

Meeting of the Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council

Minute of Meeting Tuesday 1st October 2019

Present

Fred Geddes, Chris Heaton-Armstrong, Judith Rumbold, Lindsey Stout, Karen Young.

In attendance

Anna Church, Ryan Forbes, Cllr. Emma Knox, Alice Scriven.

1. Apologies	Actions
Cameron Kemp, Ally MacNeil.	
2. Minutes of the meeting of 20th August 2019.	
Approved. Proposed by Fred Geddes, seconded by Karen Young.	
3. Matters Arising	
5. Planning Issues, Minutes of 20th August 2019.	
No response has been received from Donna Manson, Chief Executive of the Highland Council, to the request for Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Council to be Statutory Consultees for planning in the Aird area. Councillor Emma Knox said that the inclusion of community councils may be considered in the review of statutory consultations policy but that legislation would have to be changed.	
a. Response to Dafydd Jones	
Fred Geddes will email Cameron Kemp to ask that this query is about because the Community Council as a whole has not seen the communication about this.	FG
4. Police Report	
No Police Report was provided.	
The K.B.C.C. will pursue the provision of a police report to the Community Council.	CK
5. Planning Issues	
Planning Ref. 11/02742/PIP Brandon Landscaping	
Fred Geddes said that Mr Brandon has applied to have Condition Section 75 removed from the site to the west of the neighbours' house.	
Cllr Emma Knox will ask if Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Council can object to it.	EK
6. Community Council elections on 1st November	
Cllr. Emma Knox has been circulating information on Facebook about the elections to encourage more people to apply. She asked all the Community Councillors to share this	

<p>information and to encourage others to join the community council.</p>	
<p>7. Adopt a Phone Box</p> <p>Following a notice in the phone box to the community that it will be decommissioned and removed, a small group in the community has come together to ask to adopt it for a book exchange. B.T. has responded that the phone box has to be adopted by a community group, preferably a community council, and bought for £1. The proposed Book Exchange group are willing to maintain the phone box but don't have the status to buy it.</p> <p>Cllr. Emma Knox will send Fred Geddes, Treasurer, the link and copy the Book Exchange group into the communication. Fred Geddes raised the question of Public Liability Insurance. Would the buyer also have to insure it?</p>	<p>EK</p>
<p>8. A.O.B.</p> <p>Potential funding for a path in Inchmore</p> <p>Alice Scriven and Anna Church, representing a sub-group of Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Trust, discussed potential funding for a path in Inchmore which was earmarked as part of the Safe Routes to School in 2003. The path would run from the end of the drive up to Lentrane House in Inchmore to the old soap factory/art gallery building at the bottom of the turnoff up to Drumchardine in Inchmore. This path would add to and upgrade the existing path.. Following a feasibility study, if the proposal was feasible a brief would go to tender to engineering consultants for a shared use (multi-use) path that would include pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.</p> <p>Fred Geddes asked if there was a Highland Council standard for a pathway. Alice Scriven replied that there is a template. Ryan Forbes asked who would be responsible for maintenance. Alice Scriven replied that, ideally, the path would be maintained by Highland Council after adoption.</p> <p>Chris Heaton-Armstrong commented that landowners are being assumed to be in favour of the proposal. Karen Young queried the difficulties caused by the landowners affected not being approached about the path upgrade. Alice Scriven explained that funds have been applied for for a feasibility study, not for a planning application at this time, so the landowners potentially affected were not approached. In hindsight, this process could be improved to increase communication with the landowners, however the deadline for the funding for the feasibility study was quite tight.</p> <p>Karen Young questioned why the existing path could not be renovated. Alice Scriven said that the criteria for a path are different now, which would include a wider width and that the path would include some new route where there is none at present as well as upgrading the existing pavement. The path would follow the Sustrans model, with enough space so that two people, cyclists or pedestrians, could pass.</p> <p>Karen Young queried safety for cyclists during silage time, when tractors will be turning right across the path into a field. There was a wider debate about the safety of cycling on the road and the class of cyclists who would use the path (children, non-professional cyclists and</p>	

multi-use for pedestrians and horse riders). Safety signage and markings on the existing upgraded path from Inchmore to Beaully was discussed.

The path is part of a wider scheme and may have the potential of cyclists and other users crossing to the other side of the road at Lentrane House, with a proposed future path all the way to Inverness to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists. There was a wider debate on which class of cyclist would use a path to Inverness and on future maintenance of the proposed path to a good enough standard for cyclists to use. General road safety for cyclists (and pedestrians and motorists) was discussed.

The Long Wood

Lindsey Stout mentioned road safety in the Long Wood (the back road to Beaully from Kirkhill, running past Wester Lovat). The speed of motorists and the closeness they are passing is affecting the safety of cyclists, horse riders and dog walkers. The area is very popular with local dog walkers and there is no pavement. From a post on Facebook, recently a cyclist was passed so close at speed in the Long Wood that she fell off her bike in front of another car. General safety for pedestrians and cyclists was discussed, such as the need for children to be taught the Countryside Code, which side of the road to walk or cycle on and for the community as a whole to be aware of visibility issues in low light and the need to wear high visibility clothing.

Cllr. Emma Knox said that in the past she had researched reducing the speed in this area to 40mph but this was not successful because of the limited housing in this area. She also commented that painting white lines down both sides of the road is known to slow drivers down and will research the feasibility of doing this in the Long Wood.

Livestock and Pedestrians on Farms

Karen Young mentioned people going into fields to walk their dogs and leaving gates open with subsequent escape of livestock. The danger of walking or walking a dog in a field of beef cattle, which are not tame, was also mentioned. Rubbish dumped in gateways or litter left in fields also endanger livestock.

Cllr. Emma Knox suggested that Karen Young and other local farmers should contact Scottish Natural Heritage to organise a campaign to improve public understanding of the Countryside Code. Alice Scriven asked if Karen Young could visit Kirkhill Primary School to ask for education in the Countryside Code.

Wilma Williamson

It was noted by the Community Council that Mrs. Wilma Williamson had passed away recently. The work for the community that Wilma and her husband Norman had done over the years was warmly remembered and appreciated by all the members of the Community Council present at this meeting in the Williamson Room. Those who are able to will attend her funeral. Chris Heaton-Armstrong proposed that the Community Council buy a bunch of flowers or donate if there is a collection. Lindsey Stout is to find out who to contact.

EK

KY
KY

FG

	LS
9. Dates of Future Meetings The dates of the next meetings are now Tuesday 12 th November and Tuesday 10 th December 2019. The date of the next meeting was moved to 12 th November because of a clash with Bonfire Night. Meetings are to be held in the Williamson Room, Kirkhill Community Centre and will begin at 7:30pm.	