

# MUCKHART COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Muckhart Community Council, held in the Coronation Hall, on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018, at 7:30pm

**Present:** John Anderson (JA) Chair  
Mike Wilson (MRW) Secretary  
Danny Conroy (DC) Treasurer  
Jonathan Bacon (JB)  
Stuart Dean (SD)  
Jon Jordan (JJ)  
Val Whyte (VW)  
Peter Wyatt (PW)

Councillor Graham Lindsay, PC Barry Ritchie

**Status:** **Approved**

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bill Mason and Kathleen Martin. Apologies were also received from MCC members Patrick Thompson (PT), Philip Lord (PL), Marlene White (MW) and Matthew Pease (MP).

### 2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

### 3. Minutes of Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Cllr Mason had requested an amendment to the Council budget saving figure quoted in the Minutes, from one third of a million pounds to £12.5 million. Further to this requested amendment being agreed, the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted, proposed by DC and seconded by SD.

### 4. Matters Arising

- Re item 13 (AOCB - Fossoway Bridge repairs): MRW reported that in reply to a query raised by MCC, an email had been received, from P&KC, dated 30<sup>th</sup> November, advising that consideration was being given to the permanent positioning of traffic lights at Fossoway (aka Devon) Bridge. The email stated that “repairs to the bridge continue to be a financial strain on Perth & Kinross Council, and delays due to these repair works are a major inconvenience to the local community due to the regular occurrence of accidents and the significant cost of repairing damage to the bridge.”

Further to some discussion, it was agreed that MCC contact P&KC to suggest the introduction of further traffic management and speed control measures, such as raised

rumbling strips, on both approaches to the bridge, and/or traffic priority signage, as potential, alternative solutions.

**ACTION: MRW**

- JA congratulated the Hall Committee on the successful community Light Up Muckhart event and thanked all those who had helped to arrange and take part in this.

## **5. Police Report**

PC Ritchie reported that no crimes had been reported in the Muckhart area, since the last MCC Meeting.

Everyone present was reminded to take extra care when driving along the A91, due to recent reports of incidents involving fallen trees, sheep, deer, cyclists and caravans and the dangers posed by winter weather.

JA thanked PC Ritchie for his report.

## **6. Muckhart Community Plan: Update**

### **A: Development Trust Working Group Update**

JA reported, on behalf of PT, that, due to work and other commitments, the report being prepared by Alison MacDonald, outlining the pros and cons of the various types of trust, has been delayed. A Working Group meeting will now be arranged, for a date mid-January, and the final report and its recommendations will be presented to MCC, possibly, at a special meeting for members, after this.

**ACTION: PT**

### **B: Review of Action Plans**

A few updates to specific items in the MCP were reported:

#### ***Image of the Village, I1 Lead PW***

JA reported that an outline plan for the visitor area at Glebe Field had been prepared for consideration by the Church.

PW reported that a leaflet has been produced, to encourage members of the community to volunteer to help deliver the Muckhart entry into the Beautiful Scotland competition. The leaflet is to be ready for distribution early in January.

It was agreed that PW and MRW would review the content of the leaflet and that MRW would contact the Council to enquire about a photocopy service to produce the number of leaflets required.

**ACTION: PW / MRW**

#### ***Infrastructure: I-1/2, Lead MRW***

**Drumburn Road:** MRW reported that further to detailed investigations into landownership and access rights / path usage, an update meeting was held on 4<sup>th</sup> December with the landowner and the Council's Access Officer, to progress a solution to address landowner and resident

concerns regarding vehicular access along the path. It was confirmed that landownership had been established and that the Council agreed to follow-up on outstanding issues, to progress the project.

**Upper Hillfoot Road:** MRW reported that following a meeting between JA, SD & MRW, two subsequent meetings took place with the Council, on 29<sup>th</sup> November, between JA, SD & MW and the Council's Access Officer, followed by a meeting with the Head of Planning, to discuss the progress made to date with EPIC, regarding the development of a new foot path and Council requirements for a related consultation process and planning application.

On 4<sup>th</sup> December, SD & MRW met with the Chair of EPIC to provide an update, regarding the Council feedback provided, during the meetings on the 29<sup>th</sup>, and concerns raised by Cowden Residents, at a meeting held with them, on 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec. It was agreed that further consultation was required with the landowner regarding the potential use of the northern side of Upper Hillfoot Road, from the A91 to just short of the Japanese Garden boundary wall.

**Traffic Management & Road Safety Officer:** MRW reported that an Officer has yet to be appointed by the Council, to replace Carlyn Fraser, who left the post at the end of August. It was agreed that MRW should contact Alan Murray and Stuart Cullen, at the Council, to request a meeting to progress the outstanding works, associated with the village gateway, and to discuss the agreed proposals, contained in the updated Action Plan, to improve and develop new foot and cycle paths and for further road safety improvements, across the Muckhart area.

**ACTION: MRW**

The next Infrastructure Working Group meeting will be held either next week or w/c 14<sup>th</sup> January.

***Business Development: B-1 Lead MRW; B-2 Lead JB***

MRW reported that he had been advised, on 6<sup>th</sup> November, that Joyce Burnett, Secretary of MGC and a member of the Working Group, was leaving MGC. Contact has since been established with Chris Higgo, from the Club, who will be taking the lead on broadband issues, on behalf of MGC, and an update meeting is to be arranged.

**ACTION: MRW**

***Active Community: A-1 & A-2 Lead JB; A-3 Lead JA***

JB reported a form to be used by local volunteers and businesses, to register the services being offered, was now available on the MCC web-site. It was noted that MCC will not endorse or recommend any services that are being offered but, simply, will provide a description of the services on offer together with the contact details.

It was agreed to post a message on the MCC Facebook page to bring residents attention to this service.

**ACTION: MW**

***Public Services: P-1 Lead PL***

MRW, reported for PL, that it was agreed at a recent CCTA meeting that the group felt it was

not achieving what it had hoped for and that a review of its purpose and activities would take place. A scoping and definition program will be undertaken together with a review of Clacks-wide transport needs. The next CCTA is scheduled for January. PL to attend. **ACTION: PL**

## **7. Planning Sub-Group**

- SD reported that MCC had received an email from a house building company, Springfield Properties, to advise that it had been appointed as the preferred developer for the part of site H49 owned by the Izat family. The company will be looking to progress a planning application for the site, over the course of 2019, and have also engaged with Mr Tim Allan regarding the land that he owns, within H49.

The company has offered to meet with MCC representatives to discuss their initial thoughts re H49, its intended approach to formal community engagement on the planning application and also the views MCC has on the development of this land. The meeting has been arranged for 13<sup>th</sup> December. **ACTION: JA / SD / MRW**

During the following discussion, SD confirmed the wishes of the Muckhart community outlined in the Community Plan, and included in the Local Development Plan (LDP), that a maximum of 35 homes should be built, across the whole of site H49, which would include a number of affordable homes. SD also noted, however, that although the number of houses allocated to H49 had been reduced from 80 to 35, when the current LDP was being prepared, it was not agreed, at the time, to reduce the amount of land allocated to the site, commensurately.

Given the size of site H49, a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) must first be submitted to the Council by the developer. The PAN details how the Pre-application Consultation (PAC) process with MCC and the Muckhart community is to be conducted.

The PAC process offers MCC and the community the opportunity to express ideas and to raise any concerns, regarding the proposed development. When a planning application for houses on H49 is submitted to the Council, it must be accompanied by a pre-application report, outlining the consultation that has taken place and how any responses provided by the community have been dealt with in the preparation of the final planning application. The PAC process provides the opportunity for MCC and the community to raise matters relating, for example, to the number and size of the housing to be provided, together with policy issues like 'Designing Streets' and the proximity of the site to the Conservation Area. SD to keep a watching brief on any developments related to the PAN / PAC. **ACTION SD**

- SD reported that, during the meeting MCC held with Cowden area residents, to discuss their experience of Upper Hillfoot Road being used to access and egress the Japanese Garden, issues were raised regarding the passing places stipulated by the Council's Planning Department. It was stated that some passing places are not in the correct location, as specified in the Planning Permission, and that questions remained as to the

ownership of portions of the land where the passing places were being positioned.

**ACTION: SD**

During the discussion, it was agreed that MCC should contact Roads to request that the Council monitors the volume of traffic using Upper Hillfoot Road, via a MetroCount system, to establish a traffic volume baseline, to help measure any increase in traffic volumes, moving forward, and to ensure that these volumes are within the guidelines specified for a Quiet Road.

**ACTION: SD**

- SD advised that the Planning Application for a sign to advertise the Japanese Garden, which was to have been located at the junction of the A91 with the Upper Hillfoot Road, had been withdrawn. SD noted that Roads had submitted a letter to Planning, stating that the sign would act as a distraction to drivers and that it did not conform to Council sign post policy.

## **8. Publicity: Update**

PW noted there was nothing to report.

## **9. Muckhart Primary School: Update**

VW reported that:

- The Soup and Sweet event was well attended and a total of £900 was raised. Thanks to everyone who helped to organise and attend this event
- Discussions are taking place to establish a nursery within the School
- Alison Mann and Margaret McMillan (Maggs) are stepping down from their role of assisting with groups of children within the School. MCC would like to record its sincere thanks for all of the effort that both Alison and Maggs have put in to assisting the School, over many years
- The School is looking for new volunteers to help encourage children to read more in the library and to help out with the School / community Garden. Anyone who may be interested should contact Lesley McGlinchie at the School
- The initiative to encourage children to walk to School continues to be successful
- The Parent Council is planning to launch a Facebook page for former pupils
- The two classroom arrangement now in place at the School is reported to be working well with the library being used as a 'break out' room for groups of older children

## **10. Treasurer's Report**

DC presented the Treasurer's Report, for the period to 5<sup>th</sup> December. The balance of the account stood unchanged at £1155.17.

The Report was accepted by members.

## 11. Correspondence

MRW had circulated a list of correspondence received, in a summary format. A few items were noted and discussed, namely:

- MCC responses were provided, as agreed at the last meeting, to consultations on Clackmannanshire Polling and Polling Places and the Council's draft Corporate Plan
- Members agreed to set-up a group to respond to the Government consultation on the Restricted Roads (20 mph Speed Limit) (Scotland) Bill organised by the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee (close date: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019) **ACTION: MRW**
- Members agreed to support the Clackmannanshire & Stirling Alcohol & Drug Partnership alcohol safety campaign via the MCC web-site and Facebook page **ACTION: MRW / MW**
- Further to the correspondence received advising that two taxi operators have left the DRT scheme, MRW has requested an update on progress being made by PK&C and the Council to recruit replacement operators and to provide current DRT usage statistics. **ACTION: MRW**

## 12. JCCF

DC provided an update on the JCCF meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November during which discussions took place on the positive use of the recently adopted Complaints Procedure and on the future role of the JCCF. A further meeting is to be arranged to discuss ideas submitted.

**ACTION: DC**

It was reported that the JCCF has recently lost its seat on the Clackmannanshire Alliance.

MCC Officers met on 2<sup>nd</sup> December to discuss and agree amendments to the current MCC Constitution and Complaints Procedure documentation, following recent updates to the CC Scheme of Establishment and the release of the new Complaints Procedure. A further meeting is to be arranged, for sometime in January, to complete these update of the Standing Orders, following which the draft documents will be distributed for review and agreement by members, prior to be submitted back to the Council for approval.

**ACTION: MRW**

## 13. AOCB

- Cllr Lindsay reported that he had received positive feedback regarding the change to classes at the Primary School and will continue to monitor the progress being made

## 14. Date of Next Meeting

The next MCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019, at 7:30pm, in the Coronation Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:00pm.