

TORTHORWALD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)

(TCC area: Collin, Dargavel, Douievale, Elizafield, Greenlea, Isle of Man, Racks, Roucan & Torthorwald).

Monday 15th January 2018

Present: Mr Bob Watson (Chairman), Mrs Pauline Dear (Treasurer), Mrs Lindsay Florey (Secretary), Mrs Betty Paisley, Mrs Marisa McAdam, Mr Bill Hitchens, Mrs Lesley Gordon, Mr Mark Hughes, Mrs Cath Mundell, police constable Chris Trosh.

Apologies: Mr Millar Cameron, Mr Terry Grainger, Mr and Mrs John Carson

Also Present: Cllr. Colonel Charteris, Mr Bill Meadows, Cllr Ivor Hyslop

WELCOME

Bob welcomed everyone and wished them happy new year.

MINUTES.

The minutes of meeting 19th November were approved and signed.

MATTERS ARISING.

The site for a bench on Lynn's Road was deemed unsuitable by the council – Pauline and Lindsay to look at an alternative site ? in a layby.

Townhead Park has been adopted by the council and they will ensure regular sweeping here and on the Low Road.

The traffic island in Torthorwald is correctly sighted and lit and the council sees no reason for alteration.

John Bogie has advised that the Collin Moss is to be brought back to agricultural use as was the plan. SEPA are fully informed and health and safety signs warn of the use of heavy equipment. The landfill site has inert rubble not domestic waste. Restoration is likely to take 2-3 years.

Mr Cunningham-Jardine has decided not to proceed with the proposed cycle path on his land. A final discussion will take place with the council roads department before the planning is abandoned.

Discussion took place re the use of the telephone box in Collin - ? a small shop with a 'trust' box, ? a book exchange, ? a stained glass installation/community project, ? simply remove it as the risk of vandalism thought to be high for any of the ideas. Further discussion to take place at the next meeting.

Payment to the chairman for his entertainment at the Christmas lunch was agreed.

POLICE REPORT.

Chris Trosh reported on the recent fire at the Cruck Cottage – enquiries are ongoing and further information may be available at the next meeting. Bill Meadows confirmed that the insurance is expected to cover any costs. Support from the community following the fire had been tremendous and the fire brigade were outstanding and attended quickly. In particular he thanked John Carson and the cycle club for their support. The cottage is now wind and water tight.

SPEED WARNING SIGNS.

Sweat has not yet had a meeting re the grant application and Pauline Dear agreed to update them (Christine) as to our plans/current funding. There is some reluctance to fund what might be seen as council responsibility.

£2000 has been received from the council safety fund

It was agreed that it was appropriate to have signs at both ends of the village and Lindsay Florey agreed to seek further guidance as to what the signs should display – is there evidence that showing the vehicle's speed is inappropriate?

The windfarm benefit fund has rejected our funding application for signs and it was agreed that ordering through the council would be the most appropriate and might not require VAT payment.

Pauline agreed to get an up to date quote – previous quote £4873 plus VAT.

An application has been made to the area grant committee for speed signs and a defibrillator in Collin - £5000 requested, Applications had to be in by 12th January. Mark Jardine from Roucan Loch has very generously agreed a contribution of £1000.

It was agreed that a possible contribution from the 200 club to both Torthorwald and Collin signs would not be inappropriate.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Bank Balance £4932.55 – including £2000 Harestanes Wind Farm Local Community Grant 2017/18, £2000 D&G safety fund for Torthorwald speed signs. £2000 to be received from 200 club towards Christmas meal costs.

Income - £552.50 D&G annual discretionary grant, £2000 D&G safety fund grant, £250.50 Christmas meal raffle, £30 donations.

Expenses - £2344.85

Pauline thanked Cath Mundell for her organisation of the Christmas meals, Bob Watson for his musical entertainment, and all those who donated raffle prizes.

WINDFARM UPDATE,

Notices have been displayed indicating that groups can apply to the community council for grants. Groups who previously applied have been contacted. It was agreed that Pauline would contact Donna Rae who is trying to improve the Torthorwald play park and also a

representative for Collin playpark. (Lindsay to contact Derek Hextall for a possible named contact).

Security for the cruck Cottage was discussed - ? CCTV/smoke detectors.

FUTURE EVENTS.

Too early for summer planning but to remain as an agenda item.

PLANNING.

Former Stage Coach Hotel Site for conversion to terraced housing rejected.

Discussion took place as to the council Local Plan. Specific sites for possible housing are not indicated within the community council boundary. The draft plan is about to go before the council prior to public consultation. The council has moved away from designating specific rural sites and any building applications would have to meet specific criteria.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Communication Jan 2018

Independent Living Event info. - CIRCULATED

Defibrillator information – about £1000

Anticipatory budging
SNH newsletter

Community – based tenders invited for region's 2 health and wellbeing hubs.

The Hub regular updates – circulated

Southern Upland partnership update – project for golden eagles D&G

NLRP – Nithsdale Local Rural Partnership – membership application form.

RBS closure survey – circulated

A.O.C.B.

Pauline to discuss on-line banking with RBS .

Minimum attendance for community council members discussed – Lindsay agreed to liaise with Terry Grainger as his work sadly means he is rarely able to attend.

Discussion re possible new members to be continued at future meetings. ?John Campbell, Collin.

Bill Hitchens encourage people to attend the Older People Consultative group in Georgetown on 25th January 1300 hours.

Next Quiz night in Torthorwald village hall on 1.2.18

Bill Meadow requested copies of the minutes to be displayed on notice boards and it was agreed copies would be sent directly to him.

Highfields has new (tiny) bus shelter.

The meeting closed at 8,45pm. Next meeting in Collin village Hall, 19th February 7.30pm.