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TILLICOULTRY, COALSNAUGHTON & DEVONSIDE

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE BEN CLEUCH CENTRE, TILLICOULTRY ON 12TH JANUARY 2016 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT – Robert mcclelland, ewart mcauslane, elma Mitchell, chris mccallion, melanie white, Elizabeth young, john Mitchell, Alex Robertson, , Michael Taylor, Ian Gordon, W Simpson

In attendance – archie Drummond, Tom Allan, Donald Balsillie, Bobby McGill, Constable J Miller, Sandra Tasker.

Apologies – I Millar

Chairpersons remarks –CMcC opened the meeting and thanked all involved in the successful Hoolie.

POLICE REPORT/PACT – The Community Constable James Miller read out the detail of the monthly report. The report will be put on the NoticeBoard. From the floor the problem of poor parking at the shop in Firpark was raised. Constable Miller undertook to check it out.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – The Minutes had been circulated and were approved. Moved by EM and seconded by JM.

MATTERS ARISING – EMcA highlighted the matters arising which were not on the Action List –

1. Letter from the MP had been circulated..
2. The Malawi Team at Alva Academy had been written to giving support and undertaking to get back to them when the detail of the Micro Grant Scheme is known.
3. The poster advertising the availability of grant input to local Groups through the EDF Burnfoot Scheme was on the noticeboard and the EDF reps were asked to check it for accuracy.

COMMUNITY PLANNING – EMcA said there had been no objections to the completed draft application form which had been circulated. He had contacted James Buchan of Local Energy Scotland in advance of submitting the application. James had been positive and gave advice on the type of approach they favoured. He has been given information on what was going on or planned in the CC area and he is to get back to us with his comments on the draft application form. The structure required to support the development of the Community Plan was discussed and there was unanimous agreement that the proposed Plan was so important that the CC members as a whole should form the Implementation Group . EMcA is to get back to members once he has heard from Mr Buchan.

ACTION LIST

1. Tillicoultry Glen – AD stated the works in the Glen are to start in March. He referred to an offer from the local Scouts to carry out improvement work at the foot of the Glen ( see Corespondence section)
2. Seating at Church Grove – EMcA to contact Kenny Inglis to check on progress.
3. Community Planning process – Now a standing Agenda item.
4. Pot Holes on Sewage Works Road – JM reported that the potholes had been filled.
5. Small Town’s Initiative – no recent activity
6. Transfer of Charitable Funds – EMcA had written to Calum Ferguson who had replied saying that the matter had not as yet been referred to the Council
7. Flooding on Dollar Road – EMcA has written to Roads explaining the nature of the problem.
8. Micro Grant Funding Scheme - RMcC was processing the forms and would get the audited account certificate from EM.
9. War Memorial Refurbishment – AD is working with Ian Walker developing the specifications, clarifying the historic structure requirements and will be getting quotes.
10. Balhearty Solar Farm – It is understood that the Planning Consent had been approved which should free the way to clarify the basis of the Community Benefit £25,000 which Lark had offered. EMcA to write to Kate Wagg confirming the CC’s offer to be the interface with the community and asking for clarification of the timescale, constraints and other conditions relating to the offer.

TREASURERS REPORT – EM confirmed that the main account stood at £6,577.13. The Bank signatories required to be clarified. The Finance Sub Group is to meet next week and will report to the next CC meeting on recommended signatories, 2016/17 budget and financial controls for CC’s consideration.

It was agreed that the balance of the Xmas Lights account will be subsumed into the main account. Detail to EM once the outgoings are complete and the balance known.

SECRETARY’S REPORT – EMcA went through the correspondence since the last meeting which had been circulated in written form.

1. Letter from Keith Brown wishing CC Xmas and New Year greetings and commenting positively on the Xmas Lights.
2. Mill Glen – Scouts e mail proposing improvements to the Glen foot. EMcA to write back offering support from Tom Allan and other CC members once the detail of the works and dates are known.
3. Taxi Service – Letter from Vector Transport Consultancy asking for comments on every aspect of taxi services in the community. After short discussion it was felt that the CC should note the approach but make no input.
4. Keep Scotland Beautiful – Letter encouraging community environmental campaigns – noted.
5. Lesley Baillie – Seminar on Future Proofing of the CC’s – EmcA attending and any other CC members may do so.
6. Lesley Baillie – information requested on co-optees and audit certificate. EMcA will provide.

PLANNING REPORT – MT reported small applications only. Harviestoun Hotel housing proposal declined. Planning Portal in Clacksweb being rebuilt.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT – CMcC said the Hoolie was a success and tabled the financial details of the Hoolie. £200 is to go to Alzheimer’s Scotland with £263 to go into the main account.

EDF – the lights spend to be subject of a report to Rachel Searle. AD confirmed that he would be making the War Memorial application in the name of the CC. RMcC will check the dates for the next application round.

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

**Councillor Drummond**

1. The Council stopping the maintenance of grassed areas continues to generate complaint.
2. Head of Education post being advertised following the break down of the joint working arrangements with Stirling. New cluster basis for schools being introduced with transition arrangements in the CC area improved.
3. Community Planning – The Alva CC already using their Community Plan as a basis for community action.

**Councillor Balsillie**

1. Council Budget – savings required now £11.9 million
2. Geothermal Energy – The Council has been looking at 4 renewable energy projects with one of them – the extraction of heat from underground mine water – looking positive.
3. Tesco Plastic Bag Scheme – coming on stream which will be a source of community funding.

**Councillor McGill**

1. Councillor attendance at evening meetings of sporting groups being restricted

Any Other Competent Business –

!) EM asked about the flooding on the Tillicoultry to Sauchie Road. AD will find out what the position is with field drains etc.

2) EM asked the CC if they had any objection to her speaking to the management of Sterling Mills about a possible solution to the muddy area from the Bowling Green to the Mills. There was no objection.

3) Tom Allan raised the question of the safety of the zebra crossing from the Public Park to the Golf Club. CMcC referred to the fact that there appeared to be no record of accidents since the crossing was introduced.

4) Earlier in the meeting Sandra Tasker had raised the issue of the Xmas Lights and queries in social media about the cost of the lights and new lights in other communities. CMcC explained that the CC had been the first to get funding for lights and now other CC’s were doing so. It remained our intention to source more funding to extend the lights. It has to be remembered however that lights give rise to costs for storage, maintenance and putting up/taking down. Any financial input from businesses or people in the community would be appreciated.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held in the Ben Cleuch Centre, Tillicoultry at 7.00pm on Tuesday the 9th February 2016.