.

Next Meeting - Thursday 19th December at 6:00pm at Strathmartine Primary School