

Aberlemno Community Council

Minute of meeting of the Aberlemno Community Council held on Monday 4th March at 7pm in Aberlemno Church Meeting Room.

Present: Tom Samson (Chair), Lorna Hooghiemstra (Treasurer), Cllr Kenny Braes, Murray Howe, Isobelle Davies, Stuart Cormie, Ricky Martin (Police Scotland), Lesley Boagnell, Pippa Bagnell, Cllr Gavin Nicol, Mark Hooghiemstra, Chantal Fenton (Secretary), Sandra Livingston (Angus Council)

1. Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence received

2. Minutes

2.1 Secretary asked for assistance with taking the minute of this meeting as she was unable to do so. Sandra Livingston agreed to do the minute-taking for this meeting.

2.2 The minute of the last meeting was agreed as correct. There were no matters arising.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Participatory Budgeting (PB)

Sandra Livingston gave a brief outline of Participatory Budgeting from its beginnings in Porto Alegre in 1989 when the process originated to see public money being allocated to areas of need that would tackle severe poverty and inequality to the Scottish Government roll-out in 2014 and the five iterations there has been in Angus since 2015. Community Bodies can also become involved by holding their own PB event e.g. a Community Council can put forward a sum of money that community groups in their area can apply to for funding. Anyone who lives in or has a project in a defined PB area can apply for funding through an application process. A voting day is held so that the people who live in the defined PB area can come along and vote for the projects they think will benefit their area the most. More information about holding a PB event can be found here <https://pbscotland.scot/>. Community bodies such as Community Councils can apply for Community Choices funding for distribution through their community and to assist with running costs of a PB event. Please follow the link to the 2018/19 round of funding, funding for 2019/20 is still to be announced. <https://pbscotland.scot/community-choices-2018>.

CC need more time to discuss and investigate PB and Sandra to check if there might be local assistance for funding if the CC were to host their own event in Aberlemno.

5. Community Safety Day and Rural/Neighbourhood Watch

The community safety day was well attended with a number of stalls being in attendance on the day. Hall hire to be paid.

Rural matters – Hare coursing has again been reported in the area and Police are aware. Anyone seeing hare coursing taking place should phone 101 and give as much information as possible, but members of the public are advised not to intervene themselves. 3 people have been arrested and charged; 2 bailed and one person has been jailed.

Neighbourhood watch - Inveresk signed up, Careston next then Dun. Should the Community Council agree to host a Neighbourhood Watch event a member of Stirling Neighbourhood Watch would be available to come along to speak to those attending. Each Neighbourhood Watch has a co-ordinator who records details of incidents and forwards these to Police Scotland. Residents in the Neighbourhood Watch area should not approach anyone acting suspiciously but should phone 101 to report to Police Scotland, take pictures if possible and safe to do so, and report to the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator who will record the incident, thereby building up a picture of

what activities are taking place in the area. Some Neighbourhood Watch schemes have their own FB page but residents should be aware that pictures taken should not be posted here. Community Council agreed to set a date at the next meeting for an event. The Secretary congratulated Ricky Martin on his recent award.

6. Treasurers report

6.1 The Treasurer advised the CC that there has been no application for Lotteries Licence made this year and no further application will be made. A contribution of £160 was made to Aberlemno Church towards their newsletter. Current balance is £1,982.64 and the CC financial year end is 31st March 2019.

6.2 The CC agreed to donate £500 towards Aberlemno P.S. for books.

6.3 Community Council donations – CC agreed to donate £500 towards the Southesk Catchment P'ship improvements to layby and viewfinder on Angus Hill. Isabelle Davies is to check with Kelly Ann Dempsey that the project is still going ahead with funding in place from Angus Leader.

7. Aberlemno Community Council Constitution

The CC members signed the Constitution, Sandra Livingston to take Angus House for signing by a Council representative and email copy to Secretary and Chair. Original will be posted to Secretary from Angus House.

8. Leader Project Update

See above. Southesk catchment biodiversity grants available.

9. Update on Aberlemno Community Hall

- Stones – will be uncovered shortly. The Committee again plans to make toilet facilities available. Volunteers from the Committee have agreed to cover for opening the Pictish Room to visitors one week-end per month on an experimental basis. Volunteers for other days would be welcome. It is also hoped to be included in the open Doors event in September. Openings will be advertised on the website.
- The community Safety day drew a wide range of people into the hall and drew attention to:
Local Resilience
A number of meetings have been organised by Angus council to promote local resilience, based on experience at Eassie and Glen Ogilvy (see attached email).
Scottish Government website – [Ready Scotland](#) provides guidance on how to [prepare](#) local resilience plan. A local resilience plan based on the community hall at Eassie - ENKCA [Resilience Centre](#) – provides a good example of what can be done.
Emergency Planning – is co-ordinated through the Risk, Resilience and Safety section at Angus Council and looks to establish local contacts to provide information in case of emergency to help maximise distribution of resources.
The Hall can provide a resilience centre, the issue is how to progress a local resilience plan – the Aberlemno website could provide a good base for making initial contact – who is vulnerable; who has assets; who is available etc. Try to market the idea, determine level of interest and a possible meeting.
Needs someone to lead....
- The Hall Committee have been approached by Anne Thomson about a Superfast Broadband hub at the Hall – ‘We have long been trying to find a way to access superfast broadband without success. This is true also for a number of houses, farms and businesses located in the district. I understand that Aberlemno is getting fibre via Openreach and I ask you therefore if you would agree to us installing a cabinet and transmission disc on the side of the community hall to bounce the signal to us and our neighbours.’ A meeting with Anne, Liam Kirk from [marykirk.com](#) who could build a network and Sandra has been arranged for tomorrow, feeding back to the Committee at their next meeting.
- Next event – Rail Sale on the Weekend of 23/24 March
- AGM will be held in May

10. Update on Aberlemno Church Graveyard

Councillor Nicoll advised that the matter is still with legal – hopefully commissioned by summer.

11. Paths: see 9 above.

12. AOB:

Skid risk – it was reported that water running from the old quarry track to the B9134 between Carsegowrie and Howmuir regularly freezes and causes a skid risk. Councillor Braes to investigate. Verge cutting – dissatisfaction with verge cutting was expressed and it was suggested that this was unnecessary in a large number of areas. CC acknowledged the need to keep junctions and sightlines clear but thought that there were a number of areas where cutting could be discontinued. The Good Verge Guide published by plantlife.org.uk supply a template letter that can be used to write to Local Authorities to raise awareness of how verges might be treated differently e.g. by planting of wild flower seeds/leaving to flower naturally. All agreed Chair should write to Angus Council. <http://plantlife.love-wildflowers.org.uk/roadvergecampaign>

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on Monday 27th May at 7pm in Aberlemno Church Meeting Room. The next meeting is also the Aberlemno Community Council AGM.