

MUCKHART COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Muckhart Community Council held in the Coronation Hall on Wednesday 9th October 2013 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Jon Jordan, Chair (JJ)
Marlene White, Vice-chair (MW)
Stuart Dean, Secretary (SD)
John Anderson, Treasurer (JA)
Danny Conroy (DC)
Douglas Fisher (DF)
Margot McKerrell (MM)
Matthew Pease (MEP)
Mireille Pouget (MP)

In attendance: Cllr Alastair Campbell; Cllr Kathleen Martin; PC Louise Harding, Community Constable; PC Euan Mitchell, Police Engagement Officer for the 2014 Ryder Cup; and 9 members of the community.

1. Apologies for Absence/Introductions

Apologies were received from Niall Simpson and Colin Mann.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Stuart Dean, as Chair of the Friends of the Ochils, declared an interest in relation to Agenda Item 11. The paper by Drew Jamieson was written with the support of the Friends of the Ochils.

Matthew Pease declared a conflict of interest in relation to Agenda Item 12 - the planning application, Ref: 13/00200/FULL, for a new house and restoration of the Japanese Garden, Cowden, Dollar.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

MP asked that the Minute be amended to reflect that a travel and transport issue was dealt with under item 9. With that change the Minutes of the meeting of 4th September 2013 were accepted as an accurate record.

Proposer: Douglas Fisher. Seconder: Marlene White.

4. Matters Arising

The following notes on Matters Arising from the meeting of 29th May 2013 were

distributed prior to the meeting:

Item 4. Matters Arising. (Item 11 in Minutes of 27th March 2013) Burnfoot Wind Farm planning applications. The Rhodders Wind Farm application for 6 turbines, which was refused by Clackmannanshire Council Planning Committee on 17th June 2013, has been appealed to Scottish Ministers. Meanwhile the Reporter has dismissed the appeal for the Frandy Wind Farm.

Item 9. Demand Responsive Transport for Muckhart – update. The bid for the wider Muckhart and West Kinross-shire DRT service is proceeding and an announcement is expected at the end of October 2013. It was agreed that meanwhile it was not appropriate to pursue the original contract for a Muckhart DRT service.

5. Police Report

PC Harding indicated that there was no crime to report since the last meeting. However residents were asked to report on police telephone number 101 if a white transit van with a flashing orange light is seen in the area. Such a van had been seen previously in Kirkhill.

PC Euan Mitchell reported further on the transport arrangements for the 2014 Ryder Cup at Gleneagles. A meeting for community representatives, attended by MP, was held in the Loch Leven Community Campus on 16th September 2013 and a follow up meeting is planned for February 2014.

The arrangements for the park and ride buses from Balado to Gleneagles were outlined and there followed a discussion on the details. Whilst the A823 through Glendevon would not be one-way, buses will travel in a clockwise loop from Balado through Glen Devon to Gleneagles, returning to Balado via the A9 and the M90. Passes will be made available for residents in Glen Devon and for those needing to access properties in the glen. Residents in Muckhart, Glendevon etc will be required to access buses at Balado although special arrangements may be available for those staying at the Tormaukin Hotel. Sufficient resources will be available to deal with any accidents en route between Balado and Gleneagles. The number of bus journeys is likely to be 'less than 200' per day. A 24 hour contact number will be available as with T in the Park which will be used as a model for the traffic arrangements for the Ryder Cup.

6. Road Safety and Traffic Management in the Muckhart area

JJ outlined the background to this Agenda item and how it will be taken forward by the community council. After the previous meeting a letter was received from residents requesting that the issue be placed on the agenda for the next MCC meeting. The issues of speeding and road safety were further highlighted by the street surgery held by Keith Brown MSP on Friday 20th September 2013. However it was decided that, rather than invite Council officials to the MCC meeting on 9th October, it would be better to invite them to attend the MCC meeting on 27th November. This would give time for the Council

to formulate responses to the concerns raised by residents, Keith Brown and the Community Council. It would also give time for information to be obtained from traffic surveys etc. and for the Police Scotland Roads Policing Unit to be involved in discussions with Clackmannanshire Council.

Discussion followed on a wide range of issues relating to road safety, traffic speeds and traffic management. It was agreed that the Community Council would write to Clackmannanshire Council officials and provide a note on the key concerns. It is hoped that the notes will assist the Council to find solutions to the various road safety problems raised by interested parties

ACTION SD

7. Draft Clackmannanshire Local Development Plan – housing proposals for Muckhart.

SD outlined the latest developments. Following the publication of the early draft of the LDP which proposed 160 houses on site HF 48, the Council reduced the number of houses to 80. However it transpired that the original settlement boundary was to be retained as for 160 houses with the remaining land retained as ‘white land’ which would “... give an indication of the longer term vision and allow for a longer term high quality Masterplan to be prepared”. However a further change resulted in a reduction in the number of housing units to 80 but without the extended settlement boundary.

Nevertheless Cllr Campbell indicated that he took the wishes of the Muckhart community to be for no more than 35 houses and that he felt that he could get support for a further reduction in the number of housing units detailed in the LDP prior to it going out for public consultation. Cllr Martin supported that position.

Meanwhile MCC office bearers decided that whilst the present confusion existed over the content of the final LDP draft there should be no discussions with the developer as proposed at the previous MCC meeting. This decision was supported by MCC members.

8. Co-option of new MCC member – update on progress.

SD reported that the notice dealing with the MCC vacancy has been placed on the Notice Board along with the agreed procedure for co-option onto Muckhart Community Council. If a new community council member is to be co-opted onto MCC at the next meeting on 27th November 2013 it will be necessary for the Secretary to receive nominations in writing by 6th November. MCC members were asked to encourage residents to stand.

ACTION ALL

9. Community Council Protocol Document – update

The Clackmannanshire Community Council Protocol document, which describes the understanding between the Council and community councils, is being edited. The key sections being revised relate to funding for community council meetings and consultation procedures on the Local Development Plan. Comments on the proposed changes are

required to be submitted to Lesley Baillie by 14th November 2013 for further consideration at the next JCCF meeting in December. MP and DF agreed to assist with the review of the proposed changes. **ACTION SD, MP, DF**

10. Ochils Landscape Partnership – MCC representative on OLP

JJ pointed out that Meriel Cairns who was the MCC representative on the OLP is no longer on MCC and therefore a new representative is now required. Members were asked to consider if they are able to take up the post. There are 4 to 5 meetings per year.

ACTION ALL

11. Drew Jamieson’s Paper: “The Ochils – A Special Place”

SD outlined the background to the paper which had been distributed prior to the meeting. It contains proposals for a more co-ordinated approach to the management of the Ochils by the various interested bodies such as the three local authorities covering the hill range, the seventeen community councils with an interest in the Ochils, SNH etc. There was support from MCC for the ideas and proposals contained in the paper and Drew Jamieson would be informed of that support. **ACTION SD**

12. Reports from the MCC sub-groups – Planning; Publicity; Travel and Transport.

PLANNING GROUP:

(MEP left the meeting at this point due to a conflict of interest over the following planning item.)

Ref: 13/00200/FULL. Proposed new house and restoration of Japanese Garden, Cowden, Dollar.

JA outlined the history of this proposal and the content of the original MCC letter to the earlier application for the house and Japanese Garden which was withdrawn (Ref: 12/00283/FULL)

It was then proposed that MCC supports the new application in principal but recognising that, whilst the house is a development in the countryside, the gain associated with the restoration of the Japanese Garden justifies its construction. However planning consent should only be given if it is restored to a standard acceptable to Historic Scotland, and it is maintained to a satisfactory standard. It was agreed that a representation from MCC should be submitted covering the above points. **ACTION JA**

PUBLICITY GROUP: MW detailed the work that has been undertaken on the Muckhart website. Training has started for those with responsibility for website content in the various local groups. It would be formally launched with the necessary publicity once the work in progress has resulted in an up-to-date site.

TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT: The road safety and traffic management issues were dealt with under Agenda Item 6 whilst the traffic issues resulting from the Ryder Cup were dealt with during the Police Report.

13. Report on JCCF meeting on 19th September 2013

MP reported that excessive time was spent on policing issues and licensing matters which left little time for other agenda items. However the Community Council Protocol document was referenced with a view to edits being discussed and agreed at the next meeting of the JCCF in December. There was no discussion on the JCCF constitution issue.

14. Treasurer's Report

The following report was distributed prior to the meeting:

BALANCE AT LAST MEETING **£1704.26**

Expenditure:

Nil

Income:

Nil

CURRENT BALANCE (as at 3 October 2013) **£1704.26**

JA reported that all relevant documents have now been handed over by the previous Treasurer and that meeting costs for MCC meetings have been claimed.

The Report was noted.

15. Correspondence

Details of correspondence were distributed prior to the meeting and copies were available to view.

16. AOCB

The following matters were raised under AOCB.

- SD reported that a review is being undertaken by Clackmannanshire Council into Polling Districts and Polling Places in Clackmannanshire. It was agreed that the status quo should prevail except that, if it did so, the anomalies would still exist whereby, because the community council boundary between Muckhart and Dollar is not exactly the same as the polling district boundary, a few properties in the MCC area poll in Dollar and vice versa. **ACTION SD**

- DC reported that the MCC Emergency Planning Group is due to meet on Monday 14th October.
- Marilyn Smith attended the meeting of the Clackmannanshire Public Partnership Forum on 10th September 2013 on behalf of MCC. Her report on the meeting which was distributed previously to MCC members was noted. Marilyn was thanked for her report.
- Police Scotland is carrying out reviews of Police Public Counter Service provision and the Traffic Warden Service. It was agreed not to respond to the consultation as the matters were more relevant to urban rather than rural areas of Clackmannanshire.
- SD announced that the Kirkin' of the Council Service is due to take place in Alva Baptist Church on Sunday 27th October at 11.00.am

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next MCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 27th November 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Coronation Hall.