

Torphins Community Council
Minutes of meeting Thursday 6th October 2011
Held in the small Learney Hall

	Action
<p>1. <u>Present:</u> Steve Thorn (Chair), Eric Day (Treasurer), Anna Fraser (Secretary), Sheila Blair, John Lucas, Gordon Pirie, Robert Reid.</p>	
<p>2. <u>Apologies:</u> Liz Moore (Vice-Chair), Denis Christie, Rona Edgar Cllr Peter Argyle. <u>In Attendance:</u> Cllr Rosemary Bruce, PC Craig Davidson.</p>	
<p>3. <u>Police Report:</u> PC Craig Davidson informed TCC of a change in the way police give feedback to Community Councils. In the past, police tended to come to meetings with statistics and information whereas the emphasis will now be on Community Council's reporting issues/concerns to the police. Lead has been stolen from the roof of the school - investigations into this are ongoing. Speeding traffic has been identified as an issue in the village but is not severe enough to progress beyond the current practise of police providing a presence as a deterrent. Members of the public are again encouraged to report incidents of inappropriate driving to the police, noting registration details, times and dates. Two vehicles have been stolen by 'joy riders' on Deeside recently and the public are advised to be extra vigilant and ensure cars are locked at all times.</p>	
<p>4. <u>Approval of Minutes of Meeting of 1st September 2011:</u> Apologies to Peter Argyle whose name was spelt incorrectly. Proposed: John Lucas. Seconded: Gordon Pirie.</p>	
<p>5. <u>Matters Arising from minutes not covered by agenda:</u> <u>Gargoyle-</u> Works to be carried out. <u>Notice board at Chemist-</u> Has been stained. Thanks go to Eric for this. <u>Road Chippings-</u> Aberdeenshire Council's policy is that chippings should be swept 48 hours after being laid. Several sweepings can occur until they are satisfied that chippings will not cause any damage. Sites in Torphins seemed to take longer to settle than in other areas delaying the process. <u>Planning Application at The Firs, Beltie Road-</u> The planning department have been contacted and had received similar concerns to that of TCC by the roads department therefore no official letter was sent as this would be duplication. <u>Post Office Relocation-</u> Having considered feedback received during the formal period of public consultation, the Post Office is content that the new service is suitably located and will meet the needs of customers in the community. <u>Flower Tubs-</u> Flowers have been ordered for next year. Look into purchasing more barrels from the distillery at the Cabrach. Denis Christie has spoken to the Chair of <u>Tornaveen Hall</u> and advised them that Aberdeenshire Council may be able to help with funding for repairs. After the launch of the <u>Community Action Plan</u> parking behind the school was a big issue. It was felt that this should be kept within the realms of TCC as members were already up-to-speed with events so far. The planners/architects for Station Garage were open to negotiations in order to discuss parking issues</p>	<p>GP</p> <p>ED</p>

	and were willing to put money towards providing access to the area.	
6.	Finance: The bank balance currently stands at £1282.24.	
7.	<p>Planning:</p> <p><u>Wind Turbines at Tornaveen-</u> There are currently 6 or 7 applications for wind turbines within Aberdeenshire. Feed-in tariffs are set to reduce as of next year resulting in many applications coming forward now. The TCC has not received comments from the community on this proposal. However, the TCC would like to express to planners their concern over the apparent piecemeal approach to such planning applications and the lack of co-ordination across areas granted permission.</p> <p><u>Scotmid Windows-</u> A slim majority of TCC was in favour of keeping the windows in the bell tower as they are currently. However, the building is Grade B listed and it is understood that there's little chance of planners granting retrospective planning permission. The situation is now in the hands of the developers and the planning department.</p>	GP
8.	<p>Road Matters:</p> <p><u>Bridge Crescent-</u> Ralph Singleton of the roads department has been contacted and confirmed that works are still due to be carried out during the school October holidays.</p> <p><u>Disable parking-</u> The markings for the disabled space outside the chemist have been repainted. Awaiting response regarding a second disabled parking space outside the Learney Hall. To chase.</p> <p><u>Hedges overgrowing onto pavements -</u> Gardens previously mentioned have been trimmed back or will be in the near future. Aberdeenshire Council will be publishing a public information leaflet in relation to landowner's responsibilities regarding hedge trimming. A briefing note of the same will be put on the Torphins.org website. Aberdeenshire Council has trimmed back the hedge at the tennis courts though it would benefit from being cut back further.</p>	JL
9.	<p>Community Action Plan:</p> <p>Two CAP Workgroups groups, "Our Village" and "Health and Fitness", held meetings. A small number of enthusiastic members attended, who were willing to take issues forward. It was thought that it may prove more productive to combine these groups.</p>	
10.	Photocopier: Awaiting response. To chase.	ED
11.	Village Directory: Contact Emma Pattullo for update.	ST
12.	<p>Christmas Carols/Lights: Scotmid management are donating £500 towards Christmas lights. Many thanks go to them for this. Update order.</p> <p>Ralph Singleton does not have the list of lampposts TCC wishes to be adapted to accommodate lights. He needs to be notified of these ASAP as works are currently being carried out. Email details to Cllr Bruce.</p> <p>Carols round the Christmas tree will be held on Thursday 22nd December 2011 subject to the hall being available and licence being granted.</p> <p>Contact Peter Taylor and Pam Auckland etc. to see if they're available.</p> <p>Contact Learney Estate about them possibly providing a Christmas tree.</p> <p>Vouchers are still available from Scotmid for refreshments.</p>	ED ED AF SB ED
13.	Tornaveen Hall: Covered by Matters Arising above.	

14.	<p><u>Recycling Bins:</u> Usage of the recycling bins in the park is being monitored. TCC would like confirmation from Aberdeenshire Council that the 3 months trial period has now expired and wishes it to be noted that no negative comments have been received from members of the community regarding their relocation.</p>	Cllr RB
15.	<p><u>Marr Area Bus Forum:</u> Following comments from the public, Stagecoach will be introducing a new 'zoning' and pricing system. This will be available on their website. Look into possibility of displaying information on the noticeboard.</p>	ST/AF
16.	<p><u>Core Paths/Gate at Craigmyle:</u> Learney Estate has been contacted by COAT regarding the upgrading of the railway line behind the houses along Beltie Road. Provided the Estate is happy for the path to be upgraded, COAT will contact any possible affected households for comments. The Outdoor Access Code states that pedestrians can walk where they wish in the countryside as long as they obey guidelines and restrictions. Core Paths are there to encourage walkers along certain routes but they are not limited solely to these. A local resident has invited Aberdeenshire Council to view the locked gate at Craigmyle Estate resulting in Linda Matheson deeming that there was no loss of privacy to neighbouring houses as a result of walkers using the path and the gate should not be locked. The landowner and Aberdeenshire Council will be meeting in order to come to a satisfactory agreement over this.</p>	
17.	<p><u>Station Garage:</u> Planners have recommended that the application be refused and have sent the application to the 5 Ward Councillors for consideration. Ward Councillors can either agree with the planners and have the application refused or put the application to the Marr Area Committee for further discussion. TCC would like it noted that the majority would prefer that the application goes to the Area Committee.</p>	
18.	<p><u>Correspondence:</u> Aberdeenshire Council is seeking the views of Community Councils on their policy to enable 14-18 year olds to be co-opted as members of Community Councils. TCC is all in favour of this.</p>	
19.	<p><u>Any Other Business:</u> <u>Schoolhouse Update:</u> The keys have been returned to Aberdeenshire Council and, after repairs have been carried out to make the building wind and water tight again, the building will be put back on the market. <u>Battock Terrace/Grampian Terrace lane</u> is in desperate need of resurfacing as rainwater is wearing it away threatening the foundations of the neighbouring boundary wall. Anna Fraser intimated that she will be resigning from TCC after Christmas. All members of the TCC thanked Anna for her help and support, which has been greatly appreciated.</p>	
19.	<p><u>Date of next meeting:</u> Thursday 3rd November 2011 at 7.30pm. Meeting closed at 9.40pm</p>	