

Thornhill Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting

held at 1915hrs on 17th April 2023,

The Friendship Club

15 West Morton Street,

Thornhill, DG3 5ND

Present: Wullie Lenza (Chair), Keith Watson (Vice Chair), Jim Renicks (Secretary), Sharon Hodgkinson (Treasurer), Corinna Harkness, Adam Zdravkovic (Councillor T Berretti joined meeting at 7.45pm)

Members of the Public Present: Sheila Renicks, Constable E Hewson, Martin MacAulay, Tom Corral, Billy Oram, Ashley Branney, Christopher, Craig, Freda Blackwood, (David Smith and Kathrine Crossland joined meeting at 8pm)

Apologies for Absence: Councillors Jim Dempster

Minutes of the last meeting:

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

Wheatley Homes South Representative Presentation

Fiona Pennington, Development Coordinator and Alison Lamont, Head of Housing in Mid & Upper Nithsdale from Wheatley Homes South attended the meeting. They gave an update to all present on the proposed development at the rear of Thornhill Health Centre. Wheatley Homes South intend to submit planning application for 112 properties on the development. The properties would all be rented and be of various sizes. They confirmed that a planning application had already been submitted for the removal of a condition which limits the number of properties to 50, from a single access to allow more properties to use this access. The representatives advised that with regards to the access other routes had been looked at however had been deemed not viable.

A vigorous discussion thereafter ensued with all persons present at the meeting regarding the removal of the condition and the sheer number of properties proposed by Wheatley Homes South. The following was highlighted:

There was the potential for at least 112 vehicles however in today's climate most homes have 2 vehicles so a further 224 vehicles using Hospital Brae.

That no play area was identified on the proposed plans for the development.

That NHS Dumfries & Galloway were presently carrying out Public Consultations regarding utilising Cottage Hospitals to be hubs for the areas they are in, which would increase the traffic on Hospital Brae.

It was pointed out that there was a need for more properties in the village however a mixture of rental, rent/buy and buy outright. The meeting was advised that Wheatley Homes South is a Social Housing developer for rental properties only. The meeting was also advised that there would be no preference to residents of the village for 1st allocation. The properties would be filled from the already oversubscribed waiting list for Thornhill.

The representatives were advised that Wheatley Homes South are presently neglecting the residents of Thornhill due to one of their tenant's behaviour towards residents of the village. Who continually carries out crimes, they were advised that of 5 members of the public present at the meeting 4 of them had been a victim of their tenant. Representatives advised they had a framework to follow with regards to Anti-Social Behaviour and could not discuss the matter.

Fiona and Alison were thanked for attending and giving the update.

Councillor Berretti, Martin MacAulay, Tom Corral, Billy Oram, Ashley Branney, Christopher, Craig, Freda Blackwood all left the meeting after this input.

Food Initiative - Community Volunteer:

David Smith OST and Kathrine Crossland Public Health Improvement joined the meeting. They gave a short input to those present that the OST had secured funding for a Community Volunteer for 12 months who would assist with the Food Initiative. A short discussion by those present and it was agreed that this was good and that the Food Initiative requires to be reviewed.

David Smith and Kathrine Crossland left the meeting.

Police Report:

The Police Report was given by Constable E Hewson the local crime stats for month are 1 x Breach of the Peace, 2 x Assault, 1 x Theft, 3 x Road Traffic Offences, and 4 x Advice Calls

Constable Hewson advised that a theft at local business premises occurred which is thought to be travelling criminals however the business and surrounding premises have no CCTV to assist with enquiries.

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting:

Thornhill Community Transport: - an email was sent advising of the decision to give a mini grant.

Galloway Motorcycle Club: - a letter was sent advising of the decision not to give a mini grant.

Thornhill Lego Club: - an email was sent advising of the decision to give a mini grant.

Treasurers Report:

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

Current Account balance	£8,561.94
Investment Account:	£3,539.17
Legacy Account:	£135,691.67

Wind Farm Report:

Nothing to report.

Planning Applications:

Wheatley Homes South have applied to have a condition removed to allow more than 50 properties use the access that has already been granted for the development at the rear of Thornhill Health Centre. At present the access is for 50 properties only. Members discussed this in length after hearing the presentation from Wheatley Homes South and all agreed that Thornhill Community Council would be objecting to this application. **Action: JR to contact planning department and ascertain how soon the objection requires to be submitted.**

Correspondence:

An email was received from Alan Farish requesting the Community Council contact Scottish Water in relation to the possibility of install a Top-up-Tap in the village for the number of walker & cyclist who from and who visit the village. Members agreed to contact Scottish Water. **Action JR to inform A Farish of the Community Council's agreement and also contact Scottish Water.**

Any Other Business

E Hewson who was present at the meeting thanked the Community Council for the support given to Morton Thistle Juniors and the ongoing and future costs for running the club. Members advised that the club should apply to Clyde windfarm Fund and ANCBC for funding.

CH asked if there had been any funding applied for the Coronation - no funding had been applied for.

W Lenza advised that he was resigning from the Community Council.

NEXT MEETING: 22nd May 2023.

Approved Minutes