

Burnmouth Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held in the Village Hall

Wednesday 20th February 2013 at 7.00pm

PRESENT;

Ella Linton (Chair), Lynne Craighead (Sec) Ian Craighead, Cllr Michael Cook, Thomas Dixon, Joan Wilson, Heather Aitchison , Debbie Bolton (Delayed).

APOLOGIES were received from;

Dorothy Aitchison, Betty Kieran, PC. Nash,

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16th January

These had been circulated prior to the meeting and were approved by IC and seconded by JW.

1. Matters arising

1.1 LC. Reported that DB was quite happy to continue as Treasurer and could do so as a non-member. LC would prefer not to carry out both roles and it was agreed by all that DB should continue as Treasurer.

1.2 IC reported that responses to his report on the chicane data had been received from Councillor Cook and Robbie Yates (Assistant Road User Manager). The responses re-iterated the opinion, previously stated by Councillor Cook, that the chicane had been successful in reducing the speeding problem as the average speed had reduced from 34 mph to 26 mph.

LC pointed out that her further analysis of the figures showed that 43% (in excess of over 200 cars per day) were still travelling at speeds of 30 mph and above through the actual chicanes.

IC restated his opinion that the chicane was not a success as vehicles were observed to be traveling at speeds of up to 59 mph through the chicane. He went on to suggest that if properly engineered speed bumps or a speed camera had been installed, instead of the chicane, then vehicles would not be traveling at such high speeds. Councillor Cook described the lengthy consultation process that went on prior to the installation of the chicane and the fact that the community council at the time was in agreement with the proposal.

Whilst some of the CC stated that the chicane had not been as effective as they had hoped other members were happy that there had been an improvement. Speeding was still considered to be a problem but because of financial restraints and limited support for any change, Councillor Cook said that it was unlikely that significant changes to the chicane would be possible.

JW suggested that positioning planters on the build outs may have a psychological effect on drivers and it was agreed that this was worth trying when other village enhancements were being undertaken. Councillor Cook agreed to speak to Paul Matthewson (Area Network Manager) to ensure that safety considerations are taken into account

The associated problem, resulting from the position of the chicane, of vehicles passing at high speed (in both directions) past the driveway of Creel Cottage was discussed. The suggestions (made by Mr. Yates) of placing a gate at the entrance and/or positioning of a CCTV camera were considered unlikely to improve matters. The offer to explore the possibility of painting/ cross hatching this part of the road to discourage drivers from driving too close to the kerb was accepted by IC and Councillor Cook agreed to arrange with Mr. Yates to visit the scene and discuss options with IC and LC.

1.3 The date of the meetings is to remain as the third Wednesday of every month at the new time of 7pm.

1.4 The problems caused by parked vehicles and cars coming in to the village at excessive speed from the A1.

Various measures (planters/signs etc.) that could be used to slow the traffic down right through the village and to stop it being used as a 'rat-run' to and from Eyemouth were discussed. Cllr Cook will discuss this matter with Robbie Yates and Paul Matthewson and arrange for them to visit the village to see the problems first hand to advise on what can be done.

1,5 IC reported that an objection to the pigeon lofts at Lamberton had been lodged on behalf of the CC.

2. Police Report - Period : 16/1/13 to 20/2/13

1.Performance

Calls for Service: 12

Breakdown as follows:

6 incidents on A1 re accidents or road offences

1 flytipping of Tyres at West Flemington

4 road check by road policing colleagues

1 assault at the pub

Crime figures for period

1 recordable offence. Solved.

This is the assault at the Pub.

Male has been charged with Assault to the Procurator Fiscal.

Lothian and Borders Police in the East Policing Area have recorded a 10% drop in

crime Year To Date compared to this time last year and our detection rate is also slightly up on last year – this is positive considering the reduced resources.

Note; solved means person charged and reported to Procurator Fiscal or the Children’s Reporter

2. Notable incidents

Flytipping at West Flemington - we urge residents to please give us registration numbers of anyone seen dumping waste or other items along our regions roads.

3. Roads Policing

Road checks continue on main routes – especially the A1 trunk road. This is to educate and advise drivers on safety and to detect offences.

4. Prevention Campaigns

Made from crime campaign has come round again.

Poster for notice board. Dropped off to Joan.

3 Cllr Cooks Report

1) Excavations at car park at Westwinds

Duncan Morrison has been in consultation with Network Rail on the flooding issue at Burnmouth. They are keen to find out where the watercourse in question goes under the railway and have committed to doing some investigation work within their boundary to determine this.

They have committed to having this work done by the end of June but on speaking with the Network Rail Engineers they hope to have this done by April/May.

If they are able to locate the watercourse under the railway this will allow him to find the line of it and make a decision on the best way to resolve the flooding problem.

In relation to tying up the landscaping issue in accordance with the current planning consent it would be unwise to undertake landscaping in this area yet as the likelihood is that more excavation work will be needed.

Peter Green of Planning Enforcement confirmed that there will be no requirement for the land to be landscaped until this is resolved.

2) Paul Oswald letter

Phone Kiosk

Work is due to commence in early March

Toilets

There is no prospect of having a permanent WC provided by the Council in the present financial climate. Complaints about the portaloos will simply result in the removal of the facility. Cllr Cook will check whether a new portaloos can be provided as part of the present maintenance contract.

A possible solution for the future would be if we could come up with a locally developed solution funded by some other means, and sustained by local management and oversight. Funding like EFF with its tourism element suggests a possible way forward, though a toilet by itself would not get funding. It would need to be part of a much more significant tourism project.

No overnight parking

Cllr Cook asked what the CC view was on this. Members living in Upper Burnmouth felt unable to comment on this and HA and DB stated that they were unaware of any problems with overnight parking. Clarification of where the vehicles are parking is to be sought and if appropriate signs will be erected.

Sea wall

David Richardson, SBC Asset Manager would like to meet up with Mr Oswald or someone from the CC who has noticed any deterioration, who he could contact and meet on site so that they could show him their concerns.

Traffic management at the Smoke House

Paul Matthewson, the Area Network Manager, advises -

As any works to install services to the Smoke House are likely to involve working in the public road, the owners will have to apply to the Council beforehand to obtain the relevant permits. I imagine the works would be carried out under a temporary road closure, with steel plates placed over any excavations as and when necessary to allow traffic to pass.

4 Any Other Business

- 4.1 DB agreed to carry on as Treasurer and gave EL the forms which need to be filled in so that she also became a signatory.
- 4.2 LC gave DB invoices for the wreath that was laid and the printing of the newsletter/questionnaire.

Date of next meeting 20th March at 7pm.