

Minutes of Tynron Community Council meeting, 30 July 2012

Apologies: George Freeborn.

Minutes of last meeting: Rona pointed out an error in the previous minutes which has been corrected. With this amendment, approval was proposed by Madge and seconded by Alec.

No Police Report, no policeman being present.

Roads: a presentation was given by Graeme Alison and Stuart Caven of DGC. Graeme has helped to obtain the government funding of £244,670 that has been pledged for the upgrading of the glen road and the Lann Road (U400 and C119). Colin thanked Graeme for this.

Graeme said this grant was a first for DGC and that it depended on matching funding, which would come from: DGC (£103k), landowners (land worth £45k for increasing road width where necessary) and woodlands operators (£42k worth of aggregates, tree- and scrub-clearing). The project is expected to take 12 weeks and to happen between October and February. Stretches of the road will be closed at times but access will be maintained; there will be delays but they should not be long ones. Agreements over land donation were all in place apart from one on the C119. One landowner, Scottish Wildlife Trust, had declined to give any land from Stenhouse Wood as it is a SSSI.

Colin thanked the landowners concerned and **said he would invite Scottish Wildlife Trust to a TCC meeting to talk about their position**; it was also clarified that they have responsibility for drainage from their land to the road, which has been poorly maintained. Colin asked when DGC would be going out to tender for the job and Graeme replied that it would be soon but that there might simply be an internal memorandum on the subject, i.e. it would be an 'in-house' project. Madge asked for the name of someone who would cut the Quarry Brae road verges. Colin asked for copies of the presentation and a map to pin up in the hall showing the passing places and how they were going to be improved. We understand that new passing places will not be created but that the road will re-aligned at bridges to allow lorries to swing out and not scrape parapets. Rona thanked Colin for his persistence and work over obtaining the grant.

Matters arising:

- windfarms: there are new rules about which localities partake of community benefits: in addition to being within a 15km radius residents must be within line of sight of the turbines. Andrew Wood thinks this condition is not valid as the proximity of a windfarm still affects a local community, and that it would help to make an objection; he also thought a windfarm officer should be in post in August.
- Queensberry Initiative: Elaine has sent a cheque for £200 as agreed.
- Thornhill Hospital: no further news. A cheque for £100 was sent as agreed to Keep Watch.
- Jubilee: a great success. Colin thanked Madge in particular as the prime mover and all her helpers; and reminded everyone that there would be no FunDay this summer in consequence of having had the Jubilee party.
- Jubilee DVD: Carol Outhwaite has made a DVD of the event with additional material from Tynron and the glen. It was decided to ask the parents of all the children who feature in the film to give their permission in writing for the DVD to be made freely available in return for a donation (e.g. £5) to Hall renovations. Madge has already contacted most of the parents and none have any objection. Colin thanked Carol for her generosity. Christopher Craig pointed out that the Ewart Library might like a copy as a record of contemporary village life.

Sue requested articles for the autumn newsletter

Hall Matters: Linda thanked Sue for finding a new builder, Ian Cook for his drawings and Mary Newbould for amending and obtaining the Building Warrant, and gave an update on the timetable for renovations, due to begin on 27 August. She apologised that the unavoidable delay would upset the hall activities in the early part of the autumn. It was recognised that this might pose a problem for the Community Council election (if there is a need for this), and that there needs to be good communication about when the hall is out of action. Sue asked for ideas about people who might resurface the carpark. Rona pointed out that drains run under the carpark and that the builders should have a map of these before they carry out drainage works. *Sue to investigate this.* Andrew suggested that community payback people could help with some aspects of hall renovation: *Sue to investigate with Jim Glenn and funding bodies.*

Secretary's Report: letters of thanks for the Jubilee event had been received. Thornhill Fire Station had held an event tonight which Andrew had attended. The Fire Service is keen to make good links with the community and to encourage part-time recruits. Colin had leaflets about DGC's home insulation project. Andrew stressed that early take-up was advised.

Treasurer's Report: there is £3,214.33 in the account.

AOCB:

- Dalmakerran is holding a carriage-driving event on the last weekend on August, which may mean delays on that stretch of road: *Sue will publicise this by community email.*
- Hugh Wright said that the Rotary Club had decided it would be good to have a Rotarian attending Community Council meetings, and so he will be coming to them in future. The aim will be to improve communication over dates of major events; and the Rotary can help with small donations (<£100) for special causes.
- Phone box: Mimi bought some Post Office red paint about 8 years ago which may still be stored somewhere and usable for the phonebox and pillarbox.
- The new local bus service was discussed, as was the school bus. Some improvements may be in order.

The meeting ended at 20:50.

Matters arising from last meeting:

- a. Christopher Craig had learnt that dustbins would continue to be collected from the Milnton road.
- b. Roads: Colin is waiting for news of how the funding bid has fared.
- c. Windfarms: Rona asked if we need to put in for community benefit. Colin said we need to keep an eye out for developments, but it should just get allocated to us.
- d. Queensberry initiative: seeking funds for transport and equipment costs. It was decided to make a donation of £200 this year.
- e. Thornhill Hospital: a donation of £100 will be made towards the cost of Helen Tucker's report. Rona will contact Scott Jardine for news of further hospital developments, meetings etc
- f. elections: we need to consider these according to the constitution as formatted in the style approved by DGC (Sue to amend)
- g. should the TCC pay the Hall Committee the costs of TCC meetings in the hall? This hasn't been done for 3 years, because the TCC has bailed out the Hall Committee when it has been short of funds to maintain the hall. On the understanding that this arrangement will continue, it was decided not to create further administration in the form of payments from the TCC to the Hall Committee.
- h. Jubilee celebrations, 3.6.12: the Bucking Bronco, which would cost £300, was decided against, as too much of a distraction from the other games, etc. Colin and Phil will organise games. Bryan will take care of the football. Bunting will be put up on Friday night (Madge). Colin Maxwell is lending his gazebo. Help is needed for preparation from 10am on Sunday. Road closure will be in effect from 2-7.30pm. Incomers may park in the glebe field. Fancy dress competition will be held first. Pillow fight: Terry in charge of supplying tree-trunk. Food: street tea, pasta salads, sandwiches, etc: contributions welcome. Big drinks containers and road cones needed. Diversion signs will be put up on the A702.

Hall Report: 2 estimates for renovation now in. The Hall Committee will provide refreshments for Spring Fling in the Hall on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Monday 4<sup>th</sup>, to raise funds.

Secretary's Report: nothing.

Treasurer's Report: £3848.67 in account. Elaine will be away 30 July. Anyone in need of paying should submit their requirements to Elaine soon.

AOB: Madge remarked that the phonebox needs painting (will have to be red). Ideas for using it welcome. Margaret suggested it could be used as a community noticeboard. Rona suggests a comfy chair in it.

Satellite dish on a Tynron house: should not be there, as it is a conservation area, or will need Planning Permission. It has been taken down but perhaps only temporarily.