



Monimail Community Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 13th January 2020 at Letham Village Hall

1. Present

Community Councillors

Chair: David Hamilton (DH), Vice Chair: Juliet Forrest (JF), Treasurer: John Vaughan (JV)
Secretary: Karin Vaughan (KV), Willie Fenton (WF) and Cara Kitchin (CK)

Community Members

Hazel Grant (HG), Jackie Elliot (JE) and Joyce

Fife Council

Cllr. Andy Heer (AH)

Fife Police

PC Phil Parker (PP)

2. Apologies

There were apologies from Kay Stuart

3. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting 11th November 2019

The minutes were accepted. Proposed by CK and seconded by JF

4. Matter Arising from above

There were no matters arising.

5. Cllr Andy Heer Questions

- **Verge Creep - Monimail Tower to Pathcondie**

Due to verge creep the road is becoming narrower and Cllr Andy Heer to approach d Ian Balfour to ensure an annual scrape of the road is programmed. Once again it was emphasised that it is difficult to find a permanent solution to this issue

- **Village Park - New Roundabout**

The new roundabout was agreed by Councillors but Alan Bissett who was in charge of parks and play equipment has been moved to a new job. AH to enquire when the roundabout is to be installed.

- **Pedestrians**

HG expressed concerns over pedestrians not wearing high visibility clothing on the roads while walking dogs during the dark days of winter.

- **Any other questions**

JG requested AH to approach transportation regarding the actions of the drivers when they come to collect items from the Village Hall recycling point. She asked that they avoid driving over the kerbs and breaking tree branches planted at the perimeter of the Hall.

There were no further questions or requests

6. Traffic Calming

- **20 mph Letham**

AH reported again that the 20 mph Letham village is currently in the process of being completed and for signage to be put up indicating the new speed restrictions.

White lines and still have to be painted at the junction of The Row, Monimail Road and School Brae.

- **Letham 40 mph Bow of Fife through Springfield Junction**

This has been agreed by Fife Council and is currently going through the legislative process and is supported by 6 local councillors and the Area Committee.

7. Lower Melville Land Fill Site

Report on Giffordtown town Meeting 18/12/19

A public meeting was held at Giffordtown that JV and KV attended. JV gave a summary to this meeting of the impact on the residents within Monimail.

Present at the meeting were two representatives of SEPA, the three local councillors for the ward, two managers from the Recycling Company, Willie Rennie, MSP and residents from the area surrounding the Lower Melville Land Fill Site.

Many complaints focussed on the fact since 2016 when the bad odours started, although there have been occasions over the past 25 years when there have been occasional smells, that the odours and have gradually increased and occurred more frequently.

Giffordtown is very much affected and it was agreed that there should be a meeting with

Local people are encouraged to report smells to a HOTLINE, 0800 807060 to report any smells

Donald Lothian asked for an impact assessment on the effect of the closure of the recycle centre.

60% of waste comes from Fife 40% comes from Dundee. Old cells and new cells are processed and constructed totally differently. The meeting asked what has been the effect of that change. What was the reason for that change?

The current use of large waste cells means are not filled or capped as quickly as in the past and are therefore exposed to the open air for longer periods of time.

3000 tons of rubbish is processed every week and this has to go somewhere. This problem has to be resolved. Local people are concerned about their property values, short term and long term.

Biodegradable waste was to be dealt with separately from 2021 when it was not to enter the waste system but this timing has now been extended to 2025 as not all councils are ready for the change. (Fife has its plans in place).

The new cells seem to be the ones causing problems. Capping cells is weather dependent. The excessive rain has complicated issues. In the short term problems are measured by the volume of complaints about bad smells.

The distance that smells travel is judged from the location of the complainant. Unfortunately no meter is available to measure smells.

Many Fife residents have a designated brown bin for organic and food waste so this is easily separated from other waste at the recycle centre.

Other councils using the Melville land fill site do not separate the types of waste, so this contributes to production of bad odours in the decomposition process. Contracts for waste disposal are in place and new cells are planned so it is important to continue to report smells because actions have to be evidence based.

The site management are working with SEPA to try to discover why this happening and how to rectify the issue.

Willie Rennie in the summing up session suggested that the Centre should be closed.

JV reminded the meeting that we has had raised the issue in 2016 and we had SEPA and some members of the management team at one of our CC meetings that year.

8. Planning Applications

Plans have been put forward for new fishing arrangements at the ponds at Melville Lodges, part of the old Mountcastle Gravel Pits.

The plan includes a new hut, 2 disabled parking points along with wooden walk ways and wooden fishing points. No neighbourhood notifications had been sent out.

The owners at the Bakehouse have put in an application for a new chimney on the northern side of the property.

9. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the balance in the Treasurer's account was £1683.32 and £1242.77 in the Savings Account, with an overall total of £2926.09.

JV stated that he had spent £228 on new pads and battery for the defibrillator as agreed in November. He also indicated that not all the floral grant had been spent.

Floral Grant, covers purchase of small bedding plants for tubs around the village hall at the d bus stop in Letham, Monimail and Bow of Fife. It also includes the small piece of ground around the village telephone box housing the defibrillator, and 'Bruce's Trough' at the junction of Letham and A 92. Concerns about the seat at the Well Tree had been raised previously

The meeting agreed to the purchase of a new seat for the "Well Tree" as part of the Floral Grant spend once the existing seat has been removed.

10. Police Report

PC Phil Parker reported on speeding problems in the area. A community speed watch can be set up to address the issue. PP suggested that the village may like to consider setting up a 'Speed Watch' 3 volunteers are in a team. They can receive training to observe traffic and monitor speeds with specialised equipment. This is a good way to resolve local traffic exceeding speed limits.

DH pointed out that speeding on an un-adopted road is difficult to manage, but it is a school route so we must raise awareness of the dangers. It was suggested that information on the changes should be put on the village web site.

PP stated that there were no reported crimes in November, and 3 in December.

Fife Council deal with issues linked to housing and neighbours. Complaints about antisocial behaviour are dealt by 'Fife - Safe Communities' with the Police in the background. The Police Deal with Crime.

11. Community Groups

- **School**

Nothing to report

- **Village Hall**

The New Year's Day Ceilidh was enjoyed by local families and made a profit of £27.

- **Letham Nights**

Letham Nights has celebrated its 10 th Anniversary and is still playing to full venues.

12. Any Other Business

- **New Notice Board.**

JV is still waiting to hear from the joiner to come and install the new one.

- **Electric Vehicle Charge Points.**

Investigations are to be carried out to examine the possibility installing these at the village hall.

Date of Next Meeting

9th March 2020 at 7:00pm – Letham Village Hall