

ABERFELDY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting

Aberfeldy Town Hall

Tuesday 5th February 2019 at 7.30pm

MINUTES DRAFT

Welcome

Present: Victor Clements (Chair), Jean Duff (Treasurer), Avril Taylor (Secretary), Ian Menzies, Lorraine Reed, Cllr John Duff, Cllr Xander McDade, PCs Steve Band and Jamie Elder, 3 X Scottish Fire & Rescue Service personnel and 15 members of the public.

Mark Jenkins had to step down from the community council due to other commitments. We thank Mark for his time. Ruby Blair has agreed to join as Minutes Secretary, hopefully from March.

Apologies

Cllr Mike Williamson, Elaine Murdoch, Pat Spicer, Ruby Blair.

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were taken as read, proposed by AT and seconded by LR.

Matters Arising

The branches were no longer a problem at the Kenmore St roundabout.

AT had set up a generic CC email address.

JD had paid insurance money for speeding group.

Discussion of drains policy deferred to March meeting.

John Duff is pursuing replacement pads for defibrillators.

Crime Prevention and Community Safety

Kenmore Street Fire

There had been a serious house fire on Kenmore St on Friday 1st Feb. No-one was hurt, but the Aberfeldy fire crew could not attend because they were unable to raise the required four personnel. Three fire engines attended from Pitlochry, Dunkeld and Perth, and the Aberfeldy personnel were able to help them when they arrived. The fire was put out at 2am, with very extensive damage to the building. The situation was very distressing for all concerned, not least our local crew.

The Aberfeldy station held an open evening on 5th February, and there was a very positive response to this, with a good prospect of now recruiting extra local members. There has also been a full time officer taken on to cover Aberfeldy, Pitlochry and Dunkeld, and that will give extra options for all these crews. The local crew plan to host another open day to answer queries about smoke detectors and other issues tat people might have. The consensus at the meeting was that a

serious incident will hopefully now bring some longer term benefit to the town. Aberfeldy Community Council would like to thank all those who helped with the fire, especially our local personnel, and we hope that all those affected will be able to return to some sense of normality as soon as possible.

Police Scotland report

There were now 2 X community constables in HP again. 76 crimes recorded since last meeting, mostly traffic/ vehicle offences, but also 4 X assaults in Aberfeldy, and issues with theft of heating oil. Officers are doing work in schools re educating children about drugs. Mention was also made of thieves targeting higher value/ low weight goods such as jewelry/ cash, and there is also an issue developing re: Itune vouchers scam which people should be aware of.

Resilience Plan

VC had completed resilience plan, and will distribute after meeting for CC comment. Other issues on the Agenda had taken priority.

Phone outage

This event affected both landlines and mobile phones in Aberfeldy. Openreach dealt with the problem very quickly, but the incident was timely reminder of the disruption that loss of communications can have. A death in the town around the same time was not related to the event, and the story carried in local paper was incorrect.

Schools Review

Breadalbane Academy Parent Council had hosted a meeting in the Campus. They were concerned that under the ongoing School Estate Review that S5 & S6 pupils from Pitlochry would return to Pitlochry High school, the Breadalbane Academy roll would fall, justifying fewer teachers, less choice o subjects and lower overall attainment. The situation was extremely politicized, and there was a very real risk of the subject putting Aberfeldy and Pitlochry against each other. The Parent Council believed that the process to date was confusing and flawed, as some of the schools potentially affected by changes at Pitlochry were not consulted.

Aberfeldy CC have said that we would get involved if we were asked to, but for the moment, the Parent Council are leading on this.

Focus Topics:

Flood defence options

PKC have been looking at installing some fairly significant flood defences in Aberfeldy. Staff have been invited to attend March CC meeting to give presentation on the options. Options include flood embankments, retaining walls and river dredging. This is potentially a very significant proposal for Aberfeldy.

Sewage works odour

There is an ongoing issue of odour at the recycling centre and neighbouring facilities, although the problem has subsided at the moment. ACC to keep an eye on this and will contribute to a resolution as required.

Ongoing areas of interest:

Action Partnerships

Avril Taylor will lead on this for Aberfeldy CC, with a meeting on 19th February. Pat Spicer was already on the Transport sub- committee, and there may be a need to delegate further people to various sub groups.

The CIF grant application process is still open to 15th February.

Speeding/Road Safety Group

Pat Spicer had prepared a written report. The group were active in both lobbying and practical work. The pop-up policemen and kids had been working well, but some repairs are now needed, and it is hoped to put them out again in March. Speed data gathered through the Square indicated 30% of cars were doing more than speed limit. There has been input and help to helping??? surveys to inform new School Travel Plan. The Group are looking for new volunteers.

Cultullich Bridge 2019

The council had identified a solution to fixing the bridge in summer 2019. The road may require to be closed overnight on a few occasions to stabilise the embankment allowing one carriageway operating on traffic lights to be kept open during the 7 week repair. The road may be closed for short periods in both directions (eg 20 minutes) to allow the movement of large equipment and the road may require to be closed entirely for a couple of days at the end of the process to resurface it. It will be important to know the detail of this closer to the time and there will be consultation with residents, businesses and other stakeholders once further details are known.

Town Square Re-development

Planning application to go in shortly. A tendering process will begin in the spring, with possible starting of works early summer. This is a big project for Aberfeldy, and will involve some disruption within the town. PKC have been in contact with all businesses around the Square. Aberfeldy CC has unanimously endorsed the proposal.

Common Good Fund

The Putting Green has been let out again for the next 3 years, as per 2018.

Griffin Community Benefit Panel

LR confirmed that the panel are investigating setting up an endowment fund to ensure a legacy beyond the 25 years of Griffin. This was now well advanced.

Reports

Chair

No report

Secretary

There is to be some overnight closures on the A827 at Grandtully shortly, and diversions will be signposted.

The A9 works are stepping up, with, again, night time closures shortly to install central barriers that will allow safer working on the new carriageway. Diversions are likely to be considerable, so people should be aware of that.

Treasurer

There is currently no money in the micro-grant account, due to be topped up shortly. There is £803.54 for the speeding group, and £452.28 in the general administration account. We are also holding £6000 for wages for the community warden.

Councillors Reports

JD reported that there had been Supplementary Planning Guidance published on LDP2, and a consultation period was currently open on this.

4th March was the renewal day for Brown Bin permits.

XMCD reported that PKC had agreed to provide its Living Wage increase to its employees in November last year rather than wait until April. Council meetings were all now being video-recorded, and made available via Youtube afterwards. The PKC budget day is 20th February. A proposal for all school meals in Tayside (Perth and Kinross, Angus and Dundee) to be cooked and frozen centrally at Tayside Contracts central production unit in Dundee before being transported to schools and reheated had been agreed. The consensus of the meeting was that this was a very poor idea.

Planning

A Planning application for the town square works would be submitted shortly.

The refusal of the former Fishers Laundry development had been appealed by the developer. Aberfeldy were asked again to comment, and confirmed we supported the project. It appears that the zoning of the site is the most significant issue, and that the application was perhaps premature.

The Community Council supported the application to restore Dunolly House, with the caveat that its status as a listed building and within the Conservation area should be protected.

AOCB

Comment was made from the floor that PKC had failed to restore the water supply to a number of households timeously in the aftermath of the Kenmore Street fire and that their response was complacent and chaotic. He suggested the working culture at the council needed to be improved.

Date of Next Meeting Tues 5th March 2019

ACTION LIST:

| Who: | Action | By When |
|-------------|---|--------------------------------|
| VC | Finalize Resilience Plan & distribute | 10 th February 2019 |
| VC | Maintain liaison with recycling centre re odour | Feb meeting |
| AT | Attend Action Partnership meeting | 19 th February |
| VC | Delegate Supplementary Planning Guidance | March meeting |
| JoD | Replacement pads for defibrulators | 5 th March 2019 |
| VC | Write to PKC planning in support of Dunolly application | 8 th Feb |

