

Tynron Community Council

Approved Minutes 119

Monday 17th January 2022

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

Members of the Tynron community

Apologies: Peigi Romano (PR)

1. Approval of TCC Minutes from November 15th 2021

Proposed LM; seconded MN

2. Matters arising

SKS thanked Terry Kirkton, George Freeborn, Stuart and Karen Williams, Jane Cavani and John Flanagan, and Hilary and Tom Osborne for their help with the Christmas festivities.

Investigation into speeding warnings signs in the village is still ongoing and will be reported on at the next meeting.

3. Police report

PC Luke Leslie is our new community police officer. He can be contacted by phone on 101, or by email at Luke.Leslie@scotland.pnn.police.uk or for urgent matters at by phone on 101 ?

SH asked PC Leslie about

- Reports of fly tipping in the area: these issues should be dealt with by D&G Council. However, if instances of fly tipping are actually seen by the public then report directly to the police by ringing 101
- Antisocial behaviour in Scaur Glen: PC Leslie said that he would check the area more frequently in the summer months. Report any issues of antisocial behaviour by ringing 101
- Reports of thefts of fuel oil: This had occurred in Thornhill and was an isolated incident, no other thefts had been reported.

4. Treasurer's report

Expenses

• Communication: email & Zoom	£70.77
• Monthly contribution to Hall running costs & maintenance	£400
• Light Up Tynron - £77.25 plus <i>outstanding payment for £20</i>	£97.25
• Lights, Carols & refreshments	£39.34
• Replacement Bench	£418.80
Total Expenses	£1006.16
Pending transaction	£20
Total income	£455.15

Balance

Our current bank balance is:

- | | |
|-------------|-------------------|
| • Uncleared | £21,944.73 |
| • Cleared | £21,744.73 |

Reserved Funding

- £104.00 - DGC Covid/CR grant (remainder of DGC Covid Grant)
- £674.44 - DGC Admin Grant (Gmail, zoom, general admin costs)
- £4086.46 - Funding committed to KPTJCBF from 2020/2021 SPR Windfarm income

Potential Reserved Funding (dependant on position regarding KPTJCBF)

- £4146.51 - Funding committed to KPTJCBF from 2021/2022 SPR Windfarm income

Considered Committed Funding at this time:	£9011.41
Immediately Available Reserves	£12,733.32
<i>(taking into account reserved KPTJCBF windfarm funding)</i>	

Choo's bench

This has been bought and installed along the path to Tynron Doon. It was suggested that another bench could be bought for further along the same pathway at a cost of approximately £420.

Action: MN to purchase another bench.

5. Secretary's report

- We are sorry to report the death of Mr Billy Barbour in November 2021, who farmed at the Laight and other farms in Scaur Glen for many years. Billy' wife Bertha also passed away earlier this year. TCC send their condolences to Billy and Bertha's family.
- Thank you to the Resilience team and members of the Tynron community for their help in responding to the damage and power outages as a result of Storm Arwen.
- Grit bins will be filled over the period 17th – 28th January.
- Details for PR were incorrect on the D&GC TCC web site. This has now been rectified.

6. Local planning matters

Kirkland Steading

The owner of Kirkland Steading explained at the meeting that work currently ongoing is purely remedial, putting back the building as it was. Works covered by the planning application have not commenced. Woodworm has been treated and beams replaced, although the woodworm in building no.2 is beyond treatment. The building is dangerous in places. MN suggested contacting Historic Scotland for advice.

Action: MN to report to D&GC planning on behalf of TCC by Friday 21 January 2022.

Hen Hoose plot 2

An application for planning permission to build a house and garage has been received by D&G council. TCC have several concerns about the proposal including:

- Is it in keeping with the village and environs
- The size and construction of the garage, which seems disproportionately tall and large for a garage
- Access
- Waste water disposal
- The need to raise the buildings because of flood risk of the plot
- Impacts on neighbours

Action: MN to report to D&GC planning on behalf of TCC

7. Update on timber traffic and forestry issues

Traffic: No issues to report on traffic issues

Planting at Auchenbrack: 470 ha (approx 1500 acres) of land on Countam has been sold by the owners of Auchenbrack, to a venture capital company proposing commercial planting with sitka spruce with a view to selling carbon credits. Several concerns were raised about this proposal including:

- Removal of the mature forestry – what are the plans for timber haulage?
- Given the number of forestry proposals in the area, could the various owners join forces to put pressure on the organizations blocking the Heads Of Valley road to gain access to this extraction route?
- Impact of this proposal on the ecology and class I peat and its carbon sequestration in the area, particularly as the project aim is to sell carbon credits.

More details of the company are at <https://fsfc.foresightgroup.eu/>

Action: SKS to contact the company with a view to discussing their proposals

8. JCBF and KPT updates

JCBF: (LM, KL) Grants had been approved for the Community Hub and the Development Officer post from the 2020/21 contributions but these cannot be paid in full as yet because Penpont CC have not paid their contribution to the JCBF for 2020/21. They have now applied to draw down their Dalswinton wind farm funds for 2020/21 and 2021/2022 from the D & G Council. Keir and Tynron CCs have funds reserved to pay their 2021/22 contributions in line with the new agreement (40% of available funds excluding the ring fenced ANCBC grant of £2000).

It was agreed that Tynron CC would pay in its agreed amount for 2021/22, but only when Penpont has paid its outstanding amount for 20/21, and that Keir, Penpont and Tynron should pay their monies at the same time, subject to the conditions imposed by the reporting requirements set by Scottish Power Renewables. Payment of 2022/23 funds will be subject to a decision on KPT membership.

Action: LM will inform the JCBF about these decisions and that Tynron CC may not be paying its 2022/23 contribution, depending on the outcome of a Tynron community consultation.

KPT: (SKS) A KPT Community Garden project is underway, with community gardens in Keir at the old tennis courts, and at Penpont at the hydro. The aim is to produce locally grown food, reducing food miles, creating local businesses, selling produce, and managed by gardening volunteers and a gardening manager. KPT have a £32,000 funding pot which needs spending by the end of March 2022. It has been suggested that Tynron could have a community orchard as part of this project, and a strip of glebe land has been identified as a possible location. However neighbours adjacent to the plot have expressed concerns about parking and access, and the future of the plot if it is a KPT project and Tynron chooses to leave KPT. There are also issues around leasing the plot.

Action: SKS to investigate further

9. Wetherhill SPR Annual Community Award Reporting

MN raised concerns about accounting for monies given by TCC to KPT JCBF. According to our agreements we need to specifically account for all projects. However the JCBF does not provide information as to how funds from each CC are specifically allocated.

10. KPT review, TCC comments, and future membership

Tynron in KPT review: a meeting of KPT directors will be held on 16th February. Following this date an EGM will be called and the residents of Tynron will be asked their views about the future of Tynron in KPT.

11. Windfarm updates

- No news of Sanquhar II Public Inquiry yet
- No further news about Eucharhead, last documents on the ECU web site were dated April 2021
- SH was unable to attend a virtual meeting with Windy Rigg Community Liaison Group because of lack of internet after Storm Arwen.
- SH replied to the Eucharhead power lines scoping survey on behalf of TCC.

12. TCC Monthly Contribution to Tynron Parish Hall Committee

It was unanimously agreed that TCC would make a monthly contribution towards the running cost and maintenance of the hall of £200 to allow local groups to use the hall at a subsidised rate. The amount will be reviewed annually at our January meeting. It was noted that MN and KL had an interest as they are on TPHC.

13. Pot Path

TCC has been asked about the situation regarding the Pot Path, a historic path for accessing the Shinnel river bank, which runs between Tynron Parish Hall carpark and a neighbouring garden. Access is now being removed/restricted by the owners of the garden, and local residents would like to see it reinstated, both for continuing recreational access to the river, and as an important part of the village's history and heritage. On the Land Certificate related to the neighbouring house it is designated: "*a right*

of passage for pedestrian traffic only in favour of the residents of Tynron Village ... for the sole purpose of drawing water from the Shinnel Water.” The hedge between the path and the neighbour's garden has been removed by the neighbour over a period of years, preventing access to the river. TCC has approached the owners of the house, who are not willing to reinstate the path claiming that no one has made use of it since they started owning the cottage in 2001. TCC has several affidavits from local people stating contrary views about how they have made use of and enjoyed the path during that time and before.

Action: SKS to contact Richard Masters, Access Officer, D&GC for advice

14. Storm Arwen

TCC again thanked the Resilience Team and members of the Tynron community who were very busy in difficult conditions following the damage to property, dykes, fencing and livestock, and the large number of fallen trees caused by Storm Arwen. MN reminded everyone that the Resilience Team can be called out to help with emergencies as a result of fallen trees, blocked drains etc. We have a list of volunteers in our Resilience Plan that we can call on but only if they are qualified to do the job we are asking of them (e.g. we can't ask anyone to use a chainsaw that doesn't have correct safety equipment and licence). All volunteers on the list are covered by DGC insurance, others are not.

The CR Team have “Danger Ahead” signs and flashing lights to warn of danger (e.g. floods, fallen trees) but we are not allowed to put out road closed signs. If this is necessary then the CR team will contact the council and request that they do that, as happened on Dunreggan Bray in the aftermath of Storm Arwen.

Tynron Parish Hall is listed as an emergency centre in the Resilience Plan & is available if needed.

However we don't have a connection for a generator in the event of a power failure.

SH noted that there was a considerable difference in impacts of Storm Arwen across Tynron parish. In Scaur Glen homes were without power for 76 hours. Some homes had no phone land lines during this time, it is an area of little/no mobile phone reception so communication was very difficult. Internet/4G access was also down, the new EE mast at Druidhall out of action for longer than the power outages. A home with pumped private water supplies had no water during this period. Access to facilities for making a hot drink or food would have been welcome, but with limited means of communication it wasn't easy to notify the Resilience Team. The fall of multiple trees at Muckle Wood between Knockelly and Auchenhessnane required specialist equipment for its removal by Buccleuch Estates forestry department and meant the road was blocked for almost 2 weeks, causing problems for farmers, local residents and deliveries, and a significant diversion. Appropriate signage would have been useful. These problems could not have been anticipated by the Resilience Team, but possibly might help with future Resilience Team planning, given the number of remote rural homes in the community.

Resilience Team phone number: 07835 041105

Action: MN to get quotes from 2 or 3 local tree surgeons to provide a call out service if trees/branches blocking the road

15. Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

An extended Bank Holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd June – Sunday 5th June has been declared to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. It has been suggested that Tynron takes part in these celebrations with a 'street party'/ceilidh/community get together. A group will be formed to help organise appropriate celebrations.

Action: LM to send out a Grapevine and co-ordinate responses

16. AOCB

- **Dalgarno Choir donation:** It was agreed that TCC would donate a one-off payment of £200 to the Dalgarno singers on production of an explanation of how the grant would be used and an invoice to the treasurer. It was established that the Dalgarno choir is a constituted group so will be awarded the money from our ANCBC funding.

- **Litter pick:** 6th March 2022, to be followed by soup in the Hall afterwards.
Action: Linda to send out Grapevine message
 - **War memorial and planters:** ongoing, to be discussed at the next meeting.
 - **A702 closure:** The A702 between Moniaive and Dalry will be closed at Glenwhisk (the house, not the café) 31 January – 16th February 2022. Access to this section of the A702 will be via the bridge at Kirkland and the Ingleston road.
- 17. Date of next meeting:** Monday 21st March 2022 at 7.30pm