

Minutes 54 of TCC Meeting 25 Nov 2013

Apologies from Bryan, George and Elaine

Approval of minutes, as amended by Madge: proposed by Madge, seconded by Rona

Matters arising: it was clarified that if anyone on the council has a declared interest in topics being discussed, they should leave the room during discussion or voting.

Police Report: A theft of 750 litres of heating oil from Tynron had been confirmed: there had been no sightings of the robbery. **People should be aware that quadbikes have been stolen from near Sanquhar, through 2 or 3 padlocks, at night.** Kerrie Smith is the new community police officer instead of Scott McDowall.

Roads: The Clodderoch Brae cliff has now been made safe. The road past Glenturra is currently being repaired. The council have been to inspect the Strathmilligan road; there is some dispute over road-ownership. A drain under the road between Macqueston and Birkhill needs attention. **There will be an opportunity to discuss road matters with DGC on 5 December, 2.30pm at Cargen Towers: phone the Council first if you wish to attend.**

Timber traffic: Sue had found that reports of sightings of timber lorries were at odds with each other. Nick Dowdell had confirmed to Colin that the numbers of lorry movements (i.e. up and back) per day were to be 6 in the summer (1 April - 31 Oct) and **2.5** in the winter (1 Nov to 31 March), with CTI tyres to be used in winter. Lorries were not to be on the route during school pick-up and drop-off times; otherwise, times of movements were not mentioned. Convoys of no more than 2 lorries were allowed: some people think convoys of more lorries than 2 would be better. Frank opined that AMD vehicles should go in to Appin over the Kirkconnell forestry road because the glen road does not accommodate their equipment vehicles, as shown by the damage to the bridge between Macqueston and Glenburn. The 20-year plan was being revised at present, and it was hoped that the timber would be out within 10 years. **Copies of the new Appin forestry plan are available for comment from Colin or Sue: responses are required by 13 December.**

Windfarms: Colin attended an exhibition on the Wether Hill extension by Scottish Power Renewables (SPR). There will be 13 turbines, maximum height 100m, generating 13MW maximum output. There was no confirmation that community benefits would be forthcoming, but that SPR thought if there were the restrictions on how the money could be spent was less restricted than DGC had suggested, e.g. it would probably be possible to provide money to offset electricity bills. **Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham CC had drafted a letter proposing a moratorium on applications: if you think we should support this, please let Colin know by 8 December.** Mary suggests looking at DGC's windfarm development plan of 12 months ago to see if more windfarms are being requested now than then. Colin pointed out that the map of collated windfarm developments shows whole farms affected, whereas in fact only a small part of those farms will have turbines on them.

Drains: Rona has heard nothing from DGC, and is worried that a drain may break and prove a pedestrian hazard. Madge will ask again.

Salt bins: Russell, Malcolm, Bryan and others spread salt grit on the steep bits in the glen. Rona asked if there could be a salt bin by Kirkland.

Christmas lights: it was debated whether to hold this on the 8th instead, but Madge has already asked John Cowdery and Hugh Wright to come along on Sunday. Linda is to put out posters; Terry and Mary to make mulled wine; George has the tree organised; Madge will get mince pies and shortbread; charity to be supported: Philippines disaster fund. Mary offered to buy new Christmas tree lights online; Madge suggested trying McKendrick in Thornhill.

Christmas party: 21 December, 6.30- 8.30/9pm. Parents will be asked to bring appropriate food. Madge will provide chipolatas pizzas, marshmallow hearts. etc. **Madge needs to know which children are coming before 5 Dec.** Colin will do the games.

Hall matters: The Hogmanay ceilidh will be held: £15 adults and £7 for schoolage children. For tickets ask Linda; all offers of assistance gratefully received. The ceiling in the meetingroom roof has been temporarily repaired, and a quote has been received for a proper repair in the roof.

The Over50s Christmas lunch will be held on 14 December at 4.30pm: Madge thinks Janet has had money for it, and have 20 names of people coming. Madge suggested Janet and Alastair should be thanked on behalf of the TCCL; Helen or Rona will do this.

Secretary's Report:

- The Nithsdale Area Committee Community group is holding a meeting of council members and public on 'progress to date and future plans for Dumfries Learning town': **Monday 27 November, Dumfries High School ,6.30pm.**
- DGC has sent out a survey on how local safety is viewed by communities. Alec to complete.
- The War Memorials Trust is offering money for work that needs to be done on war memorials. The Tynron one needs no work at the moment, but does need better kerbing. John Cowdery and his grandchildren have done some work on the surrounding vegetation, as has Alastair.

Treasurer's Report: none

AOCB: Mary noted that the road between the glen turn and the bridge had flooded again recently and that the cause was probably the amount of fallen trees and vegetation in the burn leading to the Shinnel. Terry has offered to clear it.

The Dalmakerran brae road is to be closed for about 2 weeks to enable a water-pipe to be replaced.