

## Minutes 83 Tynron Community Council Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2017

**Present-** Keith Lewis, Linda McDonald, Mary Newbould, George Freeborn, Sue Hall, Katy Coltart and Sophie Armstrong

**1. Apologies-** Sue King Smith, Andrew Wood, Lee Smith (Police)

**2. Approval of minutes of meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017-** Proposed Mary, Seconded Keith. **AGM Minutes** – It was noted that Mary was present at the AGM and gave her report. Draft Minutes to be amended.

### **3. Police matters**

Wild life crime – There has been a recent report of a grey heron nest being disturbed by a phone mast- investigations are still on going.

Since the last meeting there have also been a number of incidences with counterfeit notes being used in shops in Thornhill.

Police would also like to make people aware of a number of scam phone calls being received advising you can stop your unwanted calls by paying a fee of £99. Do not give over any bank details or other information.

### **4. Matters arising**

#### **DSLAM Box**

Mary reports we are due to have the DSLAM box installed in this quarter (July-Sept) however it is not guaranteed that we won't be pushed back to the next quarter. Mary is still waiting on the official document to sign although we have already received some payment.

#### **Defibrillator training**

Linda reported another 6 people attended training in June. We can have more sessions if we require at the cost £75 per session but everyone agreed sufficient training has been given at the moment.

#### **Community Resilience**

The community resilience team now have a phone and have purchased a sim on the GiffGaff. The call divert is set up and is being tested. The team are working on a leaflet to be distributed to all households within the community, giving the mobile number and other emergency information.

#### **Litter**

It appears the bulk of the litter on the Clone Road has been cleared by an unknown person. No further action will be taken by the CC until the litter increases again.

#### **Joseph Thomson Rep**

With no one volunteering to be Tynron rep Linda has kindly agreed to attend the meetings with some help from Rona.

Madge informed everyone of a fun run planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September organised by the Joseph Thompson group. The run will come through fields around Tynron, over Auchengibbert hill and back to Penpont. It is believed the event is limited to 250 runners however Madge is awaiting more details.

## 5. KPT Update

Sue H informed us that the brochure is now printed and ready for distribution throughout all three villages. Help will be required if there are any volunteers!

There is a meeting planned for the Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm in Gladstone Hall. This will be to assess the way forward, voice what areas we would really like to focus on and construct a group of volunteers to put into action our ideas. There are workshops and break out groups planned for the meeting and we would very much encourage everyone to attend.

It was suggested we look into providing community transport to the meeting. [Mary to investigate](#)

## 6. Planning

As a CC we have an obligation to examine the weekly planning list. If there are any areas of concern or observations which we wish to take forward then we need to notify the council of our intention within 7 days of receiving the Planning List.

### Kirkland House

It is a proposal for Change of use of the Outbuildings to form 3 dwellings with 6 parking spaces and a garage. Access to the new dwellings would be by the existing North Gate. The proposed works would fall within the conservation area.

Issues that may raise concerns are:

- The drawing submitted only show an outline design so we are not able to comment on the whether the conversion will be sensitive to the requirements of a conservation area
- The gate piers, gates, railings, etc. are Grade B listed so this would not allow them to be moved or removed.
- There is some doubt over the listing status of the actual outbuildings themselves & we are waiting for Historic Scotland to come back to us pending further investigation
- The positioning of the Klargeister (Sewerage system) in relation to the drainage gully that runs under the policies of the property. The drainage ditch runs under the road from the grid by Kirkland Steading and the egress is under the road into the Glebe field. Previously when this drain has blocked, the water backs up then flows down the road into the village with the potential to flood the properties (particularly those at the bottom).
- The drawing states that the new access to the properties will not involve the removal of any trees, but the existing trees are not shown on the drawing as would normally be the case with full plans.
- [It was](#) discussed whether the ultimate use of the buildings was a planning issue or not

The council have been notified of our intention which initiates a consultation process with the Planning Officer so we now have until 14<sup>th</sup> August to submit our observations on the proposal. Mary has already spoken briefly with the planning officer concerned to ensure that we were following due process and they welcomed the discussion. They reminded her that all observations put forward must be on planning grounds only. All cc members were happy to go ahead and submit the above listed observations.

### EE Mast

Unfortunately when the EE mast planning notification was submitted, the location of the mast in relation to the heronry copse wasn't considered/known by the planning office. When the work commenced and the CC became aware of exactly where the mast was to be built, we engaged with

the Planning Office, EE, the construction company, the landowner, the RSPB & a local ornithologist to try and lessen the impact on the herons as the young heron chicks were still in the nests. Despite our best efforts the work continued as per the contractor's schedule.

The mast is now erected but not connected up. It is primarily to provide cover for the emergency services but according to the map will provide cover to some areas of the Parish too.

There was some concern about the wood near the mast. It was suggested that we could apply for a Tree Protection Order on the trees in the wood. Sue H also mentioned she is a member of the Notable Tree Hunt and would take walk up to the mast and have a look at the trees around the site.

[Sue H to investigate](#)

## **7. Summer Community Event**

The original date set for the event was the 19<sup>th</sup> August but unfortunately this clashes with Moniaive gala and the Galloway Country Fair. Despite Linda's best efforts it seems there wasn't another weekend that suited the majority so the decision was made to move our event to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August. Jill & Steve, Linda, George, Mary, Keith, Katy, Madge, Sophie and Adele all agreed to help where possible with organising the event. [Linda will arrange a meeting](#) to discuss a programme. Ideas include pet show, splat the rat, dog agility, welly tossing and a BBQ. It was suggested we finish the event at reasonable time bearing in mind the children are back to school the next day.

## **8. Secretary's Report & Correspondence**

### **Queensberry Initiative**

Linda has unfortunately received a letter from the Queensberry Initiative informing us of their forthcoming dissolution in September. The decision was made at the AGM in June following a lack of funding. Encouragingly some parts of the programme will continue with the WHA staff.

### **ANCBC**

Linda attended the ANCBC AGM earlier in the month and reports they have £250,000 of funding for allocation each year, this may be of use to the KPT. Our application for the £2000 grant we receive annually is due by the end of August. [Linda and Mary to action](#)

### **Wind farms**

We have contacted Whiteside Hill wind farm regarding some community benefit and were told they are in the process of setting up the community benefit and will be in touch later in the year. We are aware that Penpont Community Council have also been in contact with Whiteside Hill and have been told the same. Some committee members are concerned that the community benefit is usually sorted at the planning stage of the wind farms and fear we will receive nothing. Linda suggested we try getting some help from the person at the council who deals specifically with the wind farm; Fiona Daubney has previously mentioned them. [Linda to follow up.](#)

We have still had no reply from the Wetherhill wind farm regarding the planned extension. There has been no reply from Blackcraig wind farm although there has been talk of them setting up a fund for grant applications to receive the money. Finally, there has also been no news of a further meeting about the Windy Rigg wind farm.

### **Forests of Upper Nithsdale**

We have received an email from Forests of Upper Nithsdale who are making a land management plan and are asking for comments on the plan. [Linda will circulate the email](#)

## **Thornhill Station**

We have been informed that the Thornhill Station application has moved to stage 2 of assessment which is very encouraging.

## **Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils**

News from the Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils that phase one has been completed and phase 2 for minor amendments is due to be completed by 8<sup>th</sup> of September. Linda pointed out our suggestions for postal voting and an increase in the number of signatories have been included.

## **9. Treasurer's Report**

The bank balance today is £20,093.40. Mary ran through the payments since our last meeting these include; sim credit for the community resilience phone sim, business Gmail set up and two payments to the hall committee. Mary explained there has also been one payment into the account of £165 from the energy company which she thinks may be related to KPT and has been paid into the wrong account. [Mary to investigate](#)

£75 for defibrillator training and the cost of the wheelbarrow are still to be paid. The timing of payments to KPT was discussed [It was agreed that Linda and Mary would ask for this to be raised at the next KPT meeting.](#)

## **10. Hall Matters**

In recent months, the Hall has held the Spring fling teas/lunch and the Pub night both of which were very successful. Mary gave thanks to all involved in running them as they both involve a lot of hard work. The hall has also been used for the recent election, by the Auld Alliance group and the Nithsdale Walking Works group.

Mary explained the hall committee are looking to employ a cleaner especially for the winter months when the hall is in regular use. The advert will initially go out on the grapevine as they would ideally like someone local.

The hall electricity is undergoing some investigation as it has come to light that there are two meters, one of which we have not been receiving a bill for. [Steve is on the case](#)

## **11. AOCB**

### **Timber Lorries**

Sue has been in contact with Nick Dowdell regarding the speed of the timber Lorries coming down the glen. Nick confirmed the drivers have been spoken to about the issue but requested we keep an eye and note times, registration plates etc that we can pass to him at our next meeting in which he will be in attendance.

### **Sale of Stenhouse Wood**

Madge informed us the wood is due to be sold at the end of September.

### **Lights**

Jackie has not had a reply to her email regarding the street lights. She is happy to wait another few weeks and if there is still no reply we will contact Andrew Wood to see if he can help.

**Date of next meeting 25<sup>th</sup> September (To confirm)**