

TYNRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING 111
16 November 2020, 7.30pm, held by Zoom
APPROVED MINUTES

Present: Sue King-Smith (SKS), Chair; Sue Hall (SH), Secretary; Mary Newbould (MN), Treasurer; Linda McDonald (LM); Keith Lewis (KL); Peigi Romano (PR).

Also present: members of the Tynron community

1. Approval of TCC Minutes of meeting September 21 2020

Proposed: LM

Seconded: KL

2. Matters arising

None

3. Police report

No crimes to report in the Tynron area. However, PC Lee Smith wished to raise awareness for many scams currently circulating, particularly with unsolicited emails and phone calls purporting to be from Amazon or HMRC and asking for bank details. Never give this information over the phone. Could members of the Tynron community please also be aware of any suspicious looking cars, traders, and possibly people selling drugs in the area. Report any concerns to the police by phoning 101.

4. Treasurer's report

Total disposable income FY 2020/2021 = £3911.19

Treasurer's report is in Appendix 1 at the end of these minutes.

5. Secretary's report

Tynron Community have received a card of thanks from the Lords Lieutenant of Dumfries and Galloway to thank our communities for their work in supporting our community members during the Covid 19 pandemic.

6. Local planning matters

Nothing to report this month.

7. Timber transport – Stenhouse Forest re-starting

Tilhill have asked TCC if they can add 1 extra load a day to their current agreed allocation. TCC have refused this, however the Timber Transport Forum (TTF) who facilitated the original agreement have no objections to the extra load. Therefore TCC will ask for further concessions from Tilhill in response to this request:

- Timber wagons must travel in pairs 10 minutes apart
- No timber wagons in the village before 7am
- Repairs must be undertaken in the Lann Hall road

TCC are concerned that Tilhill have used excuses of inadequate storage facilities to increase their wagon loads, and are surprised that this was not considered in their business plan that was drafted between Tilhill, TCC and TFF in 2018. TCC are very aggrieved that what was considered a very well thought-through extraction plan is being contested by Tilhill so soon after its inception. TCC feel the community has been very accommodating of issues such as exceeding the speed limits and load numbers which has been observed by Tilhill wagon drivers, and which is unfair on Scottish Woodlands drivers who have been following the terms of the agreement to the letter.

Action: SKS to speak to James England to express TCC's disappointment in Tilhill's attitude.

SKS to contact MSPs, and councillors to see what rights TCC have in this matter.

MN to check any planning issues that may have arisen/may arise.

8. Windfarm updates

Sanquhar II

TCC have submitted a further objection to the Additional Information supplied by Community Windpower Ltd (CWL) which contained many factual inaccuracies and omissions.

The Planning Committee of D&G Council voted not to support the Sanquhar II planning application currently with the Scottish Government based on a variety of reasons including unacceptable impacts on homes, cumulative impacts, and going against D&G planning policy

(<https://dumfriesgalloway.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s26110/190490S36%20Sanquhar%20%20Report.pdf>)

It is very likely that there will now be a Public Enquiry into this planning application.

Euchanhead wind farm

SP Renewables have submitted an application to the Scottish Government for Euchanhead wind farm, which would comprise 21 turbines of 230 metres in height and an operating period of 40 years, situated mainly at the head of Shinnel Glen. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions there can be no public meetings within the Tynron community to discuss these proposals, which can be seen online at www.scottishpower.com/EuchanheadRED. A memory stick with this information can be borrowed from TCC, please email Tynroncc@tynron.org.uk

TCC have asked for an extension to submitting responses to this application, originally set at 23 December 2020, and which has been revised to 31st January 2021.

SH raised concerns at how we can inform local and wider communities of this planning application given the limitations of rural broadband and the lack of consultation opportunities because of the Covid 19 restrictions. TCC wish to respond to this proposal according to the views of the Tynron community. A decision was made to send a letter with a brief outline of the proposal to all homes in Tynron asking for views.

Action: SH to draft a letter.

Wether Hill agreement

MN is awaiting details of the revised agreement from SP Energy

Action: SKS to contact SP Energy for further information.

Windy Rig update

No updates available at the moment.

Mochrum Fell windfarm

TCC have been contacted by Trevor Proctor asking for TCC support for Mochrum Fell wind farm. TCC have not been notified of this by D&G Council as a statutory consultee, and TCC felt that with the ongoing issues with Euchanhead and Sanquhar II wind farms we regretfully do not have the time to take on another wind farm application the community consultations entailed. Representations about Mochrum Fell Wind Farm, comprising 7 turbines of 149.9m just south of Corsock, can be made by 4th December 2020, quoting the application ref 20/1683/FUL to planning@dumgal.gov.uk

9. KPT DT and JCBF updates

Concerns have been raised regarding how much of the initial community action plan has been achieved, and is it still relevant?, as well as the role of the Joint Community Benefit Fund in the Development Trust. There are also issues regarding the use and democratic payments of funds from the hydro scheme. TCC are concerned that they are paying a considerable amount of funds (currently £5900 pa but this will vary) into the DT without any clear plan of how that money will be spent. Could a better way be for Tynron to keep all funds and then pay money to the JCBF for projects they think appropriate and of benefit to Tynron, possibly ring-fencing funding for future projects.

10. Tynron in KPT

TCC suggest that a public consultation with members of the Tynron community should be held after Covid restrictions have been lifted to discuss the role of Tynron in the KPT DT. It was also highlighted that Tynron should keep KPT DT informed of any decisions taken so that the DT could plan accordingly.

MN and PR gave an update on the Affordable Housing project currently being run by KPT DT. They were concerned that the information presented at the last meeting, giving the results of the Affordable Housing Survey, was confusing, with key questions such as location, numbers of properties to buy and numbers of properties for rental unanswered.

Action: MN and PR to follow up requests for meaningful data.

11. ANCBC COVID grant

None of the traditional Tynron Christmas festivities can go ahead this year because of Covid restrictions, so other alternatives have been arranged

Christmas lights switch on: Sunday 6th December (to be confirmed) A tree will be erected in the village as usual.

However as an alternative to community carol singing and mince pies, there will be a village competition for the best decorated house/window/driveway to coincide with the tree light switch –on. A list of households joining the competition will be published so that folk can drive round the area to see the festive lights.

A gift bag of locally made items will be distributed to all full-time occupied households in Tynron

A number of craft classes have been arranged and have proved to be very popular. These include

Christmas wreath making

Christmas table centre making

Raku pottery

Book club

12. Shinnelhead Nature Reserve updates

TCC have received an update from Sharon and Kevin Moonie of Shinnelhead. Due to the ongoing issues created by the proposed Sanquhar II windfarm, their Shinnelhead project will not now be going ahead. TCC believe this will be a loss for the area with regards to employment, tourism and promotion of the local environment and ecology.

13. Tynron phone box

The telephony has been removed. TCC have suggested that the Phone Box should now be under the jurisdiction of the Hall Committee regarding its future use and placement.

14. Potholes

Many of the worst potholes in Scaur Glen have been patched. D&G roads teams are in the locality and will be commencing repairs 'soon'.

15. AOCB

Speed limits in the village: There remain increasing concerns about the safety of children and elderly using the road in the villages, as well as recreational users. D&G council have stated that as there have been 'no significant accidents' in the village due to speeding cars, there is no need to reduce the speed limit to 20mph as has been suggested. Automated signs have been looked into by TCC but we would have to foot the cost of £5000. TCC ask that all drivers through the village remain cautious and vigilant.

16. Date of next meeting

Monday 18th January 2021

Appendix 1, Treasurer's Report

Expenses:

- Email hosting for TCC and TynronHelp
- Monthly contribution to Hall running costs & maintenance
- Website domain renewal & hosting
- Remembrance poppy wreath
- Zoom – VC facility for CR & TCC meetings during lockdown (Covid DGC Grant Funding)

Total Expenses £519.12

Income:

- ANCBC annual grant

Total income £2000.00

Balance

Our current bank balance is:

Uncleared	£11,422.93	Cleared	£11,422.93
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Reserved Funding

Potential committed funds in FY 2020/2021

- **£4590.36** to KPTJCBF in FY 2020/2021 – Contribution from 2019/2020 Wetherhill Windfarm income
- **£1320** to KPTJCBF (66% x £2000)
- **£800** – TPHC maintenance grant (£200 per month x 4 months)
- **£801.38** – ANCBC Community recovery Covid grant

Considered Committed Funding at this time: **£7511.74**

Immediately Available reserves: **£3911.19**

Total disposable income FY 2020/2021 = £3911.19

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 31st December 2020. Any surplus funding to be returned to ANCBC