

Minutes of Tynron Community Council meeting, 26 Nov 2012

7:20: EGM for approval of Constitution, as agreed in meeting of 24.11.12. Constitution approved.

7:30 Ordinary Meeting

Apologies: George Freeborn, Andrew Wood (DGC), Nick Dowdell (Scottish Woodlands).

Approval of minutes of September meeting: proposed by Bryan, seconded by Rona. No matters arising.

Police Report: Scott McDowall commented on the burglary at Glenturra. Two people had been caught, suspected of multiple burglaries in the region. Publication of images of these two must wait till sentencing. There is no indication of why they picked on Glenturra. Precautions against similar incidents should continue: keep things locked up, especially easily-sold items and technical kit, making it hard for a quick job. Leaving a car outside the house appears to be no definite deterrent. Scott also asked for people to put themselves forward as Special Constables, as the police are short-staffed.

Roads: Stuart Caven of DGC and Derek from the Stewartry attended. Derek will be taking over from Stuart as Project Manager and will be the point of contact and on site most days. Work on the road (8am-4pm) is due to start on Mon 3 December and expected to take 8 weeks; it will continue over Christmas. The project must be finished by 17 February (10 weeks) to meet the funding deadline. Work could be affected by frost and high rainfall, so the schedule is extremely tight. It will begin at the A702 on the Low Lann Road and work northwest up the glen doing one side of the road and then down again doing the other side. Derek will produce a schedule of works. 'Long Delay' notices will be put up on the roads, and we should expect delays of up to 20 minutes while work is in progress. Anything that can be done to reduce the amount of traffic on the road during works will help the project. Forestry traffic should have finished, but if it has to continue will occur 6-8am. It was noted that the school bus reaches Bennan at 8.30am. 14 laybys will result: each one will be 150m² in area, 45m long and result in road width of 6.5m. Approval has been received from Robert Gladstone, the landowner on the Low Lann road, and is awaited from other landowners. Alec pointed out that the plan, with full measurements and breakdown, had been received only a few days before the meeting, and that some laybys were different on the plan from how they had been previously agreed. Stuart said there had been some adjustment to avoid moving telegraph poles (at a cost of ~£10,000 each). The whole exercise involves £390,000 spent on the ground and £470k including design fees and administration. Funding was found to be £25,000 short: this has been put up by the DGC to enable the scheme to happen. Nick Dowdell has increased his in-kind donation of tree-felling on the road. The dangerous part of the road at Clodderoch Brae will be cleaned out and given a new base (expense borne by the Area office). Elaine asked about provision for ditching, Madge about the faulty drainage on the Quarry Brae road, and Margaret about the road dipping towards the river above the Schoolhouse. Stuart made a note of all these things. The works contract went out to tender to local companies, and was won by the Stewarty (within DGC). The project is short of dykers.

Scottish Wildlife Trust: Colin had attended a meeting organised by Colin Mitchell, a SWT volunteer from Dunscore. SWT have agreed to cutback trees by 2 metres on the roadside below Stenhouse Wood, to improve visibility. It was agreed to invite SWT to a meeting in the next 2-3 weeks to discuss their reasons for refusing to offer passingplaces, with a view to establishing what their policy is in case of future ventures.

Windfarms: Colin reported that Scottish Power wish to extend the Wetherhill windfarm, and will come and speak to the Community Council at the end of January. E-on are submitting plans for windfarms at

Lorg (Polskeoch), Benbrack (Loch Doon) and Enoch (New Cumnock). The top of the glen is within a 10km radius of the one proposed at Lorg. Steven Lindsay of Scottish Power will come to discuss the plans at the next meeting.

Broadband: most people have it, but its capacity and reliability is variable; worst when there is heavy rain.

Day of the Region: Phil described this event in Moniaive last year. Madge will register an interest by Monday 3 December.

Administrative expenses: Colin has applied for these to be reimbursed.

Christmas Lights and Party: to be held 15 December, 6.15-9pm. This event will be a community family party, old and young all welcome. The TCC will do party food (sausage rolls, mince pies). The tree will be erected earlier with its lights but without the usual ceremony: carols will be sung at the party. Colin will ask George about a tree, Sue will put round a community email, Madge will ask Mary and Terry if they will do mulled wine (if they can't, Rona and Margaret will make it). Madge will ask Jim Robertson to be Santa. All queries to Madge.

The Hogmanay ceilidh will take place as usual and is being organised by Adele. Doors will open at 6.45 food will be served 7-8, Dancing 8.30-12. Tickets can be purchased from Terry: adults £15, children at school £7.

Hall Matters: Phil reported that the project was 99% complete, the floor varnished, a few snagging items, Building Completion certificate about to be applied for.

Secretary's Report: nothing.

Treasurer's Report: Account stands at £3668.51 after cheques have gone out to Queensberry Initiative, Thornhill Hospital and Econstruct (for repair of waterpipe).

AOCB:

- a. Neighbourhood Watch: Mimi Craig has been the local representative but is planning to move. Muriel Harland has volunteered to take over and was ratified by the meeting.
- b. There had been a suggestion that there should be a mirror where the Quarry Brae road meets the A702. The advantages and disadvantages of having one were discussed and it was decided that there are more disadvantages.
- c. The SWRI is about to celebrate its 90th birthday, and its cash was lost in the Glenturra burglary: Colin said the CC could afford it some funds.