

**Minutes of Muckhart Community Meeting  
held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016  
in the Coronation Hall**

**In Attendance;**

Marlene White	(MW)	Acting Chair
Stuart Dean	(SD)	Secretary
John Anderson	(JA)	Treasurer
Colin Mann	(CM)	
Margot McKerrell	(MM)	
Mireille Pouget	(MP)	
Niall Simpson	(NS)	
Mike Wilson	(MRW)	
Douglas Fisher	(DF)	Minutes Secretary

Cllr Campbell and 8 members of the public were in attendance

**Item 1. Apologies for Absence/Introductions**

Apologies for absence were received from Jon Jordan (JJ), Danny Conroy (DC), Matthew Pease (MEP) and Cllr Hamilton and Cllr Martin

**Item 2. Declarations of Interest**

SD declared an interest in Item 10 in relation to the application by Scottish Power Renewables for five further wind turbines at the Greenknowes Wind Farm.

**Item 3. Minutes of Meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2105**

The minutes were approved by the Council

Proposer: JA

Seconder: MRW

**Item 4. Matters Arising**

Item 7. Fracking. MRW updated the community council on Underground Coal Gasification (UCG). A press release stated that plans for a UCG plant at Kincardine, Fife have been put on hold. Cluff Natural Resources have stopped all expenditure on the project following the Scottish government imposing a moratorium on UCG.

Item 8. H49 Proposed Housing Development. As yet no date has been given by the consultants for their meeting with the community.

## **Item 5. Police Report**

MW welcomed PCs Barry Reiter and Reggie Ryles.

There was one reported theft – that of a quad bike from Westerhall Farm.

PC Ryles told the meeting that they had monitored speeding through the village on two occasions. There was a view that future monitoring could include showing drivers their speed.

## **Future Budget Cuts (Additional item)**

Cllr Campbell gave a detailed brief on the cuts Clackmannanshire Council will have to make in Financial Year 2016/17. These amount to £10m. Given that the Council has certain statutory obligations, attention is being focused the other services provided by the Council.

He then gave details of the performance of schools in the county. Clackmannanshire has the poorest performance record of all the Scottish Local Authorities. For the last three years in an effort to save money, Clackmannanshire has shared administrative costs on education and social work with Stirling Council. The education arrangement will now cease and alternative solutions are now being sought. One proposal is that each of the three secondary schools is fed exclusively from specified primary schools. This would give more responsibility to the schools, thus hopefully reducing the administrative burden on the Council.

## **Item 6. Muckhart Community Plan - update**

JA updated the meeting on progress. So far it was going to plan. Two more workshops are planned for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> February and Community Councillors are asked to attend.

**ACTION JA**

## **Item 7. Community Council Elections and meeting dates for 2016**

Because of the uncertainty over the date for the European Referendum, dates for the election of new community councils cannot be confirmed. If CC elections are postponed the provisional dates for the new MCC for 2016 may also have to be changed.

## **Item 8. Roads Issues**

The overall situation concerning the A91 has not changed and is unlikely to do so until the Forth Road Bridge is opened to all traffic. However the Gateway signs and footpath improvements are programmed to be carried out before the end of this financial year.

The matter of vegetation on the Golf Course road was raised. Clacks Council is only responsible for ensuring that road signs are visible and for verge clearance.

Landowners are responsible for vegetation in their property and as such must clear that which causes an obstruction to the public highway.

The gritting of School Road was again raised and MRW will be following up this matter.

**ACTION MRW**

### **Item 9. Scottish Government Charette Programme**

SD explained the aim of the programme which is being sponsored by the Scottish Government. Further funding may be available for FY 2016/17.

There could be benefits when taking forward community developments arising as a result of the Muckhart Plan **ACTION SD, JA**

### **Item 10. Reports from the MCC sub-groups -Planning and Publicity**

**Planning:** It was agreed that no representation should be made in relation to the planned extension of Green Knowes Wind Farm.

Discussion took place on the availability of windfarm monies for the Muckhart area and it was agreed that CM would draft a letter exploring the opportunities for such funding. **ACTION CM**

**Publicity:** The website is being used more. Hopefully this will continue. Please forward material for the website to MW.

### **Item 11. JCCF Report**

A meeting of the JCCF was held on 28<sup>th</sup> January. JJ and DC were in attendance. Budget issues were discussed. It was agreed that the Scheme of Establishment for Clacks CCs would be reviewed after the CC elections. A JCCF representative is to be appointed to the Clackmannanshire Alliance Executive Group.

There are to be two events coming up:

‘Future Proofing Your Group’ - 2 February

‘Community Conference’ - 12 March

SD asked members to contact him if they wished to attend.

### **Item 12. Treasurer’s Report**

There has been no income or expenditure over the period. No change.

### **Item 13. Correspondence**

Little formal correspondence received over the Christmas/New Year period. SD can provide copies of emails if required.

**Item 14. ACOB**

As part of the Scotland Garden Scheme, a number of gardens in the village are to be open to the public on 22<sup>nd</sup> May. To enhance the overall appearance of the village, a number of garden tubs will be placed strategically throughout the village. After initial planting these will need maintenance. The organisers would like the village “adopt” the tubs either individually or as a group. Members agreed to adopt one tub.

MP asked about the status of Drumburn Road and the erection of signs to help delivery drivers overcome the shortcomings of their satnavs. Further discussion required on this issue. Meanwhile a resident will try to see if changes can be made to satnav information.

**Item 15. Date of Next Meeting.**

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 in the Coronation Hall starting at 7.30pm.