

Kirriemuir Landward West Community Council

Minutes of the Kirriemuir Landward West Community Council Meeting held in Kilry Hall on Thursday 26th May 2011 at 7.30pm

Present:

Roger Clegg, Chairman, Kilry

Sheila Beckett, Secretary, Lintrathen

Gillian Beckett, Balintore

Major John Gibb, Glenisla

Dave Koller, Airlie

Terry Roberts, Glenisla

Cllr Alison Andrews

Cllr Ian Gaul

Cllr Ian Mackintosh

Visitors: PC Alan Bell, Mr & Mrs M Connor, Gill Hobhouse, Mrs J McGowan, Mr & Mrs C Bird, Mr & Mrs D McMicking, Mr & Mrs D Lovegrove. Mr P Lovegrove.

1.0 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Fi Bird, Lindsay Downie, Liz Hamilton, Geoff Hobson, Ann Hutcheson, David Robinson and Sue Smith.

2.0 Approval of Minutes of Meetings held on 24th February 2011

The Minutes were approved and Roger Clegg (RC) signed them. Two final copies of the Constitution were also signed following approval of the recommended form on 24th February.

3.0 Matters arising from Minutes of Meetings held on 24th February 2011

There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with on the Agenda.

4.0 Community Police Report

PC Alan Bell gave his report. He asked community members to be vigilant about cold calls by tradesmen and urged people to call 0300 111 2222 if they had concerns regarding this. He also offered to carry out security surveys and provide advice if residents had concerns. When reporting vehicles to the police it is helpful to provide the vehicle make as well as the registration number.

5.0 Finance

There was no finance report.

6.0 Planning

6.1 River Isla Hydro Electric Scheme – There had been a meeting at Kilry Village Hall held by SSE on 17th May. The planning application for the scheme will be submitted towards the end of the year. The application would be for a pipe to take water out of the River Isla above the Reekie Linn and run underground to a generating station below Shanzie and the water would then be returned to the river. SEPA were being consulted regarding the amount of water that must remain in river. It would be a “run of river scheme” meaning that no dam would be necessary and it would only work when the river was not too low, however the weir that is proposed is 4 metres high. The upstream level would be unaffected and a fish ladder would be provided. There were concerns about the effect the scheme would have on Reekie Linn and associated tourism. The published literature about the scheme had been ambiguous. A public exhibition would be held in Kilry in the autumn.

6.2 Bamff Wind Farm Proposal – There will be a public exhibition during the afternoon of 20th June at Kilry Village Hall. The proposal is for nine 117m high turbines with some prominent at the northern edge of the estate at the 370m contour level. Concerns were raised about the possibility of additional overhead transmission lines that would be required

to feed electricity generated into the grid. Application to Perth & Kinross Council for planning permission is expected to be made either at the end of 2011 or early in 2012. There was great concern expressed by Kilry residents present at the meeting that the village could be surrounded by wind farms as other developers were also looking at sites from Knockton Hill to Saddle Hill (Wind Prospects), the Carrach (Green Cat) in addition to the Drumderg Wind Farm which already exists. Angus Council is to provide supplementary guidance for developers but this is not yet available. Angus Council officials would only respond to developments in Angus and neighbouring areas about planning issues with each application being considered individually. Concern was then expressed that there is no clear government strategy about the siting of windfarms and thus the anxiety about over development within one area and detrimental impact on the environment and amenity. Residents pointed out that other countries e.g. Sweden had stipulated that turbines should be placed no less than 2km from habitation but that no regulations yet existed in Scotland or the United Kingdom. Any private citizen may make representation to Perth & Kinross Council on their own behalf. Residents said that in general they were in favour of smaller individual turbines erected to provide electricity for use on farms, etc.

6.3 Carrach Wind Farm – There had been an exhibition in Kirriemuir but the details of the proposal were still subject to change. Currently ten turbines are proposed which, while smaller than those applied for at Mile Hill, would be set on higher ground making their overall height greater.

6.4 The Community Council undertook a survey of local opinion regarding the Mile Hill Wind Farm planning application. Councillor Gaul advised that the Community Council should consult regarding each individual proposal but that the planning application needs to be made before this can be done. It was confirmed that the siting of each turbine forms part of an application and that it is possible to object to turbines on an individual basis. All applications are considered on their own merit with the potential output of the wind farm governing whether it is treated as a minor or major application.

6.5 New planning application at Ruthven. Liz Hamilton had advised that local residents would not be asking the Community Council to write to Angus Council on their behalf.

6.6 Electrical Substation at Haughend Farm, Miegle, Perth & Kinross – a public exhibition had been held at Airlie Street Hall, Alyth on 17th May. The purpose of the substation was to contribute to the upgrading of the east coast high voltage line which would provide increased flexibility to route electricity around the country. The osprey nest on the pylon would be moved to a manmade structure under the supervision of an RSPB expert.

7.0 Correspondence

7.1 RC had received a letter from the Local Community Planning team regarding meetings in Arbroath on 16th and 23rd June in case anyone was interested in attending.

7.2 RC had received correspondence regarding the Angus Community Safety Survey 2011. Residents are encouraged to take part in this and the details may be found at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/anguscommunitysafety>.

7.3 RC had received the annual review and newsletter from the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland.

7.4 RC advised that the Council were seeking views on "Working Together for Angus, Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement" preferably before 27th May 2011.

7.4 Sheila Beckett gave details of a letter she had received regarding research in Angus into rural ageing, migration and informal care being carried out by a Stirling University fellow. Anyone interested in participating should contact her for further details.

7.5 Forfar Musical Society would be putting on The Wizard of Oz from 7th to 11th June.

8.0 Members' Items

Major Gibb (JG) raised the issue of a leaning tree on the Kilry to Glenisla road. RC reiterated that the fastest way to resolve issues relating to roads was to ring the ACCESS office on 08452 777778. JG also asked whether he could put up a sign to warn motorists to slow down on the bend into Glenisla and was advised to ask the planning office. The road at Middleton had flooded over the winter and Cllr Mackintosh said that he would raise this with the roads department.

9.0 AOB

There was no other business.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 25th August 2011 at 7.30 pm in Kilry Hall.