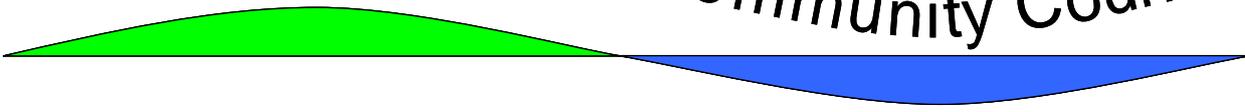


Spittalfield & District Community Council



7.00 p.m. SDCC AGM 16th April 2014 Caputh Hall

- Present: Roddy McInnes, Sheena McPherson, Jean Rae, Alf Megson, James McIntosh, Anton Edwards, Barbara Vaughan and four members of the Public. Apologies were received from Graham Juggins and Grant Laing.
- Minutes of AGM of 17th April 2013 were adopted (JMcl/JR).
- There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- JMcl presented the audited accounts for the year 2013-14. With a balance of £1453.84, no support grant will be applied for this year. The accounts were adopted (SMcP/JR).
- The Auditor Campbell Dallas was thanked and reappointed (RMcl/JMcl).
- The chairman gave his annual report as below.
- Cllr Barbara Vaughan took the chair for the election of chair: RMcl was elected (AM/JR) and resumed the chair. AE was elected as secretary (RMcl/JMcl); SMcP was elected as vice-chair (RMcl/JR); JMcl was elected as treasurer (AM/SMcP). Graham Juggins has resigned and there is now a vacancy for a community councillor for Meikleour.
- The meeting concluded at 19:20.

Website: sdcc.co.uk

Clunie & Chair:	Roddy McInnes
Meikleour:	Vacancy
Spittalfield and Glendelvine:	James McIntosh (Treasurer) & Alf Megson (Webmaster)
Caputh & Secretary:	Anton Edwards, Duguid's Wark, Caputh, PH1 4JH, 01738 710 774
Murthly:	Sheena McPherson (Vice-Chairman) & Jean Rae

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SDCC Chairman's Report 2013-14

- Meetings were held:
2013, Caputh 17 April & AGM, Murthly 19 June, Meikleour 18 September, Clunie 20 November cancelled as non-quorate; 2014, Spittalfield 20 February and Caputh 16 April & AGM.
- The current community councillors since the election of 3 November 2011 (four year term) are:
Clunie - Roddy McInnes (chairman, elected AGM 2013)
Meikleour - Graham Juggins - (standing down at AGM, vice-chairman, elected AGM 2013)
Caputh - Anton Edwards (secretary, elected AGM 2013)
Spittalfield - James McIntosh (treasurer, elected AGM 2013) and Alf Megson
Murthly - Jean Rae and Sheena McPherson
- The issues dealt with by the community council during the last year include:
Graveyard improvements at Clunie and Caputh along with extension to Clunie graveyard.
Deteriorating condition and repair of the Mercat Cross at Meikleour Village.
Maintenance of beech hedge, and repairs to adjacent footpath and wall at Meikleour.
Persistent rubbish, anti-social behaviour and access at Clunie Loch.
Vehicles exceeding the speed limit through villages.
Overgrown hedges on footpaths at Murthly - referred to PKC.
Deteriorating condition of old good yards at Station Road, Murthly.
Road surface conditions due to potholes and mud from field traffic.
The A9 dualling and road upgrades.
Signage at industrial units, Meikleour.
Road improvements at the following: A984 East and West of Caputh, A923 West of Forneth House and the Stewart Towers Road, Murthly.
Insufficient lane marking at Inveralmond Roundabout, Perth.
Restricted vehicle turning at Broompark Crescent and roads blocked at Druids Park, Murthly.
Fly tipping of tyres at Lethendy Road, Meikleour.
Dog fouling on footpaths.
Abandoned caravan by A984 at Caputh.
Planning application for Meikleour Arms.
Blocked road drains at Spittalfield.
Proposed wind farm at Dulater Hill, Forneth and the increasing number of wind farm developments in the surrounding area.
And ... not to forget the ongoing saga of Caputh and Spittalfield notice boards.
- Presentation: at Spittalfield 20 February 2014, a presentation was given on local resilience plans and emergency planning for local risks such as power cuts, flooding and severe weather, by John Handling (PKC) and Cordelia Menmure (SEPA).
- As chairman I express my thanks to the general public for attending and supporting our meetings, to Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for their attendance and input, to our three regional councillors for their continued support and guidance, to the office bearers and members of the Community Council for their support and contribution to the community and for their attendance at presentations and meetings on behalf of the Community Council. To Alf Megson for now acting as the web master for the Community Council and for all his hard work on the web site so far. To James McIntosh our treasurer for managing the funds and paying of the accounts. To Anton Edwards our secretary for the administration, maintains of records and dissemination of information. And not forgetting our outgoing vice-chairman and representative for Meikleour, Graham Juggins, who sadly due to other commitments is standing down. Graham has been an active member of the Community Council as well as taking on the role of vice-chairman for the last few years, I take this opportunity of thanking him for his contribution including his hard work in setting up our first website and I'm sure we all wish him well in his new pursuits. Lastly I look forward to the continued support and working together with the aforementioned as we strive to improve our community!

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7.30 p.m. SDCC Public Meeting

- Present: Roddy McInnes, Sheena McPherson, Jean Rae, Alf Megson, James McIntosh, Anton Edwards, Barbara Vaughan and seven members of the Public. Apologies were received from Graham Juggins, Giles Atkins and Grant Laing.
- Minutes of meeting of 20th February 2014 were taken as read and adopted (JMcl/AM)
- Matters arising from minutes: a price was expected for Spittalfield & Caputh noticeboards (but see next item); the derelict caravan west of Caputh has been removed by Glendelvine Estate.
- Arek Nowrotek, Coordinator of the PKC Unpaid Work Team, summarised the service provided by the supervised and appropriately composed team. The team does not compete with paid contractors. The scheme also offers individual placement within charities and community organisations. All present were asked to send suggestions to Arek or to the secretary and, in any case, it was agreed to consider what might be done at the next meeting. Examples of possible work included painting village halls, making and installing noticeboards (Caputh and Spittalfield will be suggested).
- John McMillan reported succinctly on schemes for broadband improvements (more than 8MB/s) in the Butterstone area so as to improve internet access and property prices. The broadband project for the Lunan Valley and the area covered by Spittalfield and District Community Council will be initiated by a new company limited by guarantee, probably to be named the Lunan Valley Community Broadband Trust (LVCBT). It will receive a grant from Community Broadband Scotland to cover the cost of commissioning a technical appraisal on the means of achieving superfast broadband in the area served by the exchanges of Butterstone (0.5 Mbps), Caputh, Essendy, Spittalfield and Meikleour (8.0 Mbps). After the report is received a public meeting will be called to approve a constitution for the Trust, to elect office bearers and to agree the plan of action. (Details of possible present line improvements through Stanley and Murthly were not known at the time of the meeting)

It is likely that the work of LVCBT will eventually be taken over by Highland Perthshire Community Partnership, which has declared the aim of getting high speed broadband into every home in their area of interest. It was agreed that **AE** will send John our SDCC emails.

- A police report had been received. Thefts of heating oil and of valuable farm equipment continue to give concern. Residents are asked to keep an eye for suspicious lorries or low loaders carrying farm equipment. All residents are once again reminded to beware bogus workmen and bogus callers. Do not admit anyone to the house without verified identification. If in doubt phone police. It was commented that sheep have also been stolen at Laighwood last year.

Beware bogus callers, distractive doorstep thieves and false doorstep calls for help.

Call 101 if in doubt and for all police matters not needing emergency services.

- One public matter of concern was raised: the Dullatur Hill wind farm proposed by Ecotricity. Jeremy Scuse introduced the Lunan Valley Protection Group and its website, lunanvalley.org.uk. Ecotricity plans ecological surveys before any planning application is submitted. In a long discussion, some of those present expressed concerns about residential noise, cumulative visual impact of the many local wind schemes, the temporary and permanent effects of road works on the A923, and the effect on designated areas such as SACs, SPAs and SSSIs. It was reported that a meeting between community councillors (RMcl, AE and Nan Johnson, chair of Dunkeld & Birnam CC) and representatives of the PKC roads department had made clear that the roads department sets neutrally the standards to which applicants should adhere, rather than specifying the detail of any road work. Anyone with a view on wind farms was encouraged to write as an individual to the local press.

It was agreed that **AE** will reply positively to Ecotricity about its suggestion to have an afternoon display and drop-in at some accessible and convenient venue such as the Birnam Institute, followed by a presentation and Q&A session in the evening, open to both community councils and others, to be chaired by RMcl. Ecotricity has signified its intent to hold such an event early in the planning application timetable.

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- Web site developments – AM has made us a new website sdcc.co.uk that also has twitter feeds. He suggested that a photo competition for each village would provide useful material for the site (details deferred to next meeting).
- Councillors' reports: PKC has published planning enforcement guidelines, a new Tree Policy and High Hedges Policy
- Support was expressed for the revised submitted Meikleour Arms planning application.
- Area reports. Murthly: a Murthly in Bloom scheme particularly associated with the old goods yard now has a nucleus group to arrange it. **BV** will ask to arrange a “no through road” sign. Clunie: the chairman has attended wind farm meetings and an A9 upgrade session.
- Correspondence was summarized: invitation to a Voluntary Sector Conference; an SDCC objection lodged against Creag A' Bhaird Wind Farm at Amulree on the grounds of loss of visual amenity, noise pollution, and “out of character with the area”; PKC financial year guidance; invitation to community empowerment conference; results of a government consultation *Towards a Litter-Free Scotland*; PKC *Roads Maintenance Strategy*; A9 improvements; *Tayplan*; and the Elrick Tay Forest Wind Farm notification of community benefits scheme and consultation timetable.
- Dates of meeting for the coming year were set as: Murthly 11 June; 17 September Meikleour; 12 November Clunie; 18 February Spittalfield; 15 April & AGM Caputh.
- There was no other business and the meeting concluded at 21:25

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