

Culross Community Council

Minute of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 4th February 2019

Held in The Town House, Culross

Present:

Lynne Smith, Chair
Lora Hall Graham, Vice-Chair
Robin MacKenzie, Treasurer
Diane MacKenzie, Minute Secretary
Sandy Tippett

In Attendance:

Cllr. Mino Manekshaw
Elaine Longmuir, NTS Culross
Jonathon Brown, NTS Culross
Tom Gosgrove, Resident
June Geyer, Resident
Babs Hendry, Resident
Robert Nelson, Resident

Apologies Submitted:

Clare Short, CCC'Ilr
Angus Carmichael, Ash Lagoons Liaison
Cllr. Kate Stewart
Calli Jones, Culross Primary School

The meeting started at 7.00pm with Lynne Smith in the Chair.

1. Guest Speakers

Bus Service - Babs Hendry raised concerns about the 'double charging' of Low Valleyfield residents who board a bus in L.V. to go to Dunfermline but which first travels on to Culross, (first fare to Culross) before returning to Dunfermline, (second fare Culross - Dunfermline).

[Action Agreed Young Seniors & Abbey Church to write to Mino who will again raise concerns with Stagecoach]

Parking on Pavements - Robert Nelson advised the parking cones had disappeared from the Sandhaven and cars were parking on the pavements, disadvantaging pedestrians especially the elderly, disabled and bus users. The granite flagstones are all broken and a trip hazard.

Robert was advised the matter has been reported to FC who advised there is no money to purchase more cones unless CCC did so themselves - this was felt to be a short term fix for a long term issue and given Culross is a major tourist destination, it was felt to be a raw deal from those with the power to set strategies. **[Action - see below]**

Culross Abbey Church - Robert advised Reverend Liz Fisk is to be inducted as official Minister on 3rd March 2019 at 3pm and everyone welcome.

Commonwealth War Graves, West Kirk - Robert stated the graves need to be identified and promoted to wider community - NTS interested in adding to their forthcoming walking routes in and around the village. CCC suggested promoting grave of Sgt. McPherson at Culross Abbey, he was born in Culross and awarded the Victoria Cross - [https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewart_McPherson_\(VC\)](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stewart_McPherson_(VC))

June Geyer advised the graves were listed on www.findagravestone.com

[Action NTS]

NTS: Elaine advised the NTS is now closed until 1st April when it will be open daily 10am - 5pm until 30th September; thereafter it will be Friday - Monday.

Staffing will be increased from 3 to 7, seeking a replacement for Elaine while on maternity leave,

commencing 14th February. Linda & Fiona have both been promoted to Visitor Service Managers. **Pilgrims Way** have been given permission to use the NTS map of the village on their leaflet and a grant of £2,000 has been awarded from the Cunningham Bequest to Fund a new interpretation board for the Pier & Moat Pit information. **[Action Diane to advise Ken]**

Walking tours will be on offer throughout the season, available online to pre-book.

Housing - 4 Tanhouse Brae is now let; Bennet House is now being managed locally and issues with CDM should be resolved soon and be advertised thereafter; Town House retail let is progressing and the Memo of Understanding between the CCC & NTS is with their lawyers and should be approved.

Cunningham Bequest - Jon advised the Bequest was made in 1999 for projects to benefit Culross & Environs and to date has a balance of £980,000. Funds have been used in the past for improvements to little houses, Palace, Palace Garden walls, Town House Clock.

Pavement Parking - Jon offered funding towards bollards on one or both sides of the Sandhaven to prevent pavement parking but which would permit roadway parking on one side. This generous offer was acknowledged and appreciated however it was agreed further consultation and information would need to be sought. **[Action Lynne to contact Scott Blyth, FC for info for next mtg]**

Shiresmill - June Geyer advised Shiresmill is in Blairhall CC area however they no longer have a CC and after attending WFVF, involving local Councillor's and relevant authorities, wanted to update CCC on what is happening in Shiresmill.

Flooding - Over the last decade or so the village has been flooded with effluent on a number of occasions. Scottish Water attended a meeting with residents on 6th December 2018 and advised the flooding is the result of a thirty year extreme weather event and no action would be taken. Having consulted with SEPA, elected representatives and others with expertise in this field, we believe we have a low cost, low impact solution. This will be tabled at a meeting of the relevant personnel on 26th February 2019.

Shiresmill Traffic through the village - June advised there has been a significant increase, particularly Heavy Goods Traffic, in recent months. It seems that the opencast workings, the building activity in Blairhall and some traffic from the Bogside sand quarries are all contributing to the traffic volume. The road is governed by the national speed limit – 60mph. Some of the houses in the village are in close proximity to the road and the residents find it disconcerting to feel HGVs thundering past within feet of their homes. WFVF wrote to the local elected councillors with a view to having a speed restriction imposed. There is no response as yet.

[Action - CCC agreed to Steve Grimmond, FC Chief Executive, expressing concern]

Dundonald Car Park - CCC have asked FC for clarification on the current status of the planning application to build a dwelling, no response to date. **[Action - Mino to chase up response]**

Police - There was no Police Report

2. Approval of Minute of the Previous Meeting

The Minute of the Meeting held on 3rd December 2018 was approved by Robin MacKenzie and seconded by Lora Hall Graham.

3. Matters Arising from Minute of the Previous Meeting

Ash Lagoons Liaison Committee - the next meeting is on 22nd February and Angus is seeking additional representative for CCC **[note - subsequent to the meeting, Martin Euler from Low Valleyfield offered to attend]**

Fete: Lynne advised date has been set for this year's Fete - 18th August 2019; the Market Operator's License applied for; Insurance applied for; Previous Stall Holders invited; Saline First Aid Responder's providing first aid cover. **[Action On-going]**

Sand for Play Park: Clare purchased sand but more is required. **[Action Clare]**

Road, Parking & Signage: Lynne to contact Scott Blyth re pavement parking; report pot holes Sharp's Brae and outstanding matters re signage. **[Action Lynne to contact]**

Public Toilets: Lynne & Lora met with Jeff Jacobs, FC Environmental Officer, & Linda Hume, to

discuss the closure of the toilets over the Christmas & New Year period and agreed the contact info plaque is to be updated, Community Payback will paint the exterior, the internal wet wall will be repaired, the door locks and coin collection system repaired, and extended opening for door locks on public holidays/ special events. The dome will not be replaced as deemed to be in good order and no drinking water tap fitted due to legionnaires concerns. **[Action Lynne/ Lora to monitor]**

The Stables: FET Funding application for c.£50,000 successful, aiming to revamp roof and external walls this spring. Big Lottery Fund Meeting today. **[Action Robin]**

4. Chairperson's Report

No Report beyond matters arising & AOCB.

5. Treasurer's Report

Robin MacKenzie advised: Balance on General Account at 31/1/19 was £501.23 & Environmental Account was £2031.26. Expenditure on Christmas Tree, Senior's Christmas dinner and Fete License.

6. Correspondence Received

All CCCllrs to read the Yahoo mailbox/ share correspondence of note.

7. Fife Councillors' Report

No Report beyond matters arising & AOCB.

8. External Meeting Reports

Lynne & Lora attended the NTS Liaison Meeting on 1/2/19 & meeting with Jeff Jacobs, Fife Council Environmental Officer re Public Toilets on 1/2/19 - see earlier updates.

9. Planning

No new Planning applications received.

10. Any Other Competent Business

Community Payback - list of tasks for tackling to be brought to next meeting. **[Action All]**

Calli advised the School railings have been assessed as low risk for contamination and are hoping FC will action repainting but will keep CC updated.

Resilience Plan - Robin has reviewed the FC proposal and it was agreed the village has systems in place to deal with an emergency however agreed to maintain a central list of FC contacts and all info to be sent to Lynne **[Action All]**

Parking at Sandhaven - it has been stated a car parked on the pavement at Sandhaven had an offensive note fixed to the windscreen allegedly from the CCC - the CCC knows nothing about this and not our business.

High Valleyfield Doctors Surgery - request for update on lack of GP's/ difficulty getting appointments.

Rabbie's Coach Tour Funding - deadline for funding passed **[Action Complete]**

Stephen Memorial Hall: FC Common Good Committee have agreed to the disposal as it is a CGC Asset. **[Pending]**

11. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 4th March at 7pm in The Townhouse, Culross.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm.