

Bertha Park Residents Community Group

Notes and updates from the Bertha Park Residents Community Group (BPRCG) Meeting held on Tuesday, 17th October 2023 at The Hub, 15 Adamson Avenue, Bertha Park, Perth.

In attendance:

Chairperson, Gordon Davidson (GD); Vice-Chairperson, David Walters (DW), Treasurer, Michele Osborne (MO) and Gemma Crawley (GC) plus 25 members of the public.

Apologies:

Linda Grant

Welcome from Chairperson

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Chairperson Report

GD updated the group on the press report that had been published regarding the building of the Cross Tay Link Road between Bertha Park and the new bridge over the Tay. He detailed that the report indicated that rather than Springfield be responsible for building the road, that they had decided to exercise an option to pay £10m towards the construction costs.

GD also raised the Risk Assessment (RA) carried out in 2019 regarding the pond. The Committee will ask for an updated RA to be completed.

Vice-Chairperson Report

DW gave an update from the latest Luncarty, Redgorton and Moneydie Community Council (LRMCC) meeting. He said that 75% of the meeting was spent discussing issues relating to Bertha Park. He stated that a member from both the LRMCC and PKC would be attending the Screen Autumn AGM on Wednesday, 1st November.

Secretary's Report

GC stated that the minutes from the Inaugural AGM had been circulated via email to those on the email list.

She also informed the group that the Office-Bearers now had individual email addresses as below . . .

Chairperson	-	chair.bpresgroup@outlook.com
Vice Chairperson	-	vchair.bpresgroup@outlook.com
Treasurer	-	tres.bpresgroup@outlook.com
Secretary	-	secy.bpresgroup@outlook.com

She also mentioned that meetings for 2024 would alternate between Tuesdays and Wednesdays to encourage as much participation from residents as possible. All future meetings will start at 19.30.

Treasurer's Report

MO updated the group that a BPRCG bank account is in the process of being set up. She mentioned that she will be monitoring and reconciling all spend on a monthly basis. All documentation will be kept for a 5-year period for audit purposes.

MO stated that PKC are holding £37,500 due to BPRCG from the developers fund. Developers paid £200 for each property sold. This sum could be used to host community events, upgrading of paths, etc. £300 has been allocated for all 2024 BPRCG meetings for the hire of The Hub.

She has been in contact with the North Muirton Community Library regarding a possible mobile bus service to Bertha Park. Unfortunately, their new schedule has already been organised and will not be adding a service to Bertha Park. Bertha Park is apparently regarded as coming under Perth City Centre which is not covered. However, there is the possibility for residents with mobility issues to request books by telephone. These books will be delivered and collected three weeks later.

Election of further Committee Member

GD informed the group that Hari Visvanathan has expressed his interest to service on the BPRCG Committee. Hari was duly elected to the BPRCG Committee.

Funding / Initiatives Update

GD provided an update on funding received from PKC. BPRCG has received the following grants from PKC . . .

PKC Community Investment Fund	£
■ Parent and Pre-School Group	1,708.35
■ BP Youth Group	1,962.27
PKC Warm Welcome Fund	
■ Bertha Blethers	2,546.00
■ Warm Packs	952.00
Developers Fund	300.00
TOTAL	7,468.62

Included in these funding packages is provision to produce 500-600 flyers for all initiatives which will then be delivered to all properties on Bertha Park. This is to ensure that everyone within the community knows about these events.

The warm packs will be used to assist those residents on low incomes to get through the winter period. Twelve of thermos flasks, slipper socks and blankets will be purchased. These will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Residents can request one item initially.

Update on Issues

Factor

GD mentioned that residents currently do not know the schedule for grass cutting, bin emptying and litter picking. He has asked Screen Autumn to provide a schedule for these activities for 2024, so residents are aware of proposed dates.

He mentioned that the Committee had submitted a formal complaint to Screen Autumn which is Stage 1 of the formal complaint process. Screen Autumn has 90 days to respond. No response has yet been received from Screen Autumn. The Committee feels that due to the new manager only being in post for a short while that this period be extended for a further 90 days. If no response has been received, the Committee will proceed to Stage 2 and Stage 3 as necessary.

GD stated that he will ask Springfield, Miller Homes, Kingdom and Simple Life that the salt bins on Bertha Park to be topped up prior to the winter period.

Upper Springlands

Upper Springlands are having to relocate due to their properties being built on a flood plain. It is anticipated that they will move to Bertha Park in the future.

Road Adoption

DW mentioned that all roads on the Springfield Dykes of Grey development had been formally adopted by Dundee Council. He felt that we could use this precedent to encourage PKC to adopt the road in 3 areas of Bertha Park. The Committee will write to PKC regarding the proposal for PKC to formally adopt roads in the three phases which could be designated as completed, rather than when the development is fully completed, which could be in many years' time.

It is expected that all roads shown by the orange area on the map will be formally adopted by PKC.

Bus Service

GD mentioned that the current contract with Stagecoach for the bus service to Bertha Park is due to expire in May 2024. Springfield had originally paid £600,000 for this service. The Committee will shortly be circulating a survey to residents regarding their usage of this bus service. The survey will consist of 4-5 questions asking for usage of the bus service.

As Upper Springlands are anticipated to relocate to Bertha Park in the future, the bus service will be a crucial service for those members of staff who don't have access to their own transport.

History of Bertha Park Meeting

Bertha Park is built near the site of a roman fort and Neolithic burial site. GD has been in contact with the West Stormont Historical Society. They will be hosting a meeting on the history of Bertha Park at the Luncarty Church Centre, Marshall Way, Luncarty, PH1 3UX on Monday, 12th December starting at 19.30. All residents are welcome to attend.

AOB

Tractors leaving mud on roads and speeding through the development.

Next Meeting is on Tuesday, 14th November at 19.30 at the Community Hub, 15 Adamson Avenue, Bertha Park, Perth.