Chairman’s Report 2012 Luncarty, Redgorton and Moneydie Community Council

22 May 2012

The Luncarty, Redgorton and Moneydie Community Council had its inaugural meeting in the memorial hall at an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 22 November following the Community Council elections held on Thursday 3 November. Seven nominations were received for the eight vacancies and they were duly elected as Community Council members from that date. We are currently going through the procedures in the standing orders to fill the current vacancy and appoint a nominee from. This not only ensure a full quota of Community Councillors for the year ahead but representation from all three areas.

Over the last six months your Community Council has dealt with many of the concerns of local residents and we are grateful that the Community Police officers, our local Councillors, John Kellas, Barbara Vaughn and Councillor Alastair Wylie attended on a regular basis to support our efforts and provided advice on many matters that are raised. John Kellas in his capacity as convener of the Council’s Enterprise and Infrastructure Committee on issues related to economic development, land use, as well as National and local development planning.

Even before the establishment of our Community Council strong representations were made by local residents on the Main Issues Report, Tayplan and the Local Development Plan to the Council at several public meetings in 2010 and 2011, through official PKC consultation channels and also through support to the Save Redgorton campaign from Westminster MP – Gordon Banks.

Our main concerns during 2010 and 2011focussed on ensuring that the preferred route for the CTLR did not pass through the centre of Redgorton (Route E) but on a less invasive path (Route C) to the south of the village as well as keeping a close eye on the planned housing developments to the south of Luncarty and at Bertha Park.

Fortunately the publication of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Report Addendum late in 2011 identified that Human Impact as an issue was not sufficiently considered with regard to the assessment of the CTLR corridors and subsequent revisions to the Local Development Plan has now identified a preferred route that will be to the south of Redgorton. We are grateful that the Council have responded favourably to the outcome of the consultations and that the removal of the blight of the corridor E preference was a significant milestone in achieving the CC and Save Redgorton objectives and testimony to the efforts of the residents of the various communities potentially afflicted by this corridor.

In 2012 our focus turned to the Proposed Local Development Plan and following the public exhibition held in the village in March, the CC submitted representations to the plan. The reps focused on issues relating to the route of the CTLR, the greenbelt boundary to the south of Luncarty and the Proposed Luncarty South Housing site (including industrial site). In particular we noted that Public Inquiries in the 1990’s had rejected any further development to the south of village and that the scale of development now proposed seemed excessive (possibly doubling the size of the village) with a number of contradictory statements and figures quoted in different documents relating to the plan. The CC comments also highlighted that if any development is to go ahead then there should be a need to consider enhanced community facilities e.g. school, open space, community accommodation and services and not simply rely on residents having to travel into Perth for their needs.

The council are now considering our response along with 1800 other responses to the plan before considering whether to prepare any modifications later in the year. The unresolved objections will then be sent to the Scottish Government Reporters for examination before the plan is adopted. We will therefore continue to monitor progress over the coming months and if necessary become involved in any Local Development Plan Inquiry during 2013.

Other local issues being addressed:

* Problems with the trees in Luncarty Wood - resolved by Richard Brough (PKC, Tree and Woodland Officer) in consultation with the contractor Stewart Milne.
* PKC officials from the roads Department and the Community Police are currently assisting with the improvement of road safety in and around Luncarty and Redgorton
* Site meetings were held with countryside management officers to make a case for resources to maintain the paths leading to the bus stop on the A9 from Redgorton
* Establishment of a core paths sub-group within the CC to survey the core paths in our area and prioritise their development
* Consultations with the Dog warden to monitor and improve dog fouling on core paths
* Discussions were held with the AJ Stephen to explore the possibility of access to the River Tay along the Northern boundary of the Denmarkfield steading development

Members will attend community council training session in June at the AK Bell Library

Visits will be arranged for a visit by the PKC Dog Warden and the Historic Churchyards project

We plan to install a noticeboard outside the NISA shop and would like to thank the proprietors for the permission to do so. We also hope to have our website up and running before too long

Thanks must also be given to our Secretary Elizabeth Comrie and Treasurer Moira Hutchison, for their service along with that given by all members of the Community Council for their time and contribution in the running of the Council and the Church Centre for hosting us.

Finally, we hope to stimulate increased interest over the next year with the website and the noticeboard giving us some momentum. Members of the public with fresh ideas or contributions are always welcome and in this way you can take responsibility for shaping our area and influencing the future for our next generation.