

Thornhill Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting

held at 1915hrs on 25th April 2021,

The Friendship Club

15 West Morton Street,

Thornhill, DG3 5ND

Present: Wullie Lenza (Chair), Keith Watson (Vice Chair) Jim Renicks (Secretary), Corinna Harkness, Adam Zdravkovic, Sharon Hodkinson, John Martin Councillor J Dempster

Members of the Public Present: Sheila Renicks (Admin), Edward Smith, Mr Christopher Craig

Apologies for Absence: Belinda Morrison, Robert McGarva

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting approved by **KW** and seconded by **CH**

Police Report:

Constable Ian Harvey attended.

Local Crime Stats for the month: 2 x Breach of the Peace, 1 x Assault, 3 x Thefts, 1 x Road Traffic Offence 2 x Vandalism and 3 x Advice Calls.

Other Significant Incidents/Occurrences:

Nothing significant for Thornhill however theft of diesel has occurred at Tynron Quarry

Ongoing Initiatives:

Speed checks have been carried out at the north and south entrances of the village and will continue.

WL asked how the village would obtain *CCTV*. Discussion with members, Constable Harvey and Councillor Dempster it usually goes by the number of incidents occurring in the village/town, however they can also be used to assist with searching for Mispers from the village.

Action: Sergeant Little-Dalgleish to be invited along to meeting

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:

JR speak to shop keepers re Christmas Festivities **Action this still requires to be done**

JR has spoken with Matt Lammie unfortunately he will not be able to provide anyone, however Wallace Hall are providing a number of pupils who are willing to play at the Queens Platinum Jubilee

WL has spoken with Emily & Jamie McClennan they are also willing to be part of the entertainment Queens Jubilee

Treasurers Report:

The Treasurer (RM) provided a review of the Accounts, as they are now:

Current Account balance	£5,615.19
Investment Account:	£3,531.45
Legacy Account:	£185,297.05

Wind Farm Report:

JR advised only 1 item to report on that is TwentyShilling which there has been several short meetings for lately. An agreement has now been signed and hopefully monies will be in place by August 2022.

Planning Applications:

Weekly Planning Applications lists checked as they came into the E-Mail nothing of significance relating to the village.

Correspondence:

Mr Craig (Thornhill Improvement Group) who had been present at the February meeting regarding the planned route into the development at the rear of Hospital Brae. He had emailed the Community Council in April relating to the Approved Minutes for February in his opinion the minutes were incomplete and asked that they be amended. **Mr Craig's** email was circulated to all elected Community Council Members and also guidance was sought from Dumfries & Galloway Council regarding the request.

Mr Craig asked if any of the members had any comments on his amendment **AZ** asked due to not being at the February meeting it may be useful to know why **Mr Craig** would like the minutes amended. **Mr Craig** advised that he thought the minutes were misleading and part of the meeting had been held in secret.

JR advised that no part of the February meeting was held in secret. **Mr Craig** had been asked if he would mind leaving the meeting to allow Community Councillors to discuss the proposal, which he did do.

JR also stated that he had been in contact with staff at Dumfries & Galloway Council regarding the matter and had been advised that you can discuss matters outwith the public as long as any decisions made regarding proposals/requests which have been discussed are made with open meeting which Community Council meetings are.

This discussion continued for several minutes basically going round in circles that **Mr Craig** believed that part of the February meeting was held in secret and **JR** advising that he had sought advice from Dumfries and Galloway Council on this matter.

Mr Craig questioned what the discussion the Community Councillors had that he was not party to was in relation to as he interprets from the minutes that it was between trees & houses. The Improvement Group are not objecting to the development of the houses just the proposed route. **JR** advised that the discussion was not between trees & houses but on his proposal to have the access road changed. **Mr Craig** thereafter questioned **JR's** writing of the minutes, he was informed by **Sheila Renicks** that the minutes prepared by her.

Mr Craig questioned that fact that the Agenda for the April meeting had not been displayed. He was advised by **Sheila Renicks**(admin) that the previous week she had more important family health matters than displaying the Agenda for a Community Council meeting.

Once again, the discussion continued for several minutes **Mr Craig** asked if any other Community Councillor who was at the meeting in February anything to say. No other Community Councillor made comment, Mr Craig then informed the Community Council had failed on 2 tests openness and truthfulness and that he was now leaving the meeting.

AZ stated we should make this clear for the minutes you are leaving of your own choosing, and you are not being encouraged to leave you that Mr Craig is more than welcome to come back to meetings at any time, **Mr Craig** informed the meeting that he did not feel welcome.

A thank you letter was received from Upper Nithsdale Netball Club for the grant to allow them them to continue with a further session. With the hope that in the future they will be able to establish a social and competitive team and offer sessions for under 18-year-olds and to hold events with other Netball Clubs in the Region.

Queens Platinum Jubilee

CH and SH have organised a Bring your own Picnic in the Park event at the Community Centre on Sunday 5th June 2022 between 12pm till 4pm, musical entertainment has been arranged, along with Face Painting, Bouncy Castle and Slide, and a craft stall for children. There will be tea/coffee biscuits for the adults and diluting juice and fruit for the children. Bunting Flags and balloons have been obtained. This will be a free event for those attending. The event will be publicised on Facebook and throughout the village on posters. A request will also be made for helpers for the day.

CH asks if contact can be made to ensure the grass at the Community Centre is cut for the event.

Action contact to be made with Dumfries & Galloway Council to request that the grass is cut and lifted for the 5th June

SH wonders if there could be some bunting/display on the Drumlanrig Street. Agreed by all to have the bunting for the gala put up early June.

Action contact Andrew Ross to ask if Fire Service would assist with this.

Any Other Business

JR advises that Robert Mitchell who has been kind enough to audit the accounts for the Community Council for several years has retired. **JR** asks if everyone agrees Community Council to the giving a gift to Robert on his retirement. All members agreed.

Action gift for Mr & Mrs Mitchell.

AZ asks if there has been any contact with KPT with regards to the foot/cycle path from Thornhill, he has been in touch with the Active Travel Thornhill. Development Officer has been previously and given a presentation **AZ** was given a brief account of the path, he is happy to keep in touch with the Active TravelThornhill.

WL asks if contact can be made with the Council regarding the Road Sweeper it has not been in the East of the village for a number of weeks

Action contact to be made with Dumfries & Galloway Council to request that the village is on the Road Sweeper Lorry's route

Community Council Members thanked Edward Smith for his attendance and in put this past year in his role as Head Boy of Wallace Hall Academy they wished him well in his forthcoming exams.