

MINUTES OF A TYNRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

held in Tynron Parish Hall on Monday 26 November at 7.30 p.m.

Committee members present: George, Janet, Eunice, Phil, Jane, Madge, Colin, Rona, Sue K-S

Members of the public: Gill Dykes, Andrew Wood (Cllrs), Graham Edwards (police), Mary, Terry, Sophie, Alex, Jonny, Linda, Helen, Geoff, Margaret.

Apologies: none

Minutes for September meeting approved: Rona proposed, Jane seconded.

Police matters:

Graham Edwards, Area Commander for Sanquhar, presented apologies for Andrew Wheeler (standing in for Peter Bryden).

- Thefts: ATV bikes and power tools have been stolen from farm premises all over Nithsdale and the Stewartry and as near as Dunscore. Three individuals have been arrested and the thefts have decreased. Farm owners should be aware that the strategy is to approach and scan farm buildings with the excuse of asking directions. Anybody with suspicions should note vehicle registrations and phone the police.

- It is the police's intention to have an officer present at all community council meetings, so **they would like advance notice of all meetings (Sue)**. If no policeman can attend, the Secretary (**Janet**) **should email the police with any relevant issues that arise** at the meeting. Response within 72 hours is promised.

- Woodlorries: the police cannot force lorries to use the recognized routes. They can however check that the lorries are not defective, and will make random checks over periods of a few hours. They would like advance notice of when timber is being transported so that they can target their checks for greatest efficiency. George noted that Scottish Woodland had said they would finish bringing timber out at the end of October but that they are continuing past that date. If lorries travel too fast or cause damage they should be reported to the police or Neil Dyson at the Roads Department. It was thought that a meeting between Neil, Scottish Woodlands and the TCC would be good, but no action was determined for this. The possibility of upgrading the glen road was raised but Jane pointed out that this might merely encourage lorries to drive faster along it. Colin noted that when farm vehicles met timber lorries there was chaos which no additional roadwidth would resolve.

- A byelaw prohibiting consumption of alcohol in public places has come into force in Kelloholm, Sanquhar and Thornhill. The general feeling was that Tynron did not need such a byelaw.

Matters arising from the last meeting:

- Hallowe'en Children's Party: George noted that while this was a great event, there were more adults than children at it. Colin suggested combining the adults' and children's events, by starting the ceilidh earlier and having children's games to start with: this was thought to be a good idea. George thanked all who had contributed to its success.

- Hallowe'en Ceilidh: A great success. Phil said that 80 people had attended and that he had thanked the DGAA for their contribution to funds. It was noted that the Gael

Force publicity might have attracted some people, and that food outside (if the weather is fine) is a good idea.

- Christmas lights: Sunday 9 December. John Cowdery will lead the singing, Emily will be there. Mary and Terry will provide drinks, all will bring mince pies. George will contact Arch about a tree. Eunice suggested a torchlight procession from Kirkland gates. Madge offered to find torches (flares) and to park a vehicle uphill from the gates with hazard flashers on.

- Website: George has a further idea for developing this.

- War memorial: has been repaired before next Remembrance Sunday.

- Field: George had investigated the possibility of a pre-emption right, which would cost £300. It was decided that the TCC would be better off trusting the Rorisons to offer it first refusal.

- Outstanding Conservation Area status for Tynron: George is pursuing this with Mr Nix and the Crichton Trust.

- Water trough: has still not been returned. George has written to Fraser and offered the TCC's assistance in returning it. Madge will provide a tractor and loader.

Secretary's Report: Janet distributed some leaflets, and Rona a Health Report on the out of hours medical service (which appears to be satisfactory). The Royal Mail has issued a questionnaire on service efficiency to be completed for the month of December by any local residents.

Treasurer's Report: The balance stands at £5,965.30 after ceilidh expenses have been paid. Colin noted that we have still not decided what to spend the money on.

Hall Matters: Phil reported that the work on the back wall of the Hall had been completed, satisfactorily if expensively. The cost (£2,400) had been covered by a grant from the Robertson Trust of £1,000 and one from the DGC of £1,400. The Tearcraft event had raised £80 for the Hall, and money had come in from the Ceilidh. There are further plans for improvement: to reconfigure the west side of the hall to include improved toilets (with facilities for disabled people) a separate small meeting room, and an outside sensor-operated light.

AOCB:

- Madge asked if the TCC would like to make a donation to the Rural for the celebration of its 85th anniversary. She suggested £85, and George volunteered £100.

- Colin asked what charity should receive the proceeds of the collection from carol-singing, and at Helen's suggestion 'Crisis at Christmas' was decided upon: **Eunice will send a donation.**

The meeting ended with the usual coffee and biscuits.

The next meeting will be on 28th January.

Key to names:

Alex = Alex Collins-Taylor
Arch = Arch Courage
Christopher = Christopher Craig
Colin = Colin Forsyth
DGC = Dumfries & Galloway Council
DGAA = Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association
Emily = Emily Smith
Eunice = Eunice Laidlaw
Frances = Frances Forsyth
Fraser = Fraser Dykes
Geoff = Geoff Harland
George = George Freeborn
Gill = Gill Dykes
Helen = Helen White
Hugh = Hugh Rorison
Jane = Jane Blair
Janet = Janet Davies
John = John Cowdery
Jonny = Jonny Blair
Linda = Linda Macdonald
Madge = Madge Rorison
Margaret = Margaret Irving
Mary = Mary Newbould
Peter = Peter Bryden
Phil = Phil Armstrong
Rolf = Rolf Buwert
Rona = Rona Dent
Sophie = Sophie Armstrong
Sue C-T = Sue Collins-Taylor
Sue K-S = Sue King-Smith
TCC = Tynron Community Council
Terry = Terry Kirkton