

Monimail Community Council
Minutes of meeting, 10th December 2007

1. **Present** : A. Arbuckle; C. Bache; D. Dallas; H. Grant; D. Hamilton; C. Jones; P. Jones; M. Kidd; P. Laidlaw; N. Stoddart; T. Nesbitt; G. Smith.
C. Gilbert (Fife Council)
2. **Apologies** : W. Fenton; B. Forrest; J. Gordon; L. Harvie; J. Vaughan
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** : minutes of the meeting 08/10/07 were accepted
4. **Matters Arising**
 - **Letham Toll : BEAR Scotland**
Nothing to report specifically regarding the Toll Junction
North Glenrothes Group have raised the issue of Dualing the A92 and this has been brought to the North East Fife Committee for their thoughts. There are no views from Community Councils however Cllr Arbuckle has expressed his concerns. It is not seen as a good idea – the toll junction is bad enough as it is never mind what it would be like if the main road was dual Carriageway!!
 - **Bow of Fife Speed** : no update regarding the warning signs apparently proposed for the main road through Bow of Fife. Some concerns were raised about the amount of “road kill” on the road, including red squirrels and a buzzard
Cllr Arbuckle and C Gilbert suggested they would find out what warning signs are proposed for the road
 - **Access Road from School Brae**: this was discussed briefly and although ownership was mentioned, it was agreed that the issue is use and access rather than the specific ownership of the short road. As long as no damage was being done by anyone using the road as access to the field or the back of the houses on Monimail Road, then there is no issue in people using the route.
 - **Twinning** : J Vaughan was not present at the meeting however the following points regarding Twinning were read out :
The Christmas Light competition was won by Lucy Drummond who lives in the Church at the Bow , runner up was Grace Rotheram of Letham
Lecturers from Lycee Professional will be visiting Elmwood College in February, and 5 students plus a teacher in May
The Rotary Club & Yvonne Gray Dance are looking at a visit in June 08
A possible 2-way exchange is being discussed with Cupar Soccer Sevens with u-11 team coming to Fife and u-15 team going to France
Griselda Hill in Ceres has made contact with a potter near Sainte Menehould
Possible seniors visit in the Autumn
Other requests being pursued include :
 - a) shooting / fishing / kayaking
 - b) Fire Brigade
 - c) Promotion of Fife in Sainte Menehould Turist Office
5. **Treasurer’s Report** : The account balance stands at just over £734.
The total cost for the Seat at the Well Tree in memory of Jimmy Stewart was £343.88 which includes a donation of £150 from the family
6. **Planning** :
 - **Steadings, Letham Farm (2 houses)** :
It was reported that correspondence in relation to this (and other) planning applications cannot be obtained through the website. It appears there is an issue with Data Protection so this may be the reason! Still at Pending Consideration

The question of Outline Planning : what is the point of this when it is ignored when future plans are submitted – eg 1½ permitted and then plans submitted with 2-storey design?
The overall height is the issue and it is basically up to the planners at Committee when outline planning moves to full application!
 - **Hanson Expansion** – application has been granted permission although it does not initially include the area where Red Squirrels are evident!
 - **Tree Preservation** – the TPO will be updated from the end of the month to include the large Oak on the Bow road (outwith the village envelope)
7. **Jimmy Stewart Memorial** :
A well-attended Dedication was held at the end of November

8. **Village Hall Report** : a short meeting was held to discuss potential funding for the following projects
: Re-wiring

Flooring of Main Hall
Replacement Windows

9. **The Secret Graden -**

Use of Village Hall : discussions are ongoing about the use of the Hall by the Secret Garden on an “emergency” basis, with various surveys being carried out including safety assessments etc. and a Fire Safety report is to be produced.

The plan is to utilise the smaller back hall in the event of severe weather and the Secret Garden group don't really envisage using it, however they are required to have premises registered for such purposes if required to be used.

Discussions are also taking place with Colin Gilbert regarding possible use of the play-park

Community Woodland : Neil Stoddart provided an update to those present.

A meeting had been held the previous Sunday where around a dozen people had met to discuss potential issues :

- legal implications of owning woodland in a community
- ball-park idea of the amount of charges that will be levied
- valuation of the Woodland in question
- the village of “Dunning” in Perthshire have a Community Woodland and the plan is to meet them to discuss how they managed this and the processes/issues they encountered
- possible Community Trust Model – owned by the Community (Cathy Bache has been in contact with Fife Rural Partnership)
- Private Ownership

A short discussion took place.

Is there any point in buying the woodland if there is “right of access” ?

It would be an advantage to have the woodland have ownership “in perpetuity” as this would prevent it being purchased and either developed or chopped down! It would be a Community asset

Whose responsibility would path upkeep/cost etc be? – this is one of the areas that is to be discussed with Dunning

The project is at an exploratory stage just now – the next meeting is Sunday Jan 20th at 11am

10. **Any Other Business**

- An email was received today regarding the proposed 20mph zone around Letham School. The area proposed is from the bottom of School Brae up to the school, including the road off to the right along with the access road to the left.

It was discussed that we could argue the whole village should be 20mph as any vehicle going to the school has to come up The Row or along Monimail Road!

- Water has started running off the fields onto the road around Whinney Park – concerns are freezing over in the colder weather
- The drains in Monimail Road require attention
- Monimail Cemetery – the gates into the Cemetery are in a seriously poor condition

11. **Date of Next Meeting** : Monday 11th February 2008, Letham Village Hall, 7.30pm

WHAT'S ON
FEBRUARY 2008 ISSUE

**** NEW YEAR DANCE**

**LETHAM VILLAGE HALL
TUESDAY 1ST JANUARY 2008
7.30pm – Late
BYOB**

STRICTLY TICKET ONLY – FIRST COME FIRST SERVED

TICKETS FROM MONDAY 3rd DEC from JULIET GORDON (810298)

**** CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING**

**LETHAM VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2007
in aid of Hall Funds**

Coffee & Christmas Pies