

Blackness Area Community Council

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday 21st November 2018 - Blackness Boat Club

<p>Attendees: <u>Community Council members:</u> Martin Watt (MW) (Chair), Dorothy Garrow (DG), David Lawson (DL) <u>Members of the public:</u> Cllr David Aitchison (DA), Merv Archibald (MA), Terry Rowland (TR), Sharman Faulds (CF), Alan Faulds (AF), Norrie MacLeod (NM), Annie Meikle (AM), Karen Walker (KW) (minutes) <u>Police Scotland</u> (for part of the meeting): PCs Greg Cruickshanks, (GC), Graham McDougall (GM)</p>	
<p>1. Apologies Helen Brown (HB), Nick Paul (NP), Helena Paul (HP)</p>	
<p>2. Approval of Previous Minutes:</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>Minutes of September 2018 proposed by MA and seconded by MW (no meeting held in October due to low numbers of BACC member availability)</p>	<p>Approved</p>
<p>3. Community Police Report</p>	
<p>Police Report: PC Greg Cruickshanks & Graham McDougall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 1 disorder (breach of the peace) offence in the Blackness area. October: no crimes reported. November: Sunday 4th - break in at Mannerstons Farm Shop, CCTV and lap tops taken; Tuesday 20th - break in to sheds at Burnshot Farm, information still to come from CCTV but a black Hilux possibly involved. Suspect same gang involved in both incidents. Transit vans: continue to be targeted due to a design flaw. Everyone should be vigilant at this time of year – if you disturb a suspected burglary, call 999 or any attempted break-ins found next day should be reported to the police on 101. <p>Roads and parking update: No mention of RTA at 7 Champany Holdings on B903 on 23rd October but incidents such as this would not come up in the police crime listing. NM raised the issue of repeat offenders blocking in the First Responder cars in Blackness (despite road markings/signs), police advise that NM/AM should call 999 & request help in an emergency call out situation. Additional brief discussion regarding accidents at Champany corner and traffic on A904 however any decisions to alter the junction would lie with FC and not Police Scotland. MW to follow up with FC roads department regarding siting of the Rouken Glen Garden Centre sign/traffic island (not in compliance with the planning permission granted for the allotments) and rocks on side of A904</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>NM/AM</p> <p>MW</p>
<p>4. Actions and matters arising from previous minutes</p>	
<p>Broadband: appears to have been rolled out and a new pole erected in the village. Please see Item 8 below regarding uncertainty of when the upgraded lines will be active.</p> <p>Roads: Patching & road markings have been carried out but not all actions have been carried out as expected by FC roads dept, Cllr Aitchison to follow up with FC again and also ask for the outcome of the speed survey (tubes on A904 during the summer). MW to also follow up with FC roads department per Item 3 above</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>DA</p> <p>MW</p>

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<p>Parking (old action): parking spaces behind the Boat Club – see Item 5 below.</p> <p>Update from HB added in her absence Newsletter – I have been unable to get in touch with Helena regarding the newsletter – I am generally free on Fridays if she would like to get together about this Meeting with Blackness castle manager – Still to be arranged with HES Agenda items to include: parking, funding for play park, gate signage.</p>	<p>Closed</p> <p>HB/HP</p> <p>HB</p>
<p>5. Councillors' Update</p>	
<p>Champany Junction: FC has confirmed that accidents have not been caused by the road layout and therefore no changes are planned.</p> <p>Generally agreed at the meeting that although it may not be the road layout, there is some issue with the junction as so many near misses and poor driving manoeuvres have been witnessed as well as another major accident recently. However, as highlighted by MA, this junction has been discussed many times by the BACC over the last decade and until there are more deaths attributable to the lay out/speed, nothing will be done by FC.</p> <p>Parking: Cllr Aitchison has confirmed that the painted parking spaces behind the Boat Club are on FC owned land.</p>	
<p>6. Community Projects</p>	
<p>CEILIDH : Community Hall fundraiser for the Community Hall is to be held in the hall on Saturday 17 May 2019 - save the date</p> <p>CAROL SERVICE: 7pm, Tuesday 11 December 2018 in Blackness Community Hall. MA asks that any <u>volunteers and parents come along at 3.30/4pm</u> to help set up the hall and also requests that <u>2 or 3 people volunteer to be on the door.</u></p> <p>PLAYPARK EXTENSION: Please see budget update. Still aiming for all funding to be in place so that the project can be proceed in April 2019. The project has been in Tescos but will not know the outcome until end of November, and HB as asked FET for an update as to when this funding will be confirmed.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL inc school parents</p> <p>HB</p>
<p>7. Planning Update</p>	
<p>Planning application for a wind turbine at Woodhead (SW Bo'ness, near Kinneil) has been made but not thought to impact anyone in the Blackness area.</p>	
<p>8. Broadband update</p>	
<p>Open Reach works have gone on in the area and cable has been brought to the village from Merrylees to the T-junction to provide higher speed fibre broadband. It was noted that there was inadequate traffic management at times during the roadworks and the new pole caused disruption to phone lines due to incorrect reconnections. There is still uncertainty when Blackness will be hooked up. Suggest each householder contact their own provider for an update/put pressure on providers. MW to check if any information is available from Open Reach regarding when Blackness</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>MW</p>

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<p>and surrounding area will go live.</p>	
<p>Flight path matters</p> <p>EAL's application for new routes has been refused by the CAA for a number of technical reasons and accepted the issues raised regarding the consultation process (including inaccurate population numbers and details presented to the public). The CAA has confirmed that any new application will have to go through the new regulations (CAP 1616) which should allow communities to be more effectively involved.</p> <p>EAL have appointed a Community Engagement Manager – Louise McIntyre - she will write to arrange a meeting with each local council.</p> <p>MA put forward a new item for discussion per HP's email to BACC members on 17 November: Kinghorn Community Council have proposed the use of the Forth Estuary to reduce the number of flights over populated areas such as Blackness as well as Fife. The Kinghorn Provost has written to the CAA to support this proposal and has asked for support from the BACC. HP and MA support the idea and it was agreed at the meeting that the BACC are also happy to do so. MA advised notes of support were required before 12th December 2018. (Post meeting note: MA has advised Kinghorn CC that BACC support their initiative).</p>	<p>MA – action completed post meeting</p>
<p>10. Budget</p>	
<p>On line bank not working - update to follow (as a post meeting addition to the minutes or at the next meeting?) however funds for the play park which had been held temporarily in the BACC account can be transferred soon by cheque which will simplify the account to BACC funds only again.</p>	<p>DL</p>
<p>11. AOCB</p> <p>MA raised the issue that per the BACC constitution, a quorum of 3 council members are required for a BACC meeting to be held and that sometimes (e.g. September 2018) this is not possible. In order to minimise this risk moving forward, BACC could co-opt members to attend a meeting if there were not enough BACC elected members though it should be noted that there would still need to be at least 2 BACC elected members (i.e. the majority of the quorum are elected members). Co-opted members would not need to do anything other than attend the meeting. It is understood that a co-opted member should be a Blackness area resident and on the regional electoral role. It was suggested that perhaps a "bank" of several volunteers could be co-opted in order to minimise the risk of having to cancel any future meetings.</p> <p>MA to check the regulations with FC regarding who and how to co-opt members and <u>any volunteers should please contact a BACC member or MA.</u></p> <p>Fracking: MA raised the email dated 3rd November 2018 from Maria Montinaro asking for financial support from the BACC to add to the fund to enable the services of a professional to respond to the current Scottish Government consultation (closes 18 December 2019) on fracking. <u>Agreed a cheque of £100 would be forwarded to the fund.</u></p>	<p>MA ALL DL</p>

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<p>MW raised the point that the only councillor that attends the BACC meetings is Cllr Aitchison and would like to see Ann Ritchie (SNP) attend some of the meetings to discuss the airport and fracking in particular. DA also suggested Angus MacDonald MSP. DA to approach both people to ask if they can attend any future meetings.</p> <p>Sue Gairns asked KW to highlight that the Community Hall has very few bookings and is underutilised – agreed that some BACC meetings should be held in the hall once the weather becomes warmer (as heating in the hall is not as effective as in the boat club) – bookings to be made for some BACC meetings from April 2019 and beyond.</p>	<p>DA</p> <p>HB</p>
<p>Date of Next Meeting; Wednesday 19th December 2018 or 16th January 2019 in the Boat Club.</p>	
<p>The Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20.50</p>	