

Meeting of the Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council

Minute of Annual General Meeting, 7:30pm; 6th July 2021

Community Councillors Present:

Fred Geddes, Cameron Kemp, Alastair MacNeil, Judith Rumbold, Lindsey Stout, Karen Young.

In attendance:

Councillor Emma Knox, Councillor Margaret Davidson.

1. Apologies	Actions
Apologies were received from Alison Mackintosh, Alice Scriven and Councillor David Fraser.	
<p>2. Minutes of Meeting of 4th May 2021</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting were circulated online. The finalised minutes were accepted, proposed by Ally MacNeil and seconded by Judith Rumbold.</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising of Meeting of 4th May 2021</p> <p>Further matters arising are covered in the Planning section of the minutes.</p>	
<p>4. Police Report</p> <p>The police report mentioned an individual who was discovered to be lost and was helped to find his way.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us</p>	
<p>5. Planning Issues</p> <p>Matters Arising from the Minutes of 4th May 2021: (3.2 The second extra planning meeting held on 13 April where two applications were discussed. A new house is proposed at Drumchardine 20/04718/FUL.)</p> <p>The Community Councillors were concerned that the Planning Committee does not accept any late representations but sometimes accepts late applications and sometimes does not. This inconsistency does not take heed of the concerns of the locals and is unfair. Councillor Margaret Davidson replied that if an application is taking longer to process, it is alright to take late comments. There is pressure to meet the deadlines set by the Government. The most effective way to check whether comments have been seen or taken into account is to speak to a Councillor on the Planning Committee, either Councillor Margaret Davidson or Councillor David Fraser, for example. The Community Council members are of a view that the views of locals should be taken into account. Councillor Emma Knox commented that you have to look out for the applications and get in there early with any comments. Look at the weekly planning lists. Margaret Davidson said that it wouldn't do any harm if one of the Community Councillors took a look at the weekly lists regularly.</p> <p>There was nothing on the agenda. The development of the steading at Mains of Fingask Farm,</p>	



Kirkhill, Ref. No. 21/01759/FUL was brought up by Lindsey Stout, who said that it was good to see that the dilapidated 19th Century building would be restored and brought into use as housing because it was both beautiful and historic. A nearby cottage on the farm had fallen down over the years and this is always the risk with old buildings which are not restored, which are lost to the community. Lindsey queried the number of proposed dwellings. The Community Councillors queried how twenty units could be accommodated in an area that size. Fred Geddes said that he had had an email from Iain Weir and Ally MacNeil that he had had a phone call, both expressing concern at the proposed increase from 13 to 20 flats. Iain Weir, who uses the nearby farm buildings as a working farm, is very concerned. The Community Councillors expressed concern over the number of dwellings, the surface water drainage and the unadopted road. Cameron Kemp, Chairperson advised Fred and Ally to ask Iain Weir to write an email to them or to the Chairperson if he wishes our support.

F.G.
A.M

Erection of Hut

Land 60M NW Of Foresters Cottage Newtonhill Lentrans Inverness 21/02982/FUL

An email was received from Mrs Isobel Macleod, a neighbour, on 21st July 2021 asking for the Community Council's views regarding this application in the name of Mrs Bernadette Church to erect a hut in a forest. Fred Geddes asked for the Community Council to be a Statutory Consultee. Cameron Kemp to action.

C.K.

6. Co-option of Community Councillor Alison Mackintosh

Alison has expressed interest in becoming a Community Councillor and took the minutes of the last meeting. Cameron Kemp proposed that the Community Council co-opt Alison as a Community Councillor and all were in agreement.

7. 10mph signs at the Long Wood, Kirkhill

Lindsey Stout noticed that the 10mph signs placed on the road through the Long Wood following surface dressing had been in place for weeks and said that this would result in residents ignoring speed limit signs if more work was to take place in the Long Wood. Councillor Margaret Davidson said that she would email Alan Johnson, the Foreman and have them removed.

M.D.

8. Any Other Business

Karen Young asked if anyone could put a sign up and the answer from the Councillors present was that it was yes, if it was on their own land. If a sign is put on the road verge, it requires planning permission.

Lindsey Stout asked if the Community Councillors would be interested in a WhatsApp group to be able to communicate on the day of a meeting to give apologies, to ask questions or to ask for the Zoom link, as late emails can be easy to miss. Any Community Councillors who are in favour should email Lindsey with their phone number. All present in favour. Councillors are also invited to send their phone numbers.

All

Councillor Emma Knox has been in touch with Tullochs after representations from the residents of Newton Park about speed of building site lorries, raised dust and noise.

Councillor Margaret Davidson said that she had met with the Paths Group (Aird Community Trust) looking into road safety in Inchmore regarding the new cycle path/multi-use path that morning. Their proposal is to place rumble strips before the corner, chevrons on the corner and



countdown signs on both sides of the road on approach to the village. The speed limit would remain at 40 m.p.h. through the village. What is being proposed could be done now. A proposal to extend the 40 m.p.h. speed limit to the East would be counter-productive because it would require road traffic consent and the public or the police could object and the process could take months, perhaps years. Once the road safety measures mentioned above have been put into place by the Highland Council, the speed of vehicles passing through the village would be sampled. If not satisfied, revision of the speed limit would be revisited. This would likely not be successful because housing is not visible from the road and the rumble strips would be removed if the speed limit was reduced to the East side of the village. Many of the Community Councillors have not seen the improved plans, so Margaret Davidson will send the Community Councillors the diagrams. This is a professional recommendation. The cycle/multi-use path proposals await Sustrans' final applications in the autumn.

Community Councillor Karen Young said that, as a landowner, she will be quite affected. There have been a few issues, such as the improved drainage in the field she has installed at the Big Brae being affected (there is a conduit under the A862 leading out to sea). Any construction work would affect the drainage. Karen Young said that she has been waiting for Ian MacGillivray to come back to her with the solutions. Karen also commented that access will be required for tractors to cross the cycle path and a tree would need to be taken down and that she has not had sufficient communication so was surprised that the work was due to go ahead. Councillor Margaret Davidson said that she will ask Ian MacGillivray to reply to Karen.

M.D.

9. Annual General Meeting

The last A.G.M. was held in June 2019. There was no A.G.M. last year because of the Covid-19 pandemic and disruption to normal business.

Councillor Margaret Davidson removed herself from the meeting. Councillor Emma Knox expressed her thanks to the Community Council for maintaining meetings throughout Lockdown. The Ward Manager used Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Council as an example to encourage other community councils to take the Zoom meetings forum. Beaully Community Council is using a blended model, with some meeting in person and a screen allowing others to meet remotely. This is a particularly good model for remote and rural areas. A blended model would also suit meetings between local groups, including the Community Council, for the common good. Emma also suggested that there needs to be more publicity of the Community Council and that people need to be encouraged to come and contribute. Flag it up a week or so before every meeting. Lindsey Stout to action.

L.S.

Treasurer's Report Frederick Geddes

The bank balance stands at £2740.80, with minimal expenditure over the year for minor expenses, insurance, expenses for treatment of the Japanese knotweed in the Millennium Garden and room rent.

Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council Chairman's Report

Since our last AGM in June 2019 we have had regular meetings to discuss a range of topics and consultations. Business was disrupted in 2020 due to the Covid pandemic but we have been able to continue our meetings on Zoom.



Planning has featured most of all and we have been contacted by members of the community where matters of concern have arisen in relation to applications. The Community Council has managed to represent these views in communications to the Highland Council.

As matters have been raised it has been helpful to have the Highland Councillors at our meetings to take up matters on our behalf. The two-way exchange of information has always been helpful. The Community Council is always available to be contacted at any time. We also work with the other community organisations to promote and assist in projects which benefit all.

I'd like to thank fellow Community Councillors for their contribution to meetings, to Lindsey for her minute taking and Facebook entries, and to Fred for keeping the finances in order.

Appointment of Office Bearers

Councillor Emma Knox chaired the meeting after dissolution of the offices. Fred Geddes nominated Cameron Kemp to continue as Chairperson, seconded by Judith Rumbold. Cameron accepted the nomination. Cameron took back the role of Chair to continue the meeting.

Role of Vice Chairperson: Lindsey Stout volunteered, proposed by Cameron Kemp and seconded by Karen Young.

There were no volunteers for the role of Secretary.

Treasurer: Cameron Kemp proposed Frederick Geddes to continue in this role and Alastair MacNeil seconded.

10. Dates of Meetings:

Meetings will be online until further notice. This will be reviewed at our next meeting with reference to the current Scottish Government guidelines. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 24th August 2021 at 7.30 p.m.

Anyone wishing to air a concern should contact Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Council by email or by private message on our Facebook page. If the item requires discussion they will be invited to join the next meeting. It's inevitable that some Community Councillors and members of the public will find it difficult to join meetings online because of broadband connectivity issues.

Future meetings: Tuesday 24th August, Tuesday 5th October and Tuesday 23rd November 2021.

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Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council on Facebook

<https://www.highland.gov.uk/>

<http://kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk/community-council-2/>

The next meeting is on Tuesday 24th August 2021 at 7:30pm, online