

# MUCKHART COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of Muckhart Community Council, held in the Coronation Hall, on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2018, at 7:30pm

<b>Present:</b>	John Anderson (JA)	Chair
	Patrick Thompson (PT)	Vice-Chair
	Mike Wilson (MRW)	Secretary
	Danny Conroy (DC)	Treasurer
	Philip Lord (PL)	Minute Secretary
	Stuart Dean (SD)	
	Marlene White (MW)	
	Peter Wyatt (PW)	

Councillor Bill Mason; PC Barry Reiter, Moira Benny (for Luke Graham MP)

**Status:**        **Approved**

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Kathleen Martin and Graham Lindsay. Apologies were also received from MCC members Jon Jordan (JJ), Jonathan Bacon (JB), Val Whyte (VW) and Matthew Pease (MP).

### 2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

### 3. Minutes of Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without amendment, proposed by PT and seconded by PW.

### 4. Matters Arising

- Re item 12c (JCCF - GDPR registration): MRW noted that all residents on the MCC mailing lists had been contacted requesting that they should respond if they wished to be removed from the lists. No further action re GDPR registration is planned, however, MRW will keep a watching brief on behalf of MCC.
- Re item 13 (AOCB - Fossoway Bridge repairs): MRW reported that the bridge remains controlled by lights but that P&KC had advised that repairs had begun the previous Monday and that it would take up to two weeks to complete the work.

It was noted that given the regular occurrence of accidents at, and damage to, the bridge, road safety might be improved were traffic lights to be positioned permanently at the bridge to control traffic. MRW agreed to write to P&KC to suggest this potential solution.

**ACTION: MRW**

## **5. Police Report**

PC Reiter reported that there had been no crimes reported since the last MCC Meeting.

MRW enquired about the Community Speedwatch initiative which is progressing in Clackmannan and Menstrie and requested to be kept in touch regarding on-going developments.

Further to on-going issues with speeding traffic in the area, SD noted that P&KC were deploying more road traffic signs which measure and display a vehicle's speed and that he believed that these signs were effective at controlling speeding. Following a discussion, members agreed that the Council should consider deploying these types of signs in the Muckhart area and across Clackmannanshire, as a whole. MRW will progress this, once a new Traffic Management and Road Safety Officer has been appointed.

**ACTION: MRW**

JA thanked PC Reiter for his report.

## **6. Muckhart Community Plan: Update**

### **A: Development Trust Working Group Update**

PT reported on a well-attended meeting, held on 26<sup>th</sup> September, arranged for Muckhart-based groups and organisations to discuss the possible establishment and follow-on activities of a local development trust (particularly with regard to fund raising). Information was exchanged by the groups present regarding their membership, activities and funding needs. Catherine McWilliam, from DTAS, was present and discussed how and why a trust might be established in Muckhart and the different options available. It was noted that membership of DTAS required an active Trust.

Following this, and earlier meetings, a report is being prepared by Alison MacDonald, from the MCP Working Group which will outline the pros and cons of the various types of trust that can be established to raise and manage funds. A further Working Group meeting is being arranged which will include an information exchange with the Glendevon Trust. The information gained at this meeting will be included in the final report which will be presented to MCC, at a separate meeting, to be held before Christmas. This meeting will cover the Working Group's findings and its recommendation as to whether a local trust / fund should be established.

**ACTION: PT**

## **B: Review of Action Plan**

MRW noted that the revised Muckhart Community Plan, including all of the approved updated Objectives and Action Plans, had been distributed to the Plan Leaders, who are asked to check and report any final amendments, prior to the Plan being released. **ACTION: MCP leaders**

A few updates to specific items in the MCP were reported:

### ***Image of the Village, I1 Lead PW***

PW reported that a long list of projects had been identified, some of which may require some modest funding (in the region of £200). The level of support for these projects would be measured, via direct contact and engagement with the community, which would be followed by discussions on how to access or raise any funds required. **ACTION: PW**

### ***Sustainability and Environment: S-1/3 Lead PL***

A Sustainability Working Group has been established and a meeting is planned for later in November.

### ***Infrastructure: I-1/2, Lead MRW***

MRW reported that a Working Group meeting, attended by the EPIC Senior Projects Officer, was held on 10<sup>th</sup> September which focussed on paths and, since then, progress had been made and work, subsequently, was being undertaken. A meeting with the Chair of EPIC took place on 18<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the MCP Survey results and Working Group proposals for path improvements and new paths. MCC concerns regarding road safety, further to the Council's decision to allow the use of Upper Hillfoot Road (the back road to Dollar) to access the Japanese Garden, were also discussed. At the meeting, EPIC confirmed its support for the proposal to create a new path to address the safety concerns raised and has begun to engage with the relevant landowners already. A further meeting with the Council took place on 19<sup>th</sup> September to further discuss path improvements, new paths and road safety. Progress on previously agreed actions is on hold pending the recruitment a new Traffic Management and Road Safety Officer. However, agreement was reached on Council action to clear up leaf litter along the new path from Pool to Yetts.

### ***Public Services: P-1, Lead PL***

PL reported that the Community Library in Dollar was now open and residents of Muckhart were welcome to join as members. A poster had been received and this would be displayed on the MCC notice board and Facebook page. Open times are Saturdays 10:00 to 13:00 and Wednesdays 14:00 to 17:00.

PL also reported that he would be attending the next meeting of the Clacks Community Transport Association on 13th November. **ACTION: PL**

## **7. Planning Sub-Group**

- SD noted that two Planning Applications had been submitted since the last meeting. No issues or concerns were raised by the Sub-Group and they were responded to with a “no

comment”.

An application had also been submitted proposing the placement of an advertising sign for the Japanese Garden on a piece of land, adjacent to the A91, at the junction with the Dollar back road. The Sub-Group agreed that while MCC should not object to this application, that it would submit several comments regarding concerns raised relating to road safety which had resulted from the application.

A question was raised as to whether traffic volumes were being monitored by the Council along Upper Hillfoot Road. A member of the community present at the meeting suggested that the Council should deploy Metrocount strips to measure the volume and speed of traffic travelling along the back road. SD agreed to follow this up with the Council.

**ACTION: SD**

- SD reported that the publication of the new Local Development Plan (LDP) Main Issues Report (MIR) will be further delayed due to ongoing work on the School Estates Strategy and the subsequent scheduling of this topic at Council meetings. The probable date for publication of the MIR is now Spring 2019. It was noted that the 2018 Local Development Plan Scheme will soon be available on Clacksweb.
- A Burnfoot Windfarm update meeting is to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> November, at the Devonvale Hall, Tillicoultry, at 7:00pm.

## **8. Publicity: Update**

PW noted there was nothing to report.

## **9. Muckhart Primary School: Update**

MRW noted that VW had sent a short report:

- The School had a very successful open evening giving the opportunity to show off the newly decorated classrooms (the decoration was organised and undertaken by the Parent Council and parents). This should be of interest to the new families thinking about sending their children to Muckhart, in August 2019.
- Volunteers are requested to help encourage children to read more in the library (on a Tuesday 9.30 to 10.30am) and to help out with the School / community Garden (contact Mrs McGlinchie, at the School).
- The Parent Council is organising a ‘Soup and Sweet’ fundraiser on Saturday 10th November 12:00 – 2:00pm.

The above request and activity to be added our Facebook site.

**ACTION: MW**

JA thanked the Primary School for recently distributing fruit and vegetables from the school garden to residents throughout the village (marking the end of harvest time).

## 10. Treasurer's Report

DC presented the Treasurer's Report, for the period 31<sup>st</sup> October. The balance of the account stood unchanged at £1155.17.

The Report was accepted by members.

## 11. Correspondence

MRW had circulated a list of correspondence received, in a summary format. A few items were noted and discussed, namely:

- Forth Naturalist & Historian (FNH), in partnership with the Friends of the Ochils (FotO), is presenting a conference on the Ochils, on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018, at Stirling University. SD noted that this forum will take a holistic look at the entire hill range.
- The Council is undertaking a consultation on Clacks polling districts and places. It was agreed to distribute this to the MCC mailing list and for a response to be submitted by MCC supporting existing arrangements. **ACTION: MRW**
- It was also agreed to distribute a consultation on unconventional oil and gas extraction to the MCC mailing list (it was noted that MCC did not respond to an earlier survey on this issue, as it was agreed it would not be possible for MCC to adopt a position that could be claimed to represent Muckhart on this issue). **ACTION: MRW**
- A consultation on the Council's draft Corporate Plan was discussed. It was agreed that a sub-group would be set-up to produce a draft response, which would be agreed, subsequently, by all members and submitted on behalf of MCC. **ACTION: JA / MRW**
- A communication had been received from a resident drawing attention to the recent deaths of several red squirrels along Golf Course Road / New Broadmeadows. Notices warning motorists to slow down, to help protect the red squirrels in the area, are to be erected by residents. A notice will be added to the MCC web-site and Facebook page. **ACTION: MRW / MW**

## 12. JCCF

The next JCCF meeting is to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> November, at 7:00pm, and additional topics for discussion have been requested for the agenda. Further to earlier communications, members agreed to request an item be added covering the future role of the JCCF. The ideas discussed are to be submitted to Lesley Baillie in advance. **ACTION: MRW**

A meeting was arranged for 2<sup>nd</sup> December for a sub-group to meet to agree any updates to the current MCC Constitution, Standing Orders, etc. following recent updates to the CC Scheme of Establishment and the production of a Complaints Procedure. **ACTION: MRW**

### 13. AOCB

- VW had sent a note on a plan to set up the lights for the Light Up Muckhart event scheduled to be held 25th November, 4:00 -7:00pm. Volunteers are needed to set up the lights during the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> November (it was agreed the 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> November were the best dates) and to act as stewards at the event itself. **ACTION: All**
- There will be an act of commemoration, at 10:50 on 11<sup>th</sup> November, at the village War Memorial.
- Cllr Mason stated his support for an MCC response to the draft Corporate Plan (see 11. Correspondence above) and reminded those present that savings of approximately £12.5 million require to be made from the Council's budget next year. He also reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> senior management position in the Council was close to being decided. In response to a question, he confirmed that, as yet, no final Council organisational chart was available.

### 14. Date of Next Meeting

The next MCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018, at 7:30pm, in the Coronation Hall.

The meeting closed at 9:15pm.