

Minutes of TORTHORWALD COMMUNITY COUNCIL (TCC)

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

Monday 21st May 2018

Torthorwald Village Hall

Present: Bob Watson (Chairman), Pauline Dear (Treasurer), Lindsay Florey (secretary), Betty Paisley, Moira Weatherup, Bill Hitchens, John Carson

Apologies: Lesley Gordon, Marisa McAdam, Cath Mundell, Mark Hughes, Miller Cameron

Also Present: Cllr Ivor Hyslop, Bill Meadows MBE, Police Constables Chris Trosh and Scott Lockhart, Clr. John Charteris, Alistair Cook, Clr. Ivor Hyslop, Nettie Carson, John Campbell.

WELCOME

Bob welcomed everyone to the meeting.

MATTERS ARISING

- Collin 'phone box. The school will keep us informed of plans that they are developing.
- John Campbell is willing to be co-opted to the CC and will declare any conflict of interest that might occur and abstain from voting if that was the case. The committee were unanimous in his support and the proper procedure for co-opting him will be followed before and at the next meeting.
- Collin underpass lighting is not sorted – Derek Hextall is chasing this up.
- Keep Scotland Beautiful - the school will keep us informed.
- Approval for a bench in the wood on the Hemplands footpath has been agreed. Lindsay Florey to contact Margaret McKie re a plaque in memory of Dan Mckie and cost.
- Torthorwald Community Group photograph exhibition. No progress. Bob Watson to liaise with the group. As there is a community tea in Torthorwald Hal on 17th June further events for the big lunch unnecessary.
- Collin/Greenlea bus shelter – Response from David Morton awaited. Lindsay Florey (LF) to contact him.

LITTER PICKING.

There have been 3 clean up sessions on Auld Tree Road, Collin with about 60 bags of general waste and large quantities of garden waste due for council collection. Moira Weatherup was thanked for organising this and Betty Paisley thanked those from Torthorwald who had helped.

A site meeting has been arranged at 1pm 1st June with Alastair Speedie, Director Economy, Environment and Infrastructure. Betty Paisley, Pauline Dear and Lindsay Florey to attend.

John Charteris informed the committee of possible plans to reassign the road to a cycleway. The pavement opposite the school is very overgrown. LF to report.

POLICE REPORT.

John Charteris commended the police for their regular attendance at CC meetings.

2 thefts in the region in the last month – hearing oil and a garage break-in. 2 minor road accidents. Constable Trosh reminded people of the possibility of having a security survey done – free and may reduce likelihood of theft may as much as 70%. The CC agreed this should be mentioned in the summer newsletter.

SPEED SIGNS and SHIELDHILL ROAD JUNCTION DANGERS.

Several residents have reported near-misses when negotiating the junction and Bill Meadows presented photographic evidence of the visibility issues. The junction is difficult for private motorists, farm vehicles etc. because of the incline of the roads, bend in the road and the poor visibility due to vegetation. Bill Meadows suggested a site visit to consider options for improvement - ? a mirror, vegetation management and reinstatement of the grit box for the winter. Lindsay Florey agreed to liaise with appropriate people.

Pauline Dear has had little helpful feedback from other community councils re their speed warning signs. The funding has a limited time span and it was agreed the CC needed to finalise decisions re power supply, siting and wording. Lindsay Florey and John Campbell agreed to liaise with the appropriate council member and perhaps a site visit as above would be helpful.

RESILIENCE PLAN.

Pauline Dear has updated this and it will be circulated.

WINDFARM APPLICATION.

Feedback and receipts have been received from 2 grant recipients. The cycling club managed to cover their expenses and did not require windfarm money.

SUMMER OUTING.

11th August to Kendal. Pick up points and times as previous trips. McCall's quote £350 to be accepted. Cath Mundell will plan invitations and delivery.

PLANNING.

Application for proposed shed by John Gibson, Elizafield.

Planning application Mike Gunn approved.

John Campbell advised the CC that he is the vice chair of the planning committee and he would declare a conflict of interest if this was appropriate when co-opted onto the CC.

TREASURER.

Balance £4676.55 including £2000 from safety Fund for speed signs Collin.

NEWSLETTER.

Future items to include – organisation reports, details of security surveys, true calling block, school article, windfarm grants, Cruck cottage update, litter pick-up, Torthorwald community group and possible article re Dan Mackie.

Bob Watson agreed to discuss possible donations for printing.

SECRETARY REPORT.

- Ward events proposals – agreed to contact Deerk Hextall re possible dangerous Shieldhill junction and speed signs.
- Email from Maureen Johnstone (Tinwald parish CC) re possible reestablishment of Nithsdale Area Federation. Agreed to seek further information and suggest ward events may be a more appropriate way forward.
- Breeze female cycling champion information – agreed to forward to cycling club
- Scotland transerv meeting re A76 improvement, Enterkin Foot
- Local housing strategy final report – equality impact assessment.
- Lochar Ward Community Conversation – Streetscene 31 may 6.30pm Lochthorn Customer Service centre, Edinburgh road, Heathhall
- Volunteers Week – certificates available if required.
- Nithsdale Local Rural Partnership membership form for completion. John Campbell attends and will keep Torthorwald CC informed.

A.O.C.B.

- Agreed to set no firm date for future Torthorwald garden opening at present.
- Bill Meadows advised that the Cruck Cottage is open again and there is to be a grand launch theatrical event with Guild of Players on 2nd June. Tickets required. Bill thanked everyone for their overwhelming support. Border TV are considering a feature for Border Life.
- Torthorwald community Group are having an afternoon tea on 17th June to raise funds for the local playground upgrade.
- Colonel Charteris informed the CC that Jennifer Irvine has been appointed head teacher of Collin School. Her work with the travelling community has been recognised by the Scottish Government. Letter of congratulations to be sent (LF).
- Ivor Hyslop informed the CC of consultation regarding liquor licensing. This can be accessed via the council website.

The meeting finished at 21.02 Next Meeting: Collin Village hall 7.30pm 18th June