

Thornhill Community Council Meeting Minutes – 17th October 2016

In Attendance: John Holroyd, Jim Renicks, Robert McGarva, Annie Wild, Christopher Craig, Willie Lenza, Murray Bainbridge, Cllr Dempster

1. EXTRAORDINARY ITEM

The subject was discussed, a vote was taken and a unanimous decision was reached.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr Syme, Cllr Dykes, Cllr Wood, Sheila Jones, Paul Wyllie

3. POLICE REPORT

Community Officer John Carter in attendance. JH requested that PC Carter's email address be formally recorded in the minutes – john.carter@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Four incidents of note in the past month

- 17th September – fireworks being set off in middle of the village. PC Carter asked that any dangerous activity during the current bonfire season should be reported
- New Street parking issues – verbal warnings have been issued to a number of drivers parking on double yellows. PC Carter recommended reporting any offences to the non-emergency 101 number; repeated calls will move the issue up the agenda for Police Scotland
- 21st September – Attempted (unsuccessful) break-in to garage at Briary Park
- 9th October – Female in dark clothing spotted walking through private gardens on Drumlanrig View

PC Carter advised that he has been giving regular talks at Wallace Hall School and is planning to accompany a QC to present to over 60 pupils on the Scottish criminal justice system.

Possibility of permanent digital speed warning signs to be placed at North and South extent of village. PC Carter advised that Dunscore are already doing this and the cost involved is approx. £3,000 per signal. It was noted that planning permission is required.

Cllr Dempster agreed to contact DG Council about instalment of traffic monitoring strips on the Nithbank road.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Proposed by JR, seconded by WL

5. MATTERS ARISING

WL highlighted that there is an issue with drainage on Manse Road which caused the foul water drain on his property to overflow during heavy rain. Foul water flowed to the bottom of Manse Road and then across the road, through the police station and into Coe Lane. This is considered to present a

public health hazard. PC Carter advised he noticed police station drains also blocked on the same day.

Cllr Dempster recommended contacting Scottish Water as the issue appears to be with a failure in the main draining system; he will provide contact details for their area manager based in Dumfries.

6. MRS ADAM'S BEQUEST

Bowling Club and Golf Club have provided quotations for improvement works; RM to release associated payments.

MB advised that Thornhill Squash Club had been in touch to ask about process for receiving funding. JH agreed to speak with Archie Park at the squash club to get copies of quotations and RM will release funding accordingly.

7. WINDFARMS AND WINDFARM MONIES UPDATE

Harestanes – JR advised that the small grants fund is topped up to £2,000 each year; funding for this year not yet received.

Dalswinton – JR advised that this fund is administered by DG Council and we are awaiting latest funding allocation.

Clyde – £1,000 received for small grants

Twentysilling – No update.

8. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Current account balance: £16,575.68
- Investment account balance: £3,508.05
- Legacy account balance: £246,194.48

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- No significant planning applications

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Date	Format	From	Subject
20/09/16	Email	Cllr Andrew Wood	Next TCC Meeting
19/09/16	Email	Generations Working Together	Network and Learning event Dumfries 23/09/16
16/09/16	Email	D&G Council	Road Works Report w/c 19/09/2016
14/09/16	Email	D&G Council	Firework Display Application
12/09/16	Email	Joseph Thomson Maasai Trust	Invitation to Joseph Thomson Maasai Trust Launch
12/09/16	Email	Insp. Rory Caldwell	TCC meeting attendance
09/09/16	Email	D&G Council	Road Works Report w/c 12/09/2016
07/09/16	Email	D&G Council	Community Councils and funding blog

07/09/16	Email	Scottish Community Alliance	Newsletter
06/09/16	Email	Cllr Jim Dempster	Manning of Thornhill police Station
05/09/16	Email	D&G Council	Nithsdale Area Committee Business Meeting – 07/09/16
02/09/16	Email	D&G Council	Road Works Report for w/c 5th September 2016
01/09/16	Email	D&G Council	D&G Leader Funding
31/08/16	Email	D&G Council	Contact for Roadwork notifications
30/08/16	Email	Cllr Jim Dempster	DGHP new build in Thornhill
30/08/16	Email	Tinwald Community Council	ANCBC/Harestanes Wind Farm
26/08/16	Email	D&G Council	Trusted Trader scheme
24/08/16	Email	Scottish Community Alliance	Newsletter
22/08/16	Email	D&G Council	Nithsdale Local Rural Partnership
21/08/16	Email	Police Scotland	TCC details
19/08/16	Email	D&G Council	Cancellation of community council focus group meeting
18/08/16	Email	D&G Council	Clarification on Community Council Scheme

A number of other items of correspondence were shared during the meeting:

- Letter from Burns Society setting out where TCC £250 donation was used and seeking further funding from Mrs Adams Bequest. A vote was taken and the request refused on the basis that the activity does not fall within Thornhill District.
- Letter from Wallace Hall Primary seeking £500 towards gardening equipment for the children; agreed to award a £250 mini-grant

A discussion was had around the formalising of the mini-grant application process (up to £250). It was suggested that a single page application be created including terms & conditions and made available on the Visit Thornhill website. It was agreed that this subject would be further discussed as a special agenda item at the next ordinary meeting.

11. AOCB/Environmental Report

Agreed that Environmental Report will become a standing agenda item at future ordinary meetings.

JR advised that arrangements were progressing for Christmas shopping event on 5th December. Entertainment will include musical acts, amusement rides, indoor craft fair at the bowling club, some outdoor craft stalls. A poster is currently being drafted and will be posted on the electronic notice board. It was agreed that a number of Christmas hampers should be procured as prizes for a raffle during the event.

Agreed that a new standing agenda item be added for future ordinary meetings entitled “Chairman’s Briefing”. This will include updates on meetings the chairman has attended and items such as the Community Action Plan.

JH provided an update on the Community Action Plan; he advised that he had been contacted about Community Action Plan questionnaires not being distributed to Gatelawbridge. A number of possible outcomes from the consultation were discussed such as the potential for community ownership of buildings and formal partnerships with other local institutions such as the school. It was noted that the consultant appointed to oversee the consultation will be impartial in their review of the returned questionnaires and any recommendations they make from the evidence received.

JH advised that he had received tacit agreement from senior Police Scotland officials to have an ongoing physical presence in the village. This could potentially take the form of a 2-hour consultation

session twice a week with the local community officer; this would be highlighted on the electronic notice board.

JH advised he had attended Wallace Hall to brief pupil son the role on the Community Council. He asked for volunteers to attend community council meetings as a representative for the school pupil body; none were forthcoming.

Date of next meeting: Monday 21st November

DRAFT