

MUCKHART COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Muckhart Community Council held in the Coronation Hall on Wednesday 28th November 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Jon Jordan, Chair
Marlene White, Vice-chair
Stuart Dean, Secretary
Terry Hollis, Treasurer
John Anderson
Danny Conroy
Douglas Fisher
Colin Mann
Margot McKerrell
Matthew Pease
Niall Simpson

In attendance: PC James Miller, Gemma Wild from the Scottish Civic Trust and 6 members of the community.

1. Apologies for Absence/Introductions

Apologies were received from Mireille Pouget and from Cllr Alastair Campbell, Cllr Kathleen Martin, and from PC Louise Harding. Gemma Wild, Heritage and Design Officer in The Scottish Civic Trust, was welcomed to the meeting.

2. Declarations of conflict of interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of 5th September 2012 were accepted as an accurate record.
Proposer: Terry Hollis. Seconder: John Anderson.

The Minutes and Note of the Meeting of 24th October 2012 were also accepted as an accurate record.

Proposer: Terry Hollis. Seconder: Matthew Pease.

4. Matters Arising

SD summarised the matters arising from both the Minutes of 5th September 2012 and the Note of the Meeting on 24th October 2012.

Two key issues were discussed. Douglas Fisher raised the issue of the speed differential between the 20 and 60 mph limits at the west end of the village and suggested that this was too great. Also the excessive speed of vehicles entering and leaving the 20mph zone at both the east and west end of the village was noted. These issues were further discussed under the Police Report.

A member of the public raised the issue of the poor state of the footpath between Yetts and the Pool of Muckhart and the danger posed to pedestrians by the traffic on the A91, particularly if they walked on the road to avoid the very muddy sections of the footpath. This was a particular problem for school children walking between Yetts and the Pool. A suggestion that the school bus for Kinross High School pupils might come to the Pool was discounted as being unrealistic in the circumstances by Marlene White.

It was agreed that the Roads and Transport sub group would look into the above issues and respond as appropriate. **ACTION MM AND MP**

5. Police Report

PC James Miller presented a written Police Report and spoke to the two incidents detailed in the report. The incident involving an approach made to a 15 year old female by a car driver between Yetts and the Pool has been recorded at present as an undetected crime and various actions have been carried out by the police including informing all local schools and warning of the dangers involved when approached by strangers.

The other incident, involving a road traffic offence of dangerous driving at Yetts, led to further discussion on road safety. Matters covered included the need for better road markings at the Yetts junction; the need for count down speed markers at the beginning of the 20 mph limit; the use of hand held radar by the police within the 20 mph zone; overtaking within the 20 mph zone by drivers impatient at being 'held up' by cars keeping to the speed limit and the need for traffic management measures to be installed at the east and west ends of the 20 mph zone. In relation to the last issue a request was made by Matthew Pease that any such measures were in keeping with the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.

It was agreed that the Roads and Transport sub group would look further into the road safety issues detailed above and report back to the Community Council. **ACTION MM AND MP**

PC Miller outlined further issues including house breaking in Dollar; the problems resulting from the fracture of a gas pipe line supplying hillfoot towns such as Dollar and Tillicoultry; the need for the public to be extra vigilant over the Christmas period and the closure of the police office in Tillicoultry and the opening of a new office in the Ben Cleuch Centre, Tillicoultry – the new community hub in the town.

Finally it was confirmed that there are no events in the Muckhart area over the Christmas

period which require policing. The Chair thanked PC Miller for providing an excellent written report prior to the meeting – a welcomed development.

6. Conservation Area Appraisal – the way forward. Gemma Wild of the Scottish Civic Trust in attendance

Gemma Wild from the Scottish Civic Trust outlined the brief that she has been given by Clackmannanshire Council for the completion of the Conservation Area Appraisal (CAA) for Muckhart. She will bring together previous documentation on the CAA and the final draft is to be completed by 11th January 2013. It will go out for full public consultation in the Spring along with the new Local Development Plan (LDP) and, once adopted, it will form supplementary guidance to the LDP. Muckhart will be the first CAA to be completed in Clackmannanshire after which the format established will be used for other CAAs in the county.

A number of issues were discussed including the importance of the CAA to the siting of any proposed new housing for Muckhart; the importance of views in and out of the Conservation Area (CA); the need for Gemma Wild to see previous CAA drafts and comments on them by the Muckhart community; boundary issues in relation to the CA; the need to include guidelines for property owners on, for example, permitted developments, use of materials etc.

It was agreed that a community group would meet with Gemma Wild on the 12th December to discuss key issues relating to the CAA. Stuart Dean would convene the meeting, and also forward to Gemma the 2007 and 2009 CAA drafts and the community responses to them.

ACTION SD

7. MCC sub groups and their operation, including selection of representatives for NHS matters and the Ochils Landscape Partnership

The sub groups established at the meeting on the 24th October were confirmed. However it was agreed that the Planning and Development Planning group would only deal with planning applications and not development planning issues. The draft remit of the group would be edited accordingly. Changes have also been proposed to the wording of the remit of the Roads and Transportation Group as well as its title. SD to liaise with the group to agree a finalised draft which will then be distributed for approval by MCC.

ACTION SD

The need for a community representative on the Clackmannanshire Community Health Partnership: Public Partnership Forum who could report back to the Community Council was discussed. In the absence of a MCC member on the forum, it was agreed that SD would approach a member of the community who already attends to ask if she would be prepared to represent MCC on the forum.

ACTION SD

It was agreed that Colin Mann would represent MCC on the Ochils Landscape Partnership.

ACTION CM

8. MCC meeting dates for 2013, including the AGM

SD tabled the proposed dates for MCC meetings in 2013, including the AGM. The following dates were agreed: 23rd January, 27th March, 29th May, 4th September (including the AGM), 9th October and 27th November. All meetings will be held in the Coronation Hall and commence at 7.30 pm. SD will ensure that these dates are publicised within the community and forwarded to elected representatives etc.

ACTION SD

9. Consultation on proposed closure of Alloa Sheriff Court

MCC recently received an email from Lesley Baillie, Community Planning Adviser for Clackmannanshire Council requesting comment from the Community Council on the proposal by the Scottish Court Service to close Alloa Sheriff Court and move its business to Stirling and Falkirk. There was unanimous agreement that MCC should object to this proposal. SD to respond to LB by 7th December as requested and to also let elected representatives know of our objection to this proposal.

ACTION SD

10. Recent closure of A977 at Crook of Devon – response to PKC

SD outlined the background to the decision by Perth and Kinross Council to close the A977 for about a week, commencing Monday 12th November 2012, to enable road works to be undertaken, with traffic on the A977 diverted along the A823 and the A91 via Yetts of Muckhart. MCC first learnt about the closure from Fossoway Community Council and it transpired that Clackmannanshire Council only heard about the closure from MCC. It was agreed that MCC would write to PKC objecting to the lack of consultation on a major road closure which directly impacted on Muckhart.

ACTION SD

11. Consultation by Scottish Water on shaping the future of water and waste water services.

MCC recently received a communication from Scottish Water indicating that SW have recently launched a major consultation encouraging customers to help shape the future of water and waste water services in Scotland between now and 2040. Responses are requested by 12th February 2013 and can be given in writing or online through the SW website www.scottishwater.co.uk/yourviewscount. SD to coordinate a MCC response.

ACTION SD

12. Treasurer's Report

The following report was distributed prior to the meeting:

BALANCE AT LAST MEETING

£1938.10

Expenditure:

Repayment of Hall Rentals Subsidy	£138.00
Hall Rental 24.10.12	£36.00
Wine for first meeting	<u>£36.84</u>
Total	£210.84

Income:

Nil

CURRENT BALANCE

£1727.26

TH outlined the details of an email from Lesley Baillie in which she indicated that Clackmannanshire Council was making available a grant of £300 to enable community councils to improve their IT capability. Itemised requests could be made for hardware, software and anti-virus, web services, training and consumables etc. A written request must be submitted to LB by 12 noon on Friday, 21st December. It was agreed any monies could best be used by MCC for improving publicity etc. MCC would apply for the funding grant and TH would coordinate the application.

ACTION TH/NS/MW/MM

13. Correspondence

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

One item was an email from Gary Bolton, Woodland Trust Scotland officer for the Glen Devon WTS woodlands. It notified the Community Council that ash dieback has been discovered in the Glen Quey woodland and that information on the necessary bio-security measures etc would be advised by the Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) and notices posted at all access points in Glen Quey, Glen Sherup and Geordie's Wood. Colin Mann kindly gave his professional analysis of the ash dieback problem and answered questions on matters relating to the measures likely to be taken by FCS.

It was agreed that the email from Gary Bolton would be forwarded to the MNP committee.

ACTION TH

14. AOCB

Matthew Pease gave details of a planning application that will shortly be submitted to Clackmannanshire Council for a house at Cowden. The proposed development will be linked to the restoration of the Japanese Garden at Cowden to which limited public access would be allowed. Improvements would also be made to the entrance to the proposed property on A91. The information was noted.

15. Date of Next Meeting

The next MCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 23rd January 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Coronation Hall.