

**TYNRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TCC 109 APPROVED MINUTES**  
**21 September 2020, 7.30 pm**  
Held via Zoom

In attendance: Sue King-Smith(SKS), Chair; Mary Newbould (MN) Treasurer; Sue Hall (SH), Secretary; Linda McDonald (LM); Keith Lewis (KL); members of the public.

Apologies: Peigi Romano

**1. Approval of TCC Minutes of meeting July 20 2020**

Proposed: MN; Seconded: LM

**2. Matters arising**

Covered in following agenda items

**3. Police report**

Nothing to report. Members of the public are being advised to be aware of several on-line scams, including one purporting to be from HMRC. The police are reminding people not to give out bank details over the phone or on line.

**4. Treasurer's report**

Total disposable income FY 2020/2021 = £2680.31

Full report and breakdown can be seen in Appendix 1 at the end of this report.

**5. Secretary's report**

- i. Continuing thanks to the Resilience Team for their ongoing work, particularly with the challenges of constantly changing levels of restrictions and regulations due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- ii. The Scottish Government's Covid-19 contact tracing app for smartphone users can be downloaded at <https://protect.scot/>
- iii. D&G Council have a weekly community newsletter available on line at <https://crowd.in/howvxM> . Go to the bottom of the page, select 'sign up for newsletters' and put in your email address. You will be taken to another page where you then select 'resilience' from the menu.
- iv. Facebook users can keep up to date with local developments on the Tynron Facebook page, just search for [www.facebook.com/TynronCommunity](http://www.facebook.com/TynronCommunity)
- v. We are looking into setting up a read-only Dropbox account for Community Councillors using the Tynron CC email address. This is ongoing.

**6. Local planning matters**

- Kirkland House conversion of outbuildings to 3 dwellings. Following DGC Planning Committee meeting, the Planning & Listed building consent were both granted conditionally with additional design recommendations to be submitted & the new double gates to be made permanently inaccessible prior to commencement of work.
- Land opposite Clonrae Farm (but not part of Clonrae). There was communication between TCC & DGC Planning officers following enquiries by members of the community. However the planning application was approved as "prior approval not required"

## 7. Village speed signage

SKS raised a CCES with D&GC regarding speed limit signage in the village. There has been no response as yet.

## 8. Tynron phone box

SKS has had an email saying that the signed contract has been received and that arrangements are being made to remove the telephone from the box. SKS confirmed that there were no access issues, therefore no one would need to be present when this was done. It was decided that although the phone box was not the original one, we would not take steps to replace it with a copy of the original. Further discussion at the next meeting could include arranging for the glass to be replaced, and the box properly re-furnished and re-painted with due regard to its position within the Tynron Conservation Village boundary. Possibly this could be offered to a Tynron community business/individual. As the phone box sits in the Hall car park, this is perhaps something TCC should discuss with the Hall Committee?

## 9. Timber transport

No updates were available at the time of the meeting

## 10. Windfarm updates

For more information see Appendix 2 at the end of these minutes.

### **Briefly:**

CWL have published Additional Information regarding Sanquhar II and its potential impacts on local homes, rights of way, peat slide risks, ecology and ornithology.

SP Renewables have not yet applied for planning permission for Eucharhead wind farm

Whether Hill negotiations are still ongoing, and SPR have come back with revisions to the contract which TCC and TVHC will only sign if the Tynron community is not disadvantaged by the new clauses.

## 11. ANCBC COVID grant

There is £800 currently available as the residue of the Covid grant. There are many unknowns regarding the use of the village hall in the next few months, so ideas for spending the money on community activities will need to consider location and accessibility.

Suggestions include:

- Purchase of a gazebo so socially distanced activities in line with government regulations could take place in the village hall car park.
- Use of Zoom or outside facility for craft classes
- Exercise/dance classes but probably after Christmas
- Switching on Christmas lights with mulled wine, mince pies, etc & some live music
- A replacement for festive feast, perhaps household gifts of goods made by local people

The Festive Feast is unlikely to be able to happen.

It was suggested a tick list of suggestions be circulated on the Tynron Grapevine to get the views of the Tynron Community as to what they might like.

**Action: MN/LM**

## 12. Feedback from ANCBC AGM 14 September 2020

It was agreed that Mary and Linda would be nominated as representatives from the TCC to serve as ANCBC members.

**Action:** LM to circulate form for signature

Tynron CC agreed to apply for ANCBC funding for 2020-21.

There is also a one-off ANCBC grant of £2000 available to support community assets, local charity groups and vulnerable people.

It is planned to offer a further £2,000 Yearly Grant linked to COVID recovery. Next year's Main Grants will focus on supporting local community assets and local voluntary groups/charities that are vulnerable

### **13. KPT DT updates**

The location of a 'sharing' box for KPT DT information was discussed. It was thought to be too large for the phone box, and the hall car park, whilst an obvious spot, might be restricted because of planning regulations. It was suggested that next to the bench at the bottom of the Shinnel Glen might be a suitable spot for the time being, with respect to future changes to the hall and car park. LM reported that the money due to KPT JCBF from Tynron would not be paid until after the TCC had held its AGM.

### **14. Date of TCC AGM**

The AGM will be held on Monday 26th October by Zoom.

**Action:** *SH to notify all stakeholders.*

### **15. Purchase of TCC wreath for Remembrance Sunday**

TCC have been advised of problems regarding availability of wreaths so it was decided to buy one asap. Price is £36 from the British Legion

**Action:** *MN to arrange purchase.*

### **16. Potholes**

SH had carried out a survey of the Tynron portion of the Scaur Glen road (u404n) in March and submitted a list of almost 40 potholes to D&GC. These potholes had also been reported by TCC in 2019. The road is now in a dangerous state and no updates have been received regarding when the issues will be addressed.

**Action:** *SH to directly contact D&GC roads department*

### **17. AOCB**

**Litter pickers:** On behalf of TCC, LM thanked members of the Tynron community who have been keeping the village neat and tidy by litter picking throughout the summer. If anyone wants to borrow one of the CC's Litter picker tools at any time, please contact Linda on 200469 or lindaandranald@gmail.com.

**Letter regarding Forestry from Corsock CC:** the Secretary of Corsock CC has written to all CCs in Dumfries and Galloway expressing concern regarding the expansion of forestry in the area. It was noted that this letter had been received and could be discussed at the next meeting.

**Inspection of TCC accounts:** TCC would like to thank Robert Waugh for inspecting the CC accounts and present him with a bottle of wine.

**Action:** *LM to organise.*

It was brought to the attention of the Committee that our Returning Officer John Cowdery is unwell. It was agreed that TCC would send him a card & wish him a speedy recovery.

**Action: SKS to send a card on behalf of TCC**

#### 18. Dates of next meetings

**TCC AGM:** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm to be held by Zoom

**TCC regular meeting:** Monday 16th November, 7.30 pm. Location to be confirmed nearer the time.

### Appendix 1: Treasurers Report:

#### Expenses:

- Email hosting for TCC and TynronHelp - £24.85
- Monthly contribution to Hall running costs & maintenance - £400
- Zoom – VC facility for CR & TCC meetings during lockdown (Covid DGC Grant Funding) - £28.78
- Covid – Gel & Soap dispensers for Tynron Hall - £321.61
- Donation to Auld Alliance - £200

Total Expenses £975.24

#### Income:

Total income £0.00

#### Balance

Our current bank balance is:

Uncleared	£10,463.66	Cleared	£9,942.05
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#### Reserved Funding

Potential committed funds in FY 2020/2021

- **£4590.36** to KPT in FY 2020/2021 – Contribution from 2019/2020 Wetherhill Windfarm income
- **£1200** – TPHC maintenance grant (£200 per month x 6 months)
- **£801.38** – ANCBC Community recovery Covid grant

**Considered Committed Funding** at this time: **£6591.74**

**Immediately Available reserves: £3350.31**

#### Additional considerations

Emergency reserves @ 20% **£670**

Total considerations **£670**

Total disposable income FY 2020/2021 = **£2680.31**

#### Breakdown DGC Covid-19 Grant

Income: **£455.15**

Expenses:

Volunteers PPE £288.99

Zoom VC for TCC, TPHC & Community Resilience (Covid Support) Meetings £43.17

Antibacterial soap dispensers £122.99  
**TOTAL expenses £455.15**  
Outstanding Balance: **£0**  
Grant committed & spent by mid-September 2020

### **Breakdown ANCBC Community Recovery Grant**

Income: **£1000**  
Expenses:  
Gel Dispensers & Gel £198.62  
Expenses to date: **£198.62**  
Outstanding Balance: **£801.38**

Funding to be committed by mid-September 2020 and spent by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020. Any surplus funding to be returned to ANCBC

## **Appendix 2: Windfarms update**

### **1. TCC statement regarding wind farms**

TCC recognise the challenges faced locally and globally by climate change, and the impacts that climate change could have on our community. Tynron Community Council will endeavour to support regional and national projects that will tackle and mitigate climate change impacts and provide long term sustainable benefits and employment, as long as these projects do not adversely impact on our community's residents, their homes and livelihoods, our environment, or our cultural and historical heritage.

TCC believe that windfarms may not be the best solution to our energy requirements and the urgent need for replacements for fossil fuels; the intermittency of wind energy cannot provide 24/7 power because if the wind doesn't blow, windfarms can't generate power by no matter how many there are. It is also far better to build windfarms where there is no peat, which is a natural carbon capture and storage facility and an essential part of Scotland's climate change mitigation and adaptation plans. For those worried about windfarm community benefit: Scottish Government guidelines specifically state that communities who object to a windfarm will still receive community benefit.

### **2. Sanquhar II**

CWL issued 'Additional Information' (AI) in August regarding developments to the projects. Comments were required to be submitted to the ECU by 7th September, but TCC has been granted an extension until 7 November for community responses.

The 655 page AI can be seen at  
<https://www.sanquhar2windfarm.co.uk/additional-information>

The main points contained are:

- CWL have bought 3 homes in Scaur Glen which they intend to keep empty for the operational lifetime of S2
- The operational lifetime of S2 has been extended from 35 to 40 years
- Several homes in the immediate area have been offered financial payments for energy bills, however these payments are subject to many caveats including the consent to allow greater noise and visual impacts in the vicinity of the homes. These conditions have not been made clear to the homeowners.
- Local homeowners have not been contacted despite potentially profound impacts on their homes with respect to noise, visual impact, and water supplies.

- CWL provided this information only to Community Councils and were unable to host public consultation events due to the Covid pandemic restrictions. The AI can be provided on a memory stick to anyone on request.

There were many serious omissions and errors in the AI. A subsequent amendment has been published. If anyone has any comments they would like including in TCC's response, please email them to [TynronCC@tynron.org.uk](mailto:TynronCC@tynron.org.uk)

### **3. Euchanhead wind farm**

This is due to be submitted to the ECU for planning permission this month (September), but has not been so far.

Following on from an online Information Event,

- One person sent a letter of support for the project.
- The majority of expressed opinions object to the project.

TCC expressed their concerns regarding

- i. the increase in number (now 21) and height (now 230 metres) of the turbines.
- ii. The timing of the on-line event during the Covid restrictions, and the lack of internet capability for many homes to access the large files.
- iii. The proximity and impact of the turbines to homes, Allan's Cairn, Colt Hill striding arch, and the Southern upland Way.

### **4. Pencloe windfarm**

Potential community benefit from this development will not now be available to TCC.

### **5. Lorg windfarm**

An application by the developers to increase the heights of several turbines has been rejected by D&GC. The developers will now review their future plans for the site.

### **6. Scotland Against Spin**

This anti-wind farm organisation had a meeting in July with The Planning and Environmental Appeals Division of the Scottish Government, to highlight the challenges and problems of rural broadband provision for communities facing large wind farm developments. TCC were asked for their views which were included in the meeting. Scotland Against Spin also highlighted the issues faced by communities in responding to planning applications during the current Covid pandemic and suggested all planning applications were put on hold. The results of the meeting can be found on the SAS web site <https://scotlandagainstspin.org/2020/09/sas-response-to-dpea-guidance-note-24-consultation/>

### **7. SS2EW**

***This section is both for information and in the interests of disclosure, as these bodies are NOT part of TCC, and TCC has not agreed to support them, although a number of CC members are involved in their activities.***

In recognition of the challenges facing our communities from Sanquhar II and, going forward, Euchanhead Windfarms, a separate action group has been formed. Stop Sanquhar II and Euchanhead Windfarms (SS2EW) is an overarching group which will incorporate Stop Sanquhar II Windfarm and Stop Euchanhead Windfarm as separate groups. SS2EW will operate with, but independently of, community

councils to oppose both projects. Membership is open to anyone. The group is in its infancy and the acting officers are Chair, Sue Hall; secretary, Robert Gladstone; treasurer, Sue King-Smith.