

Inchmarlo, Brathens and Glassel Community Council
Online meeting
Wednesday 30th March 2022, 7.30pm
Approved Minutes

Present: Regis Lechatellier (Chair), Robert Russell (Treasurer), Neil Bisset (Secretary), Andy Wilkins, Chris Low, Bill Byth, Harriet Cross, Yi-pei Chou Turvey,

Councillors: Cllr Rosemary Bruce, Cllr Ann Ross

Apologies: Paul Herrington, Cllr Eileen Durno

Actions are highlighted in **Red**

1. **Welcome/Apologies:** The Chair (Regis), welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made to Harriet and Yi-Pei who have joined us for the first time. Neil confirmed that Paul Herrington had sent his apologies.
2. **Approve minutes of previous meeting:** Regis Lechtallier proposed, Robert Russell seconded.
3. **Secretarys Report:** Neil advised last time that he had emailed Colin Champion regarding the Queens Canopy proposal to see about welcoming a member of the Royal family to the Inchmarlo area, but has not heard anything since our last meeting. He did say that he is awaiting news from the Platinum Jubilee activities, to see whether the diary of The Duke of Rothesay (otherwise known as Prince Charles) and if he is available before the end of March early April to plant two trees, one for the Platinum Jubilee, the other for the Queen's Canopy, on the Inchmarlo estate, no response to date. Neil advised that Regis and himself met with 4 of the Glassel hall team in February and had a good meeting with them in Glassel hall. This was an opportunity to explain about the newly formed IBG CC, and the new boundaries and also how we can support them including funding that can be applied for through the midhill wind farm funding. There is a community resilience meeting planned for the 26th April with Mike Forbes at the Inchmarlo Hall on the back of Storm Arwen. He's recently given a talk to a planning group at Crathie and has agreed to give the same presentation to the residents of IBG, this is being arranged through Richard Clark in Inchmarlo. The session will start around 7:30pm and last about an hour and Regis will be attending on behalf of the CC but more of you are welcome to go along if you wish to join. We have offered the support of the CC and are certainly keen on being involved with the outcome but Richard will be running with this along with the Bothy and the Hall teams, so we are here to help or use our weight in any way. Neil advised since the last meeting we are still waiting to receive an update on going to 3 separate bin collections and the date when this starts. Andy advised this may not be until next year (2023).
4. **Treasurers Report:** Bob informed the group he has sent out a summary from the last meeting and close to year end. The next meeting will be tying everything

up for the year. £1,721.38 is the amount in the account at this point. Bob mentioned one cheque is still to be processed for the Bridge of Cannay repair. **Regis to contact Keith to process cheque.** Bob took the opportunity to discuss the Storm strategy meeting that he attended. The main conclusions were that the initial reaction from the authorities, guidance, meeting places and where to go should have been better. The second storm was better addressed, one of the main concerns was that when the phone lines are down and that the BT initiative to remove copper lines is a concern for residents as well. Bob advised BT has paused this project for the time being. Bob found the meeting useful to share ideas with the conclusions which are quite obvious but there will be a published meeting in due course. This will link with the Richard Clark meeting highlighted in the Secretary's report.

- 5. Councillors Report:** Cllr Ross shared that this is the last meeting that the current council team will be meeting with IBG CC as the current term finishes end of April. The last Marr area committee meeting was yesterday which highlighted her concerns around roads, bridges, cycling, walking, safety etc. and budgets that are going forward. Cllr Ross mentioned her concerns with roads specifically North Deeside road which will be looked into over the coming year. A Resilience paper went through the Marr area committee on removal of fireplaces in Braemar but affects Aberdeenshire. It was decided that council houses will have their fire places removed (to aid carbon neutral). Cllr Ross advised the Aberdeenshire awards are coming to an end shortly and encourages anyone to submit a nomination and you can do this on the council website who have contributed to the community. Cllr Bruce advised that the resilience workshop was a good meeting and realised that the communication aspect was improved for the second storm but was raised as a concern initially. They stressed they are there to help with resilience plans and anything that the communities are doing. **Cllr Bruce advised she would send on the slides form this meeting to IBG CC,** The digital engagement workshop with BT broadband issues and are keen to help where possible. Cllr Bruce mentioned the continued issues with roads and they are catching up with the list and there are issues with rising costs and finding labour to carry out the work. Bob advised that there are concerns with Inchmarlo retirement village and said he would pass on the information regarding costs etc. Andy also asked if there is a possibility of linking up the community resilience teams to our own and Cllr Bruce advised this is very much the aim and is down to communities to see what works best and to push this up the way (through Janelle), as well as the police and planning from the council to come down the way to the communities. Bill asked if there was anything about felling trees and any plan to survey/ address these areas. Cllr Bruce advised it was mentioned and the slides have more information. Regis took the opportunity to thank Cllr Bruce for all her help specifically with IBG CC and wished her well for the future.
- 6. Police Report:** Neil informed the group that the most up to date Police report was as per the issue on 9th March to the IBG residents regarding the February Police Report. Cllr Ross advised there is a new Police inspector in Banchory Sgt Keith Greig.

- 7. A93 request for Speed Limit reduction:** Andy informed the group and read out the reports from the RSU regarding the speed reduction. On 8th March the committee agreed in part to the recommendation to authorise the extension in extending the Easterly speed limit to 150m East of the entrance to Smiddy Park. Gateway settlement ask for wording on the signage and what IBG CC wish to see on these signs. The RSU also mentioned the Westerly direction was not recommended for change as the current recommendation for the speed limit is tied to the road environment and countdown markers give good indication to speed limit change. The RSU advised cutting back branches and signage would be more beneficial to aid awareness and reduce speeds. The IBG CC discussed the new signage details and numerous options were given including 'Welcome to Bridge of Cannay', 'Welcome to Inchmarlo', 'Bridge of Cannay', 'Inchmarlo', 'Please drive carefully' etc. The group voted and agreed that '40 Please Drive Carefully' on the East and the West side would suffice. **Andy to go back to the roads engineer and agree on the signage that was agreed by IBG CC.** It was mentioned that there is no Bridge of Cannay signage, it was agreed that any future Bridge of Cannay signage to be taken up in a separate case if required. **Neil to forward the email to notify the residents of the success of the speed limit being awarded.** Bill continued to discuss the speed limit reduction at Inchmarlo retirement village on the A93 and his concerns as well as the obvious safety implications that have not been addressed, Bill asked for this to be revisited by the council. Cllr Ross advised that she has raised this specific issue around 4 years ago when first elected along with Charles Skene, Road dept and Police and Peter Tyrell. The result by the Roads Dept was that this did not meet the criteria and bushes were to be cut back to improve visibility etc. Cllr Ross advised she is happy to take this back to the council again, she also advised we can raise a petition which is what we have completed already. **Bob to forward on the signed petition to Cllr Ross & Marr Council (Kirsty).** Cllr Ross mentioned we should also get in touch with the Road dept as this has not come before the Marr Area committee council as of yet and she is happy to help with this. Cllr Ross would raise an MPI but this would not be required if the petition had been issued. **Cllr Bruce advised she would write to the Marrs team to cut back trees/ shrubs and for a check to be carried out on the existing signage and a road check covering traffic volume and speeding.** Andy then advised the reduction to the speed limit at Smiddy Park and also a check on the SCRIM co-efficient, count down markers etc. Andy thanked the councillors for their input to get this speed limit reduction over the line as this has been ongoing since 2016.
- 8. Planning Applications:** Bob has nothing to report this past 2 months in planning area. Bob advised that changing the way the planning applications are forwarded on and approved has not been ruled out since the last meeting so we await this information.
- 9. MidHill Windfarm Funding -** Chris advised that we are still to receive the signed off Fred Olson paperwork which the IBG CC had signed in July 2021. This was not fully received. Neil advised it was sitting with Fred Olson. **Chris Low to contact Fred Olson for a copy of the Approval paperwork.** Chris advised that we have not received any 'proof of spend' of the original approved applications (workshop & hall) and IBG CC confirmed this is required as part of

the application process. **Chris to send email to ask for proof of purchase as this is expected as part of the approvals.** Chris advised the next round has a cut off date of 31st March there are only one issued application at this point but there are a couple more due to be applied for. Chris advised we have money accruing which was carried over from last time and advised we have £12,650 in total. The IBG agreed the next application approval and review meeting would be on Thursday 21st April. **Neil to send out meeting invite.**

- 10. Broadband & Digital connectivity:** Bill advised that he met with Jack Rigby and he was very helpful. This process however, has been raised too late to meet the deadline. Residents who are eligible are due £400 to upgrade. Bill advised he & Bob attended the meeting at Inchmarlo Hall for broadband which was primarily regarding Bridge of Cannay but they did find it very helpful, however its very disappointing that this has come too late to the area for this to be approved prior to 31st March. There is discussions in Bridge of Cannay around trying to receive fibre from Banchory but this is for the future and not imminent. Cllr Bruce advised that going back to Jack would be good, but also mentioned how delayed this project has been and it was stuck in the courts prior to the storms etc which has unfortunately meant there is a run at the end. There are £5000 awarded to people who can't connect either and that the deadline date will more likely be extended for people to apply but **Cllr Bruce suggest the IBG CC (Bill and/ or Bob) to go back to Jack and see if they can help further.** Cllr Ross has legacy information going back to broadband speed issues at Pinecrest and advised that this is basically being held up at National government level who are holding up. She advised the council and Jack have done everything they can to roll this out in due course. **Andy to get in touch with Kirkwood homes to see if there is anything the new housing development can do to help this situation due to its close proximity to Inchmarlo retirement est.**
- 11. Any other Business (AOB) - No comments**
- 12. Date of next two meetings:** The next meeting would be Wednesday 25th May (AGM) and then July 27th 2022. Meeting will continue via Zoom until further notice.