



## COBRA MEETING FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> JULY 2009

### Present

Neil Gaunt	(Chairman)
Joan Moore	(Vice Chair)
Ann Gaunt	(Treasurer)
Jennifer Gordon	(Secretary)
John Law	Alan Moore
Caroline Moore	Richard Beith

### Apologies

Murray Lyle

		ACTION
1.	<b>CHAIR'S WELCOME</b>	
2.	<b>APOLOGIES</b> - noted above	
3.	<b>MINUTE</b> of meeting held on 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2009 was approved	
4.	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign at level Crossing - ongoing. Ann to consult with Chris Livingstone</li> <li>• EPetitions Committee follow-up - no feedback from the Committee. Caroline to chase</li> <li>• Tactran Rail forum Meeting - Dundee 12<sup>th</sup> May. Report from Richard previously circulated. Neil reported that John Yellowlees was very supportive at the meeting, asking pertinent questions covering accessibility, camber of line and also costs for re-opening Auchinleck Station.</li> <li>• Ochil Developments Blackford Community Fund. COBRA had been awarded £750.00.</li> </ul>	<b>Ann Caroline</b>
5.	<b>TACTRAN REPORT</b> - newly published. This was fully discussed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The remit of the Report was to maximise income while minimising spending.</li> <li>• Discussion followed on the merit of P&amp;K Councillors being on the COBRA committee.</li> <li>• The future of Tactran itself was discussed.</li> <li>• It had been acknowledged that the MOIRA system did not easily cover either new or improved Stations.</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eric Guthrie had said the Report was not all bad news for Blackford.</li> <li>• Severe doubt was expressed by all COBRA members as to whether an improved Gleneagles Station could be ready in time for The Ryder Cup in 20104.</li> <li>• John asked that COBRA should bear in mind the down-side to Blackford of a re-opened station - increased traffic through the village with the knock-on effect of pressure on parking spaces. This was discussed. Neil said a multi-storey car park would answer the latter and Jennifer pointed out the much-talked about spur from the A9 into the village at the Highland Spring end would cut down some of the increase in traffic. Also the road suggestion (Willie MacLaren) dating from 2004. (<i>Reference the construction of approximately 1.1 kilometres of a two-lane road from the A9 Gleneagles junction to join the B8081 North exit from the village</i>).</li> <li>• The issue of housing developers contributing, as raised by Stewart Stevenson at the COBRA AGM in January, was discussed. There will be significant housing increases in Auchterarder.</li> <li>• It was noted that in the Tay Estuary Rail Study (23 June 2009) mention was made of the TERS Appraisal Report. This was available for inspection by members. Ann to source this and send to Alan.</li> <li>• Also in this report it was stated that from December 2010 an hourly service from Glasgow to Perth would be added - services calling at Stirling, Dunblane and Gleneagles. This was thought to be a benefit for all.</li> </ul> <p><b>IT WAS AGREED</b> that all COBRA members analyse the relevant extracts from the Report - as kindly supplied by Alan. These findings will be collated and a response sent to Transport Scotland, TACTRAN and copied to all relevant politicians.</p>	<p>Ann</p> <p>ALL</p>
6.	<p><b>CLIMATE CHALLENGE FUND APPLICATION</b> - Jennifer progressing this. The original application had been for £5k but in view of responses from organisations who could carry out the user survey it was agreed that this be increased to £10k if possible.</p>	Jennifer
7.	<p><b>VOLUNTARY ACTION COMMUNITY CHEST</b> - application to be held in abeyance until the outcome of the Climate Challenge Fund was known.</p>	
8.	<p><b>LETTERS TO TOURIST BOARD</b> - Jennifer had had no response from Barbara Clark of VisitScotland. These letters to be deferred until the Tactran responses have been sent. However, Ann will find out Ryder Cup organiser</p>	Ann



	contacts.	
9.	<b>CHAIR'S REPORT</b> Covered by above. Neil said COBRA was far from being scuppered by the Tactran Report. Indeed it gave us a clarity of direction.	
10.	<b>TREASURER'S REPORT</b> COBRA now had just shy of £1k in the bank.	
11.	<b>SECRETARY'S REPORT</b> Covered by above. COBRA was required to submit a completed form covering the Ochil Developments Blackford Community Fund after a year. The funds were to cover leaflets, administration and a contribution towards the user survey.	
12.	<b>IT REPORT</b> The email capacity had been increased at a cost of £18 pa - this would be covered by the Ochil Developments money. Alan to update the News item. Jennifer to send him the Scottish Communities Foundation logo.	<b>Alan Jennifer</b>
13.	<b>AOB</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that Richard Simpson MSP had called for more urgency to re-open Blackford Station during Parliamentary Question Time in the Scottish Parliament week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009. The Minister for Transport had acknowledged the strength of points being made.</li> <li>• The EPetitions Committee now had a blog facility - Alan to investigate.</li> <li>• Richard to make contact with the editor of the <i>Strathallan News</i> paper.</li> </ul>	<b>Alan Richard</b>

There being no other business, Neil closed the meeting by thanking all those present and, especially, Richard (and Margaret) for their hospitality in hosting the meeting.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**MONDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 2009  
7.30 pm  
Glenstairs House**