

Letham & District Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on: 20th February 2025 at 7.30pm in Letham Feuars Hall

Present: Wendy Cameron, Karen Smith, Isobel Sword, Gail Smith, Karen Kose, Tracy Andrews, Sandra Macrae, Debbie Dallas, David Lumgair, Cllr Cowdy, Cllr Nicoll, Cllr Shepherd

Via Teams: (not available due to sound issues)

Apologies

Absent Mhairi Dickson, Cllr Cruickshanks, Police

Approval of Previous Minutes: proposed by: Karen K
seconded: Karen S

Police Report:

- Wendy shared that in January there were 41 calls and 7 crimes recorded – nothing of any substance that we need to be aware of
- Next 'Cuppa with a Cop' – no date yet

Matters Arising:

- **Chicken Factory complaint –**

Cllr Shepherd shared that Angus Council Roads department have also passed the complaint to the selling agent as the details of the owners can not be shared.

Angus Council have undertaken temporary measures by putting sand down

- **In The PICture Article –**

The following article was written by Isobel and submitted for publication in the February issue of 'In The PICture':

Letham & District Community Council The History of Letham Paths

Letham is blessed with a network of paths in and around the village, many of these would have been lost had it not been for Jim Cosgrove starting to cut them and ensure that they are accessible to all of us. He was an active member of the Scotways Charity from its early inception. Letham & District Community Council has been a member of Scotways since that time.

More recently all Local Authorities were required to draw up plans of CORE Paths (but not required to maintain them!) Letham has a CORE Path Plan, but some paths were missed off this plan. A Core Paths plan is not required to be the only source of information about rights of way.

Letham & District is determined to ensure ALL our paths & rights of way are accessible for all of us and are mapped and publicised appropriately with the help of our Local Authority, Scotways and The Ramblers of Scotland.

Since the time of Jim Cosgrove, Letham paths have been kept accessible through the help of volunteers. Equipment has been bought for them to use, mainly through donations given by individuals and through grants obtained by Letham & District Community Council. The original ride on mower was bought with a grant obtained by Letham & District Community Council.

Letham & District Community Council hold a separate bank account solely to hold donations for Letham Paths. Currently the volunteers are involved with installing some appropriate drainage where paths have become waterlogged in recent years. This work will use a considerable amount of funds just for materials. Without volunteers to carry out the work the funds we hold presently would not cover the cost of the work.

It should be noted that Letham & District Community Council ensure that the equipment used by our volunteers is insured appropriately and the volunteers discuss and arrange maintenance of the paths with Letham & District Community Council.

The maintenance of Letham Greens is also, mainly carried out by the Paths Volunteers, using the same equipment, BUT agreed with the members of Letham Feuars Committee. (Letham Feuars' Committee hold Title to the Greens).

More recently, when the original ride on mower reached the end of its useful life, we were very fortunate to have Letham Feuars' Committee funding a replacement mower. Sadly, funding for **replacement** equipment is not readily available, but thankfully Letham has the Feuars' Committee willing to work in partnership with The Community Council for the benefit of everyone. Donations have been received from the committee for many years, as this fulfils one of the charity aims of Letham Feuars' Committee, through helping to look after the environment.

Letham & District Community Council is happy to receive donations for Letham paths and will ensure that our paths can remain accessible for all of us to use appropriately.

- **Meeting regarding Footpaths –**

Mhairi Dickson has not yet managed to arrange a meeting with Paul Clark and Roads department officer. Cllr Cowdy offered to chase this up

Action: Cllr Cowdy to contact Paul Clark, Mhairi Dickson and Roads department officer and arrange a meeting

- **Defibrillator updates –**

Cllr Shepherd shared that Angus Council will pay for the installation of the defibrillator at Jubilee Court and will organise this. Email to Rachel Rodgers to also be sent to the Community Council email

Karen S shared updates that had come by text from Alan at St John's: The iPad SPR defibrillator comes with pads that are suitable for children (1-8 yrs) and adults (>8yrs) - there is a button on the device to toggle between child and

adult mode and it talks the user through doing this - diagrams on the device show the proper placement of the pads for each mode (see attached pic). The pads must be changed after each use at a cost of about £70 per set. The battery does NOT have to be changed after each use. If I remember correctly it's good for about 200 shocks or 4 to 5 years of standby (depending on how often the device is switched on etc.) Replacement batteries are about £270 and come with a 4 year warranty. I'm no expert on disposal but I would suggest taking them to the council recycling centre where the device and particularly the battery can be disposed of properly.

Karen S met with Alan at St John's to discuss the defibrillator in The Square – he is not happy with the temperature of the cupboard that it is stored in and has suggested a small greenhouse style tube heater be fitted. The temperature is being monitored and he will feedback if it is suitable or not. If needed, electricity will need to come from the shop – Isobel will speak to Andy (shop manager) about this. He also wants a St John's defibrillator to be in a St John's cabinet – Isobel confirmed that all defibrillators we have were bought through St John's. Alan is also wanting signs to be put up as the one in The Square is not obvious. He suggested ones from WeMedical that cost £32 but JKaren S will contact Astute to see how much they would charge

Karen S shared that Alan Florence gave his time for fitting the defibrillator/cabinet for free

Isobel shared that the money from 'Angus Gold' will be sent to the account soon

Cost is £1000 for another defibrillator and cabinet. 2 more defibrillators will be about £1500 so there is capacity to purchase all

Wendy thanked Karen K for the write up In The PICture and the crowd funding and Karen S for all her hard work in getting the village so covered with defibrillator access

The defibrillator at Jubilee Court need a decision on location. Sandra will discuss this at the next residents committee meeting. They will also take advice from Angus Council regarding a suitable location

Action: Karen S to contact Astute regarding signage

Action: Isobel to speak to Andy about electricity supply from the shop

Action: Sandra to discuss location for one at Jubilee Court

Treasurer Report:

Footpath Account: £3114.29

less £75.94 to come off for non-vehicular access posts going to The Den

Defibrillator Account: £3146.82

Community Council Account: £2273.33

£2000 belongs to CLEAR but they don't yet have a bank account – will be spent by end of March

- **Planning –**

Craft Shop Application:

Now been approved – the conditions attached do not take effect until the planning is implemented. The planning application process is available to watch on YouTube

Concerns were raised that Auldbar Road is not wide enough for unrestricted parking – previously cars parked partly on the pavement but this is now illegal

Other:

David shared that Ian Cairnie has applied for a single storey extension to his house and a house in McFarlane Croft has applied for a replacement conservatory

AOCB:

Sandra raise concern that a Jubilee Court resident is parking an untaxed vehicle on the road at Old Letham. SORN vehicles can not be parked on public roads. This needs to be brought to the attention of the Police

Sandra shared that a resident has installed CCTV at Jubilee Court on Council property and this invades personal privacy. Cllr Cowdy suggested discussing this with the residents committee or with the Police when reporting the car concerns

Karen S shared that the water on the C51 road near to West Lodge is bad. C roads only get checked every 3 years (B roads every month). The water is now damaging the road. Cllr Nicoll will chase this up

Karen S shared that the sign at the Blairs Road/ Dundee Street crossroads needs renovating

Gail shared that a resident has asked her about the Council houses on Dundee Road – to confirm that the back gardens include a right of way for all the houses. One resident has built a solid fence at the back of their house which prevents access now. Cllr Cowdy will look into this

David raised that the site next to Central Motors is being used and needs to be fenced off. Also, there has been no change of use planning application submitted. Cllr Nicoll had investigated with the Roads department but there is no action they can take as it is privately owned. The road is an unclassified road. Cllr

Shepherd suggested that if the situation escalates then further investigation could happen

Close: Wendy thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.52pm

DONM: Thursday 20th March 2025