



# Tillicoultry Community Council

## **MINUTES OF MEETING OF TILlicoultry COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, TILlicoultry ON 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**PRESENT** :- Ian Gordon, Elma Mitchell, Chris McCallion, Billy Shepherd, Melanie White, George Banner and Robert McClelland.

**IN ATTENDANCE** :- John Biggam, Peter Norman, John and Donald Balsillie.

**APOLOGIES** :- Paul McCormick, Ian Millar, Robert McAulay, Shirley Coyle, Claire Mackay and Caroline Wilson.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

All were welcomed to the meeting although the weather was somewhat inclement.

### **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Acceptance of the Minutes of the meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2011 was proposed by Elma Mitchell and seconded by Melanie White. There being no dissent the Minutes were accepted as a correct record.

### **TWINNING**

Peter Norman said that the French were desperate to visit Tillicoultry and had arranged the weekend 20<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2012 for their visit. There will be twelve people coming who will have the Mayor and his wife included in the party.

Peter tabled a suggested itinerary which would be finally settled at the next meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012. There was a varied discussion about accommodation for our French guests but that will also be finally settled at the January meeting.

The itinerary included a dinner at the Hillfoots RFC clubhouse on the Friday evening which could include all those who were interested in the project.

The French are very interested to know about the history of Tillicoultry and John Biggam will do his best to enlighten them. They wish to meet us as a community and wish to explore the area of Tillicoultry. They also wish to visit Stirling Castle and complimentary entrance has been obtained.

The projected cost is not reckoned to be very great.

It was agreed that Billy, Chris and John would take their cars to pick the visitors up in Edinburgh along with Peter and Eddie from the rugby club. It was also agreed to invite the Provost, the four local Councillors, the headmistress of Tillicoultry Primary School and the headmaster and French teacher at Alva Academy.

Peter Norman said that the rugby club had made a collection for the Christmas lights and had made the amount that they collected up to an amount of £250. Chris thanked the rugby club for their donation.

The French would like a delegation from Tillicoultry to visit France in early February 2012.



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## **POLICE REPORT/PACT**

Although Shirley Coyle could not be present she had sent a report for last month. There had been 24 crimes recorded and 13 had been detected with another 2 where a positive line of enquiry was being followed. The clear-up rate was still over 50% which compares quite well with other forces.

Friday shifts were changed which resulted in antisocial behaviour in Hill Street being reduced considerably.

High visibility foot patrols in the area of Sterling Mills and Sterling Warehouse will, hopefully deter or detect shoplifting in the area.

There has been a spate of garage thefts in Ochilview Road which type of thefts may have also occurred in Alva.

## **COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

John Biggam reported that Eddie Carrick had left the Labour Group and now become an Independent and it was not known how the Administration would be affected.

The current plans for the "Tillicoultry Hub" would be decided upon at the Council meeting on 15/12/2011.

The current 50% reduction on Council Tax for empty houses may be decreased if the house is empty for a year.

The Cemetery Lodge is to be used by Social Services as a family home from Monday to Friday.

In an answer to a question why Dollar, Alva, Menstrie and Alloa have Christmas Lights and Tillicoultry do not. Dollar has their own lights but, certainly Alloa do not but they have electricity supplied by the Council. Tillicoultry can have Christmas lights, provided that the Council agrees to having them and supplying the power. It was agreed that a letter would be sent to Charles Norman regarding this matter.

The Bonnyview situation is still under a final appeal.

Nothing has yet been done about the trees overgrowing the footpaths, particularly in Dollar Road.

There is a tree in Devonvale Crescent which requires pruning and the junction of Devonvale Crescent and Spinner's Wynd is a potential hazard because of drivers not being sufficiently vigilant.

On 14<sup>th</sup> December there will be a serious debate about the Social Work Dept. where there have some cases where the judiciary have been displeased at this Dept. of Clackmannanshire Council.

On 15<sup>th</sup> December there will be a Council meeting to decide on the fate of the Family Centre in Tillicoultry. The question was floated that why was the Family Centre having around £400k spent on it to give much the same result and why is the Library being moved when it is well used in its present location.

The Community Council accepts that Clackmannanshire Council are going to do what they are going to do regardless and that the CC will have to make the best of a bad job.



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## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Secretary had received the following : - Windmill CD, Provost Christmas card, NHS magazine and bank statements.

The Local Health Partnership held a meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> November which Ian Gordon attended. There was a discussion on the demolition of some of Stirling Community Hospital and the moving of various departments. The programme will probably take some time to come to fruition which will, hopefully, give us all a better service.

A letter had been received from the Scottish Communities Foundation offering the CC £2,000 provided that Clackmannanshire Council would agree with the principle and agree to pay for the electricity. No such written acknowledgement has been offered. John Biggam took this request to the Clacks Council. The answer was not altogether positive. The CC must write to the relevant officer or officers.

Two letters had been received from Friends of the Ochils regarding the application for extensive windmills in the Ochils and wished as many as possible to object to their erection. The Community Council voted to not object to the new windmills.

A letter had been received from Clackmannanshire Council regarding a feedback meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011. The letter arrived on Saturday which gave, basically a day to organise anyone to attend. However, Ian Gordon attended and made clear that the CC did not like the plan but if it was agreed at the meeting on 15/12/11 the CC would make the best of it but would still require a dedicated office and secure storage for its equipment.

Ian Gordon had written to the Chief Executive of Clackmannanshire Council making some comments on the actions proposed for Tillicoultry. A reply had been received which contained some inaccuracies and Ian Gordon will reply to this letter.

A consultation document had been received from the Council which had information about services within all the Hillfoots towns. There was some data which was out of date but would be easily corrected.

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee will be celebrated on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012. The CC has been contacted about having an input to this celebration. Ian Gordon will contact Neil McFarlane to explore any input the CC may have.

Keith Brown has invited the CC to the Official launch of his new office in Drysdale Street Alloa on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011 between 11 am and 1 pm. No one was able to attend.

Ian Gordon said that Sheena Stone the project Co-ordinator for the Ochil Landscape Partnership wished to speak to the CC. It was agreed that the best date was 9<sup>th</sup> February 2012. Ian would let Sheena know and set another date if necessary.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer said that the finances were OK. The Lights fund was around £850 so far.

## **FINANCE SUB-GROUP**

No report.

## **WIND FARM FUND**

Nothing to report.



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## **PLANNING REPORT**

There was nothing to concern the Community Council in the last month other than the windmill proliferation already recorded. Billy Shepherd was given the Planning Reports from Clackmannanshire Council for the last month to check this out.

## **SOCIAL COMMITTEE**

Tickets for the Hoole are almost sold out and the food is organised. There are some prizes for a couple of competitions but donations for raffle prizes would be very welcome.

## **ANY OTHER REPORT**

None

## **AOCB**

It was agreed to send a letter to the dog warden to make an effort to stop dog owners allowing their dogs to use the streets as toilets especially, the lane between Hill Street and Ochil Street.

The meeting ended at 9.50 pm.

**The next meeting of Tillicoultry Community Council will be held in Tillicoultry Community Centre at 7.30 pm on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012.**



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## **AGENDA**

**MEETING ON 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2012**

1. APOLOGIES
2. CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS
3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
4. TWINNING
5. POLICE REPORT/PACT
6. COUNCILLOR'S REPORT
7. SECRETARY'S REPORT
8. TREASURER'S REPORT
9. FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE
10. PLANNING REPORT
11. SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT
12. ANY OTHER REPORT
13. AOCB