

Inchmarlo, Brathens and Glassel Community Council

Online meeting Thursday 30th September 2021, 7.30pm Approved Minutes

Present: Katy Rumbles (Chair); Regis Lechatellier (Treasurer), Neil Bisset (Secretary), William (Bill) Byth, Robert (Bob) Russell, Andy Wilkins, Paul Herrington,

Councillors: Cllr Eileen Durno, Cllr Rosemary Bruce

In attendance: Chris Low, Peter Tyrrell

Actions are highlighted in Red

Prior to the proceeding through the Agenda points of the meeting, Katy welcomed Paul Herrington to the CC meeting who then gave us a summary and background as an introduction to himself. The other attendees of the meeting introduced themselves and their roles in the Community Council.

- 1. Welcome/Apologies:** The Chair (Katy Rumbles), welcomed everyone to the meeting and Neil confirmed that there were no apologies however Cllr Ann Ross messaged that she may join the meeting later.
- 2. Approve minutes of previous meeting:** Katy proposed, Regis seconded.
- 3. Co-opting of Paul Herrington to the Community Council:** Katy asked for all those in favour to vote in Paul Herrington to the IBG Community Council by raising their hands. The CC unanimously agreed.
- 4. Chair (Katy Rumbles) stepping down and vote for new Chair:** Katy asked for nominations and Bob Russell nominated Regis Lechatellier, Regis accepted. Katy asked for the other CC members to vote by raising their hands and it was unanimously agreed.
- 5. Treasurer Role Change, vote in new Treasurer:** Regis asked for nominations and Neil Bisset nominated Robert Russell, Bob accepted. Regis asked for the other CC members to vote by raising their hands and it was unanimously agreed.
- 6. Secretarys Report:** Neil provided an update from the Banchory town forum meeting that takes place once a month. There are a number of interesting projects happening in Banchory. Neil mentioned this meeting is something that would be good to keep on attending as a Community Council and we can also share with them any projects that IBG CC are doing in the future. Tim Stephen from Live Life Aberdeenshire gave updates on sporting locations/ projects and outdoor activities in the area. These covered the new Football pitches (which aren't solely for football) at the new Hill of Banchory area and are looking to lay the ground before Winter to make sure its ready in time, if not it will be the first to get completed in the new year when the weather gets better. He mentioned proposals which were very much proposals at this time for a new all weather area in Banchory but this has been

priced at £1.2m so is very much a tbc just now. He mentioned how the halls and gyms that have been getting used for COVID are beginning to be opened up at weekends. Additionally, there was mention that the new skate park in Banchory has received all its funding now and will begin construction in October. Neil advised that there was a presentation from Deeside CAN (Climate Action Network) which has been going for 2.5 years now which is all about NET zero Banchory. This covers Banchory's carbon footprint and includes items from the way we waste food, recycle items and offsetting emissions. Current projections show that we need to be half of what we currently use by 2030 and then Scotland is fully NET Zero by 2045. Neil advised he has sent out the information on Marr Area Committee Grants to the residents but did not receive any emails back from the community but some people may have just gone to Marr council directly with their applications. This was for applications for grants up to £5,000 which closed 31st August. It would be good to hear if anyone in the area was awarded anything. Neil also advised that he is putting the testing schedules out every week advise for pick ups for free LAT testing points around Aberdeenshire.

7. **Treasurers Report:** Regis shared his screen and we went through the CC funding. Regis split up the CC funds and the Midhill funds. Funding was shown from 31st May to 31st July. Total spending was £58 and we have received £96. Total balance is £1,437. Some of this cost is restricted due to COVID and may require to be returned.
8. **Councillors Report:** Cllr Bruce explained that road repairs are a priority. Previous COVID restrictions with social distancing made it difficult to carry out the road repairs during the pandemic, so this is now the priority and more funding from the Council has been given to carry out these repairs. There is however still a lack of staff and lack of materials which is causing issues for these repairs so this is being addressed. The Council meetings are still online but they are carrying out trial hybrid meetings. Cllr Durno reiterated the roads are still the main concern and specifically mentioned the C road lower Deeside between Crathes and Banchory which has been getting more focus. The sports centre is still being used as the vaccination hub but they are working on another premise in Banchory to get refurbished for future COVID and Flu vaccines which should allow the Sports Village to open up fully. Cllr Durno also mentioned bus services from Ballater to Braemar were stopped on Sundays for a while but are now being reintroduced to 2023. Cllr Durno also mentioned the Inchmarlo Housing development application was determined today by infrastructure services committee and the decision was split down the middle with 7 votes each. The Chair in the meeting then gave the deciding vote which concluded 8 votes to 7 which decided that the East Main houses can now be built first before the Hotel. Bill Byth mentioned that Aberdeenshire Council should be congratulated on the condition of the roads that were repaired for the Tour of Britain.
9. **Police Report:** Neil mentioned there is nothing to add from the email on 16th August which covered the Police report for July 2021. The Police will not be attending these meetings but will continue to provide the email and update reports.
10. **Speed Limit reduction:** Andy gave an overview and shared that he managed to get signatures and received approx. 140 signatures, the barbecue at the bothy was able to get 50 signatures. The speed reduction report and petitions have been

issued to Aberdeenshire Council 10th September covering the A93 between the West Lodge and Bridge of Cannay. There has been no reply to IBG CC regarding receiving confirmation. Cllr Bruce explained that there is a process in receiving a report which provides background to the petitions. They would not just receive the IBG report but there will be a screening through an additional report meaning more information is presented to the councillors before a decision is made. Peter made two points that Police did do a check and survey on the road, however the speed checks were setup at a different location. The second point was a meeting was setup with Angela Funk and Cllr Ross who responded that any improvements or change to speed limit made, would be best to be requested during the Smiddy development planning permission (when a new housing development is being proposed). The discussion then centred around planning gain, where this goes and if we would be able to get any directed to this area. Cllr Bruce mentioned that Councillors do not get involved with planning gains. 25% goes to social housing, some goes to road infrastructure, health etc. However, funds should go to nearest to the site primarily then health and schools which will vary depending on what is asked for and what the development is. IBG CC was then advised to resort to our community action plan, which details what the CC would like to see in the area. Andy advised the IBG CC action plan was completed 2 years ago and we can be ready to present this if/ when the development happens. Cllr Durno mentioned as a side note, that she did not think that this money (planning gain) can be used to mitigate an existing problem, it needs to be used on new items to do with the new infrastructure/ education/ health. Cllr Durno mentioned that IBG CC could have a Councillor Officer specifically for the planning gain to come to one of our meetings and explain developer obligations and the process with planning gains etc. **Cllr Durno to send on details on the Councillor Officer.**

- 11. Planning Applications:** There have been no new planning applications this month. Neil asked the Cllrs that the announcement for the Hotel & Housing approval was made but IBG CC did not hear back anything on our comment sheet where we would have expected to have been given responses. IBG CC stipulated a number of items that they would have appreciated responses to. Cllr Durno explained that something has changed where the existing process has stopped notifying CC's of any changes. Cllr Durno does however believe that we should have been notified on our representation. She noted that Banchory CC were not notified either. Head of planning was contacted but advised that there was an IT error and a change along the lines and the CC's were not being notified. Bill Byth advised that Inchmarlo retirement home already has a constituent as part of this process and proceeded to explain the safety concerns regarding the approval for a through way through Inchmarlo retirement village as part of the new Housing development. The constituents concerns were not taken up by the planning committee, the concerns are children on the roads with no pavements and steep hills. Cllr Durno mentioned that there might be additional planning permission to come out again on foot paths/ cycleways but is unsure if this will happen. Cllr Durno advised that we should contact planning and ask for clarity. **Bob Russell to contact planning dept for clarity on the above.** Cllr Bruce advised that this weeks approval on the housing development was based around an already approved planning application which has been granted therefore comments and questions at their meeting had to be more specific to the issue. The Councillors discussion was therefore weighted more

on the order/ sequence of the build rather than the approval of the Hotel & Housing development details which is already previously approved.

- 12. MidHill Windfarm funding:** Chris explained that the next application round closes the end of October (31st) its clear on the website that the applications need to be in before this date and Chris has not received any applications to date. Chris explained that in terms of the funding he has sent a tracking sheet and Neil has issued this to the CC. This will track the funding through the spreadsheet. **Neil to add the funding sheet to the minutes.** Chris explained there should be £11,000 to allocate to the CC. If its not all applied for this can roll over. Chris asked us to encourage people to apply for projects. Neil explained that we will put the Midhill wind farm funding details and the amount of awarding has taken place within the minutes in future along with the spreadsheet in Novembers meeting. Andy explained with respect to developer obligations, if there was money required for putting up signs/ digging holes/ speed limit reductions etc, could the Midhill wind farm funding be used for these applications. Peter advised that Fred Olson rules stipulate that we can't use the funding for items that should be provided by the council i.e. pot holes/ speed limit funding etc. Neil asked for agreement for the date of reviewing the October Midhill funding. **Tuesday November 16th was agreed for the review. Neil to send out meeting maker.**
- 13. Inchmarlo Retirement Village Update with Charles Skene:** Bob explained those in attendance was Bob, Bill, Neil & Katy from IBG CC. The meeting went well and it was aimed at building a relationship with the Inchmarlo retirement village. Charles explained about future ideas and developments he has for the area. Opportunity was given to discuss about the new planning permission approval for the new Hotel meant that the Inchmarlo retirement village would become a through way for children and people from the hotel.
- 14. Poppies & Remembrance Sunday:** Peter explained the history on this from the past where 100 wooden poppies were made from reclaimed timber and put along the Bridge of Cannay. He suggested that another 100 poppies would be made this year, painted and then planted along Smiddy Park about a week before Remembrance Sunday. Bill explained he has been doing this for the Legion in Banchory. **Peter to send on photos to Neil who will put out email to the Community.**
- 15. Date of next two meetings:** The next meeting was agreed to be Wednesday 24th November followed by 26th January 2022. The IBG CC agreed to make the future bi-monthly meetings to be on the last Wednesday of every second month.