

# **Torryburn & Newmills Community Council**

Minutes of meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at Torryburn Primary school

**PRESENT:** John Emery-Barker, Chairman, Mary Emery-Barker, Bunty Watson, Robert Dennis, Heather Dennis, Stephanie Blackden.

**PRESENT FROM THE SCHOOL:** Jude Black, pupil, Layla Black, pupil, Mrs Jemma Black, parent, Jillian Mellis, head teacher.

The meeting began with reports from Layla and Jude representing the school's Pupil Voice Group. Parking is a big issue at present and they have been making posters and surveys of parking at the school, also doing a survey at the slow down sign between 1.30 and 2.00 pm to see the number of vehicles which speed. They also carried out a survey to see how pupils arrived at school in the mornings and found that 40 children came by car, 10 walked and 40 by bus. In discussion it was agreed that traffic around the school by cars arriving and parking can be dangerous, but the road to the school is a private road and not the responsibility of the Council. There needs to be a safer route to the school. Fife Council is reluctant to have a sleeping policeman installed on the road or a zebra crossing. The school representatives said the Traffic Management group would support a 20 mph limit. The Community Council has been looking into the matter but there has been a negative response to requests for signage, etc.

The pupils are to be involved in the Clean for the Queen event in honour of the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and are to put up posters at the park and have a poster competition for anti-litter awareness. They are also going to have a swapshop to raise money for a wind turbine on 7<sup>th</sup> March, initially for one day.

There was discussion about the schools catchment area. Queen Anne high School is out of the catchment area and pupils wanting to go there would have to pay for transport. The CC to contact councillors on this issue.

JEB gave a brief summary of how the CC works, how financed, how money is disbursed, and the issues raised. There was discussion on the planter proposed to purchase for the school. Other problems dealt with by the CC have included dropped kerbs, which should be sorted by the end of March, and the question of a lifebelt at the Ness. A representative from the RNLI had spoken to JEB about this and said a lifebelt would not be helpful because of the mud and recommended a sign should be put up at the Ness saying DANGER< SOFT MUD.

After the school representatives had left, the meeting continued:

**APOLOGIES:** Susan Donald, Kate Stewart, Eva Lessels.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING;** Proposed MEB seconded BW

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**Speeding:** A survey of speeding is proposed to be undertaken by the Council.

**Old bridge:** SB has been to the Land Register and will report results of investigations at next meeting.

**Ash Lagoons Liaison Committee:** MEB reported back and the following is her summary of the meeting.

**Ash Lagoon Liaison Committee Meeting  
Longannet  
21/1/2016**

**(This is a brief report** of meeting that took place in Power Station regarding the forthcoming closure on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016)

Introductions and welcome, Ash Lagoons Liaison Committee

**SP** It was stated that it is very early days for the decommissioning team, and a summary of what has taken place since then was given. The envisaged ash levels for the last few months are down. This is in part due to the relatively mild winter that we have had up to now and the energy that is now being generated by wind. Only 1 of the 4 turbines had in fact been used over the winter because of this. This means that there will probably not be enough ash to infill the lagoons which are open at present. This will have to be addressed by the decommissioning team. The DT will be consulting with the local Communities, PEPA, SSSI, SNH, and Fife Council regarding Planning issues. An Environmental Impact assessment will be done and its outcome depends on what Fife Council says re SP. **SP** will continue to keep the dust suppression management during the restoration of the area. Wildlife, the fence has been cut again and dogs have been reported chasing deer, as well as some shooting occurring.

**Scotash** will continue to use the ash generated at present, but will not be allowed to excavate and previously dumped ash.

**The Task Force** was discussed. The project manager for the Fife **Task force** will be Andrew Simms, who is a town planner for Fife Council. He will also be in contact with Falkirk Council, and Alloa and Clackmannan Councils. The Task force will be chaired by Fergus Ewing, MSP and Cllr Ross, and information regarding this can be found on the Scottish Parliament website.

The remit of the Task force is to secure economic recovery, address community impacts, business impacts, the future use of the site, transport and any environmental mitigation which will occur when Longannet closes.

There will be a 'drop in community event' w/c 20<sup>th</sup> Feb.

The Task force will be an agenda item in any future the **Ash lagoons Liaison** meetings for feedback.

It was suggested that all the Community Councils should have an input to the Ash Lagoons Liaisons Committee. Next meeting to be announced.

**Lifebelt:** The RNLI has visited the site and recommends a notice pointing out the danger of soft mud.

**Dropped kerbs:** Work should be completed by end of March.

**Floral Enhancement and school planter:** There was discussion on the cost of the planter and how much the CC would contribute. The planter will be sited where it will be in public view. It was decided £500 would be given for the planter.

**Car parking at school:** See earlier discussion with school representatives.

**Community Garden:** There has not been a meeting for several months, JEB to contact Kelly Hart.

**Community Engagement Meeting:** Speeding and parking were discussed at the meeting. The West Fife Villages Forum was mentioned and a request for members of CC's to attend their meetings. Next meeting of Community Engagement is 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**Councillors Report:** No report

**Financial Report:** There is £1,776.61p in the bank. We have received our grant for last year of £528.40p.

**Correspondence:** Nothing to report.

**Planning:** Nothing to report.

Any Other Business: Flooding in the field down the Shore Road is still there owing to blocked drains. JEB to contact Transportation. Japanese Knotweed is spreading along parts of Shore Road. JEB to contact Fife Council.

**Date of Next meeting:** Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016, in Lounge bar of Crown Hotel.