

Torryburn & Newmills Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held in Crown, Newmills on October 14, 2019

Present: Alistair McIntosh (Chair), Susan Donald (Sec), Mary Emery-Barker (Treasurer), John Emery Barker, Bunty Watson, Ian Parker, Janet White, Cllr Mino Manekshaw, Stephanie Blackden, Ronnie Collins.

Apologies: Liz Dunn, Cllr Kate S (to Mino)

Minutes proposed by Ian Parker, seconded by Bunty Watson.

FINANCE : £1260.41. Need more stickers for notice board.

COUNCILLOR REPORT: Mino M reported that West Fife Villages Forum AGM on Sept 30 had reported on lots of problems with underage teenagers travelling to different villages: underage drinking, damage. Discussion with police and agencies for young people thinking of things to do to occupy them, to be had on October 30.

LONGANNET LEGACY: Chairman sent Council letter in March, officials came to our meeting in May to explain how more than £2million spent on industrial units in Dalgety Bay. Correspondence with Scottish government shows decision that cash was meant to go to Fife villages affected by closure and any alteration must be agreed with Govt in writing. Scottish govt have told us that no agreement does exist in writing, so we have asked Council again to explain why and show us the letter they sent to Govt. But no response from anyone except Gordon Mole, so have sent information to Govt and MSP's. We have estimations from builders that 9 new units cost £840,000, Council said more than £2million, which could mean that £1.3million is missing? Spent elsewhere?

WITCH MEMORIAL: Council organised a meeting with proposal of a memorial and that Beamer lighthouse could be put on Ness. Chairman had thought it could be a good idea, bringing people into the villages, but we would need to raise £100,150,00 to erect it and there's no suggestion that infrastructure like extra parking would be put in. The local people at the meeting (Not including Community Councillors or Kate S) were all against the beacon and people on the Ness had declared their opposition. In fact apart from Lillias Adie, Culross had huge number of witches accused and Pittenweem and Dunfermline, maybe it should be elsewhere. Stephanie B said there was a memorial in Dornoch. She will confer with local history group.

Ian Parker said memorial yes, Beacon no – 26 feet.

JEB suggested Community Council could put up a small Memorial. Chairman suggested a storyboard, MEB a standing stone. Stephanie B was asked to confer with local history group.

SCHOOL LAVATORIES: Cllr Kate S not here to tell us whether school heating system had been repaired or replaced. Chairman putting in FOI to find out why Torryburn Primary School is only Grade C primary school in West Fife. He is astonished that Council survey says the sanitary services are "satisfactory"

PLUMBING: Cllr Mino M said we need to show condition report to Sheila McLean at Council and her will set a meeting up at the School.

HIGH VALLEYFIELD SURGERY: No more info. SD reported that IT upgrade there meant it had been impossible for doctors to open letters from hospitals. MEB had had same problem after her knee op.

NEWMILLS BRIDGE: no date on Mr Heggie's assessment of potholes resulting in repair.

PLINTH on Shore Road: Al Mcl has put a photo on BT website now of wrecked plinth.

BRICKS ON BEACH: Kelty Community Council showed interest but only wanted 12!

AOB:

GRASSCUTTING: Ian P said it was incredible that there is grasscutting round houses, but not in the playpark! Don't they have a list of places to be done? They've been cutting private land. Mino M said amalgamation of parks, maintenance, street cleaning, and new equipment bought so it will get better. MEB was told 25 years ago that Dunfermline District Council billed Wemyss for all the grass owned by him in main street that is cut. Ronnie C asked if Council employed seasonal staff to do grass. MM Did not know.

PILGRIMS WAY: Janet W asked one of people involved in Pilgrim's Way how he KNEW it was a Pilgrim's Way, walking people down main street etc. He said we don't know it's a new Pilgrim's Way – so tourist thing.

Next meeting November 11.

AGENDA:

Apologies

Approval of Minutes of previous meeting

Finance

Police Report: Torryburn- 12 calls to the police, 0 crimes. Newmills, 2 calls, 0 crimes

Planning

Councillor Report

Longannet Legacy Money

Witch memorial

Lavatories in Torryburn Primary School,

High Valleyfield Health Centre,

Newmills Bridge potholes shocking, Hole in wall on Shore Road, Plinth on Shore Road, Bricks on beach.

VE Day 2020

Date of next meeting

