

Meeting of the Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council

Minute of Online Meeting, 7:30pm; 25th August 2020

Community Councillors Present:

Yvonne Brown, Fred Geddes, Cameron Kemp, Alisdair MacNeil, Judith Rumbold, Lindsey Stout, Karen Young.

In attendance:

N/A

1. Apologies	<u>Actions</u>
Apologies from Councillor Emma Knox.	
2. Minutes of Meeting of 23rd June 2020 The minutes of the last meeting were circulated online and accepted by all present, with a minor change to the planning reference in section 5 by Fred Geddes.	
3. Matters Arising of Meeting of 23rd June 2020: There were no matters arising.	
4. Police Report The Community Council did not receive a police report in time for the meeting. A report was received shortly afterwards and will be put forward to the next meeting. https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/covid-19-bulletins	
5. Planning Planning lists were circulated to all members and the action point on the previous minute regarding Newtonhill, Planning Ref.: 20/0220/FUL was actioned by Cameron Kemp. A reply was received. No further action is to be taken. Regarding successive planning applications in Ladystone Road, Dan Coulson has been directly engaging with the Planning Office. Fred Geddes commented that in general there seem to be delays in the response from the planning office to planning applications at present.	



6. Millennium Garden

Cameron Kemp, Chairperson took the opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in the action on the Japanese Knotweed in the Millennium Garden, mentioning Dawn Stevens, Yvonne Brown, Dr. Eric Donnelly, Lindsey Stout, Erik Lundberg and especially George and Sandra Hogg. The Community Council are very appreciative of the efforts of George and Sandra in dealing with the Japanese Knotweed and Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Trust (Aird Community Trust, or ACT, from 31st August 2020).

Yvonne Brown reported that the stem injection is beginning to work because some of the stems are collapsing. It is expected that more treatments will be required to eradicate the plant, this year and next year and the Millennium Garden will be checked next year and in successive years for Japanese Knotweed in case it recurs.

<http://kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk>

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



7. Highland Suicide Prevention Forum - Consultation

F.A.O. Highland Community Partnerships & Highland Community Councils

Police Scotland

An invitation was received from Police Scotland to complete this consultation by 31st August 2020. A comprehensive reply was completed by Community Councillors. Karen Young said that this issue is very close to our hearts.

The nationwide statistics and figures for Highland and Scotland in general show that young men are more likely to commit suicide. Karen Young said that it's difficult to change the mindset so that men feel more able to express their emotions and ask for help. There was a general feeling of helplessness in preventing suicide and how to change social mores so that men feel able to discuss their emotions.

Social isolation is a problem in the Highlands for all age groups, especially the elderly and people on a restricted income and has increased during restrictions due to Covid-19 which have limited work, travel and social opportunities and have impacted the income of several families, increasing stress.

Lindsey Stout mentioned the Trustees who run the Community Hub at Kirkhill Community Centre, who are providing a welcome opportunity for people to drop in and chat whilst collecting their goods. The book swap area and rainbow quilt are also lifting spirits. Thank you to Leona Boa, Brenda Dunthorne and Erik Lundberg and all those involved in the Community Hub.

Lindsey Stout commented that she has seen several posts on Facebook from parents in the Aird area enquiring about when baby and toddler groups can restart. Nursery and school age children and their families have the support of the school but babies and toddlers under Nursery age and their families do not have any opportunity to socialise and mix with others unless they have family or friends in the area. Mothers are particularly vulnerable to postnatal depression but fathers and other carers at home all day with young children are also more isolated at present. It is hoped that baby and toddler groups will soon be able to restart, so that babies' and toddlers' development is not adversely affected and parents and carers who do not have family and friends in the Aird area will have somewhere to meet others who have young children of a similar age.

The primary school and academy provide pupils and their families with an excellent level of practical and social support and open avenues of communication during term time.

The Scout Association is very aware of the benefit of Scouting to the positive mental health of children aged 6 to 18 in the Aird area.

The Community Councillors commend the work of local charities such as Mikeysline and Beauly Cares, which have developed from local need. There may be others that the Community Council is not aware of.

Lindsey Stout copied the consultation to other relevant community groups, Kirkhill



<p>and Bunchrew Community Trust & Kirkhill Community Centre.</p> <p>For support for the issues discussed above:</p> <p>https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/nhs-services/mental-health-services/how-to-access-mental-health-services/</p> <p>https://www.mikeyline.co.uk/</p> <p>http://www.beaulycare.org/</p>	
<p>8. A.O.B.</p> <p>Cameron Kemp will ask Councillor Emma Knox for clarification on the purpose of the temporary cycle and pedestrian lanes created with Covid-19 funding in Inverness city centre and the costs of the Millburn Road dedicated cycle lane, following an enquiry from Fred Geddes.</p> <p>Cameron Kemp will also ask Councillor Emma Knox what was the justification for the Golden Handshake given to Mr Gilfillan on leaving Highland Council, following an enquiry from Fred Geddes.</p> <p>Cameron Kemp brought to the Community Council's attention a query from Mark Forbes. His brother James is still in need of appropriate disabled-access accommodation in the local area so that he can live independently. Cameron Kemp will meet online with members of the KBCT and KCC to facilitate a solution to this ongoing issue.</p>	<p>C.K.</p> <p>C.K.</p> <p>C.K.</p>



9. Dates of Meetings:

6th October, 24th November 2020.

Meetings will be online until further notice. This will be reviewed at our next meeting in October with reference to the current Scottish Government guidelines.

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.

kandbcommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council on Facebook

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

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

**The next meeting is on Tuesday
6th October 2020 at 7:30pm, online**

