



Monimail Community Council Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 9th January 2017

at 7.00 pm in Letham Village Hall

1. Present

Community Councillors

Chair, David Hamilton (DH), Vice Chair, Juliet Forrest (JF), Treasurer, John Vaughan (JV), Secretary, Karin Vaughan (KV), Hugh Laidlaw (HL), Pat Laidlaw (PL) and Willie Fenton (WF)

Community Members

Bruce Forrest and Hazel Grant (HG)

Fife Council

Councillor Andy Heer (AH)

2. Apologies

There were no apologies

3. Approval of minutes of the meeting 14th November 2016

Approved by JV Seconded by HL

4. Matters Arising

There were no matter arising

5. Cllr Andy Heer Update and Questions

a) Monimail – Old Cemetery Gates and Trees

AH reported that there had been a motion to discuss dangerous headstones in all of Fife's cemeteries on 1/12/16 in the Council because of the recent death of a child by a falling grave stone in a Glasgow cemetery.

The safety of headstone has been made the first priority.

However there may be more news of the progress of requests for painting of the cemetery gates at the meeting in March.

b) Road signage

The Children Walking signs for the Monimail Road have still to be installed. This item is to remain on the agenda.

c) Verge Creep – Letham to Collessie Road

AH stated that he had raised this issue, but that Fife Council staff had just returned to work after the Christmas / New Year holidays.

HG and PL reported that they had cleared the top of drains, and that mud needed cleared from the Monimail to Collessie Road. She also stated that the passing space needs to be cleared and cleaned at the bottom of Pathcondie / Monimail road junction. She thought that if the mud and soil were cleared away from the “bad bends” then there could be an extra 2 meters of road available for users.

She had been assured by local farm workers who could remember the road being tarred right up to the edges. If the road was cleared this would make it safer for traffic, and both she and Sandy Grant had given this information to Fife Council workers.

HG also reported that a Scots Pine tree on the outskirts of Collessie overhangs and obscures the road

d) Other Questions

There were no further questions

6. Lower Melville Land Fill Site – Obnoxious odours

BF reported that there was a bad smell that morning (9/1/17).

The telephone number that SEPA has asked residents to use to register complaints is their 24 hr. pollution hotline 0800 80 70 60.

JF thought that the number to phone to report complaints should be displayed in the village.

DH pointed out that a lot of money had been spent to correct the problem, and that any action is complaint driven. He had organized a photograph to be published in the Press highlighting the problem of the offensive smells.

PL enquired if the recycle centre was due for closure in 2020. AH confirmed that is when their license expires.

7. School Brae Adoption

JV read out the report that had been emailed to him that morning (09/01/17) from Kevin Smith.

The matter is complicated and adoption is on an 'ad hoc' basis (AH).

There was confusion over the agreement that a turning circle linked to the planning permission granted for the construction of a dwelling house on The Trimmlings was not followed through for various reasons.

Fife Council took full responsibility for this situation and there is now an investigation by a team to examine the possibility of adoption. However there are multi stranded difficulties for the road to be adopted, namely standards relating to lighting and surface, cost and lack of budget.

However a new Fife Council will be elected in May when the report will be noted for their action

Meanwhile as a good will gesture the Council will continue maintenance for the next 6 month.

AH told the meeting that on 16/2/17 there will be a meeting of the budget committee.

DH agreed to write a letter to the Cllr Francis Melville Chair of the North East Fife Area Committee expressing Monimail CC's concerns over this whole situation with a copy to AH.

HG asked if the road markings on School Brae could be repainted as they were barely visible.

8. Replacement Lighting

DH reported that it had been agreed for representatives from Fife Council Transportation and Lighting Departments would make a presentation on the lights at the next CC meeting about their proposals.

AH reported that the residents of Culross and Auchertmuchty were very happy with their new white light street lamps because they improved visibility at night for traffic and pedestrians, and the modern poles blended into the local architecture becoming part of the total environment

9. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the overall balance in the accounts stood at £2813.16 represented by £1620.28 in the Treasurer's Account, £1240.93 in the Savings Account and £47.99 of unrepresented cheques.

JV reported that he still waiting for the cost for a new noticeboard at The Square, Letham

10.Planning Applications

The only item relating to planning over the past two months was the refusal for PVC windows at Letham Toll.

11.Superfast Broadband

The roll out of fast broadband to the "Green Boxes" has been delayed. The final deadline is 2020.

BT is working on some element of this as the Bow Road is to be closed from 09/01/17 to 11/01/17

It appears that teams work on this for a while in different locations but the work is not completed if issues arise. There seems to be little consistency in completing projects.

Half way up The Row there is a hole that has been there for 6 months since it was dug by Openreach

12. Police Report

No report had been received

13. Community Groups

Village Hall

JF reported that there is now a Village Hall Keep Fit Class Monday to Friday at 6:15 am. The village hall is now rented out every day of the week

Letham Primary School

Tesco Fund. The school was awarded £10,000 for its Gardening Project

Letham Nights

14. Any Other Business

The chair indicated that there was a possibility of a change to the rules regarding CCs and their role as statutory consultees on planning matters.

At present Community Councils only have 7 days to respond to planning applications In the future CCs it is expected that they will be automatically consultees.

Date of next meeting

Monday 13th March