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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 THE 10th MAY 2016 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT – C McCallion (CM), Robert McClelland (rmc), ewart mcauslane (ema), elma Mitchell (em), Ian Millar (im), Elizabeth Young (ey), J Mitchell (jm), M White (mw), M Taylor (MT), I Gordon (IG)

In attendance – Tom Allan, Donald Balsillie, Archie Drummond, Constable J Miller, Bobby McGill.

Apologies – Billy Shepherd. It was noted that both Billy Shepherd and Melanie White had tendered apologies for the April meeting.

CHAIRPERSONS REMARKS – CMcC opened the meeting

POLICE REPORT/PACT – Constable Miller read out his report which will be placed on the noticeboard. The following issues were raised

1. Use of cycling bells on cycle ways – recommended as good practice but not legally enforceable.
2. Parking on footpaths – members and public advised to report all instances of obstructive parking on footpaths.
3. Contractors leaving signs and other equipment when they go off site – legal position unclear. EMcA will check with Roads Service.
4. Car Scratching issue – Constable Miller had passed on a letter from Police Scotland in reply to the letter sent after the April meeting. Evidently the person responsible has been identified and is being dealt with. The car owners involved have been notified. The Police letter confirmed that the Police and Council intend to procure CCT equipment. The matter will be put on the action list to ensure that it is responded to adequately.

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

MATTERS ARISING (not on the Action List) – None

ACTION LIST

1. 12/14/1 – Tillicoultry Glen Restoration – AD - work underway. Confidential paper going to Council to examine the costs of completing the works.
2. 12/14/2 – Seating at Church Grove – TA – work in Council hands – complete.
3. 5/15/2 - Small Townscape Initiative – AD - no action
4. 8/15/2 – Transfer of Charitable Funds – Concern expressed over continuing delays. EMcA to pass name of contact to AD.
5. 10/15/2 - Local Community Grant – Two Fountain Project – EMcA – no change.
6. 11/15/1 - Micro Grant Funding – RMC to move on. EDF meeting on 21st May.
7. 11/15/2 – War Memorial Refurbishment – AD – Funding packages being assembled. Again EDF application being considered at the 21st May meeting.
8. 12/15/1 – Balhearty Solar Farm – Letter had been sent to Planning Service re the drop in the Planning Gain at Balhearty and Institution Place. Planning had written back saying that they were not directly involved but that they would clarify what the position was.
9. 1/16/1 – Scouts Clean Up in Glen – Insurance issues have been resolved and clean up can now go ahead. Completed..
10. 2/16/2 - EDF Community Funding Scheme – no details yet – scheme still being developed.
11. 2/16/3 - Link footpath from A91 to Devon Way adjoining the Golf Driving Range – No change
12. 3/16/1 - Art Work at Institution Place – EMcA – See 12/15/1
13. 3/16/2 – Coalsnaughton Noticeboard – possible sites being examined.
14. 3/16/3 - Brown bins in High Street properties – EY – seems to be no reason why High Street brown bin properties should not be getting service.
15. 3/16/4 – Gala Day Claim – EMcA will action after Gala.

COMMUNITY PLANNING – Tenders were sought from 4 consultants. Only 2 have submitted by Fridays deadline. Sub Group will apply the price/quality checklist and confirm the successful tenderer.

TREASURERS REPORT – EM – Accounts at much the same level although the Gala income is coming in. The Over 70’s Trip is going ahead on the 2nd Tuesday in June. CMcC gave EMcA letter regarding the fundraising going on in the Town for additional Xmas Lights. EMcA will write to the funding organiser confirming receipt. £3,200 has been raised to date and fundraising is is ongoing. A meeting is to be held shortly to discuss how best to spend the money this year.

SECRETARY’S REPORT – Correspondence since last meeting

1. Councillor enquiry re car scratching – see Police report
2. Councillor enquiry re allotment letting arrangements
3. Councillor enquiry re time frame for Town Centre improvements in the High Street
4. Councillor enquiry re Scouts Clean Up in Tillicoultry Glen – See action list.
5. Lesley Baillie re Young Father Network being set up in the Bowmar Centre, Alloa
6. Lesley Baillie re Capital Grants from the Council for organisations with building and/or land.
7. Councillor Drummond re Standards Commission.
8. Duncan Forbes re inaugural meeting of the EPIC Group replacing the Ochil Landscape Partnership). Meeting on Thursday night. EMcA will attend and report back.
9. E mail from Planning Service re Balhearty – see Action List.

PLANNING REPORT – No significant developments.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT – IM reported there is to be a Gala meeting on the 18th of May. IM asked for help with additional stewarding. EMcA will check whether the Police Youth Volunteers will be able to come along to the Gala.

EDF – nothing to report

COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Councillor McGill – referred to problems in the Primary Education system and hoped that the appointment of Ann Pearson to the Head of Education would see an improvement.

Councillor Balsillie –

1. Budget pressures leading to reduced staff numbers. Working with Trades Unions to find a structured way forward.
2. Changes to Education structure following the split with Stirling. Problems with some Primary schools recognised but a new Central Government Fund of £500 million which will go directly to Headteachers, particularly in deprived areas is planned. The management tier in education is to be scrutinised.
3. Tilly Glen rock scaling works ongoing.
4. Surplus land being identified for possible sale.
5. Cycling routes to be promoted under Smarter Choices/ Smarter Places initiative.

EY asked about the possible waste of money in moving children in taxis around the County. Could better use of new technology not be a cheaper option?

AD pointed to subject choices sometimes calling for grouping of children.

Councillor Drummond –

1. Critical reports in Education leading to more rigorous review and inspection. Sometimes Parent Councils uncomfortable with holding HeadTeachers to account.
2. A new Police Chief will be called for following J Hawkins promotion to Deputy Chief Constable. Steven McAllister is in the temporary position.

EM asked if there were Truant Officers in place. There are evidently Attendance Officers.

MT asked about the current position at Coalsnaughton Primary. There have been improvements since the new HeadTeacher was appointed.

Any Other Competent Business –

EY asked about responsibility for the wall between her house and the new Institution Place development. AD to check with Council’s Legal Services.

TA had had no word from Roads re the possible provision of a bus shelter at Dollar Road. EMcA to pass a copy of the Roads response to TA.

JM referred to a new initiative - Living Streets – about recapturing our streets. He will pass material to EMcA.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held in the Ben Cleuch Centre, Tillicoultry at 7.00pm on Tuesday the 14th of June 2016.