

BIRSE PARISH LIAISON GROUP

Minutes of Meeting in Birse Hall on 7th November 2017

Present:

Birse Area Community Association	Doug Boyle, Jane Winton, Rick Paul
Ballogie Community Association	Jayne Reader,
Birse & Ballogie Community Council	David Younie, David Winton, Keith Reader
Finzean Community Council	Stuart Gordon
Birse Community Trust	Guy Haslam

1. Introduction

1.1 It was confirmed that Birse Area Community Association would chair the meeting and that BCT will circulate a draft record of the Meeting.

1.2 Apologies were received from Donna Thow(FCA), and Davie Hector (FCC). The Agenda was agreed.

1.3 GH outlined the purpose of the meeting: that it was to exchange information and keep the various groups informed as to what was happening in the area. It was agreed that the meeting would meet once a year.

2. Last Meeting

2.1 The Record of the Meeting on 8th November 2016 was agreed.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 None

4. BPLG

4.1 BPLG Groups: It was agreed that the posting of each group's Constitution and AGM minutes on BCT's website should be at the discretion of the particular group. Any items sent to BCT will be added to the BCT records.

4.2 Community Representatives: The list was updated at the meeting and will be re-issued.

5. Updates from Groups

(a) B2C2 - DY reported that membership was up to 9. Pedestrian signs have been erected on the B976 at the Marywell footpath crossings, and a request to review the speed limit in Marywell has been lodged. A passing place on the road from Birkenbush to Balfour has been approved by the Council for next year's budget, and improvements made to the entrance to the new graveyard and the roadside fencing of the old graveyard extension renewed. B2C2 continues to monitor the defib pad and plant the flower tubs. DY also reported that MAP are creating a Community Paths Digital Forum, using a web-based 'Knowledge Hub' program, where information about various completed projects can be uploaded for everyone's benefit.

(b) FCC - SG reported that they were successful in getting the speed limit changed by the new houses and the east end on the village, and also in getting road and signage improvements at the junction just above the primary school.

(c) BCA - JR outlined the Ballogie Hub proposal and reported that they were about to start applying for grants for the project, planning application having been applied for via B2C2. They have modernized their Constitution, and have held a successful Easter Egg hunt, path clearing, AGM and bonfire.

(d) BACA - DB reported that BACA held a successful BBQ in June, and that hall use is still strong, with varied uses including weddings and funerals, hire to local groups and table tennis. BACA will again be hosting refreshments in Birse Hall after the Remembrance Day service on 12th November, and will be holding its AGM in December.

(e) BCT - GH reported that with personnel changes in the day to day running of the Trust, BCT is looking for more community engagement, and is keen to recruit more Trustees. There have been recent thinnings in Slewdrum and Balfour, but the next major cutting is in Slewdrum in 3 years' time. BCT was successful in getting the Mills complex accepted by Tesco in their Bags for Life initiative. Repairs to the sawmill weir have been protracted, due in part to getting agreement from the various parties involved, i.e. SEPA and The Fisheries Board, but are expected to be complete in 2018. BCT is looking to create more paths across the parish, and is currently engaged in a project to reorganize the Parish Archive.

6. Topics for Discussion

6.1 Remembrance: It was noted that there will be services at Corsedardar on the 12th at 3 p.m. and at Birse Kirk at 3:30 pm.

6.2 Phone Mast at Slewdrum: DB reported that the new EE phone mast down the fishing track is awaiting electrics to be connected.

6.3 Social Housing: BCT had investigated the possibility of developing the Ord cottage, but concluded that it was not a viable proposition.

6.4 Birse Graveyard: There was no enthusiasm for the community taking ownership of the new Birse graveyard

6.5 Annual Path Walk: DB suggested that BCT liaise with FCA to organize a walk around the Finzean community path. He explained that BCT intended to cut back the trees on BCT's land which were encroaching the houses north of the old Post Office.

7. Any Other Business

7.1 Broadband: GH informed the meeting that broadband enhancement has been promised by the end of 2018.

8. Next Meeting

8.1 Next Meeting: It was agreed that the next meeting will be hosted by FCA at Finzean Hall on Tuesday 6th November 2018 at 7:30 pm.
