

Torphins Community Council
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday 5th February 7:30pm
Held in the **Small Learney Hall**

1 **Present** Denis Christie (Chair) Liz Moore, Eric Day, John Williams, Anna Fraser, Rona Edgar, Sheila Blair. John Lucas, Gordon Pirie. **Action By**

2 **Apologies** Cllr Bruce Luffman **In Attendance** Cllr Peter Argyle

The chair welcomed Gordon Pirie and John Lucas, the two new members, to their First Council meeting and expressed thanks to the retired chairman in recognition of the efforts during his seven years as chair of TCC.

Police Report

The report is available to read on the village notice board.

Anti social driving is still causing concern to residents, both young drivers who have noisy cars, speed around the village and leave litter in the car park and more mature drivers who speed through the village.

The police advice is clear- Phone them and give as much detail of the car and the driver as is possible . They will respond. The registration number of the car is really important if they are to be able to take specific action.

4 **Minutes of Meeting 8th January 09**
Accepted

5 **Matters Arising**

Old School House

Both the house and the building plot are expected to be offered for sale by end of February 09

The house is to be offered for sale as a development site. The delay in advertising is due to the unexpected need to develop a 'Home Report'

It is agreed the half of the monies from the sale will be ring fenced for the development of community facilities in the village

Learney Hall Extension

Awaiting revised plans.

Discussion took place regarding the suitability of the current plan as the pressures on the playgroup to relocate have lessened.

Road Matters.

a. Bridge Crescent Bridge.

Aberdeenshire Council has reopened the debate on the future traffic flow over Bridge Crescent. Three options have been put forward for consultation. The third, closing the bridge to traffic was rejected, John Lucas being the only member in favour of this option. The second which included two-way traffic flow and additional pavement was also rejected as impractical with potential safety issues. Number one, which includes a speed limit a one-way traffic flow and additional pavement was considered. It was agreed to investigate the possible re-opening and use of the closed road behind the school. It was restated that the TCC would like traffic calming measures included in any development.

The flow and volume of traffic to Sunshine Nursery must also be considered when the future of the road is considered.

The situation regarding the conversion of the bridge to a causeway is unclear.

Approach M. Skilling for an update

b. Sundayswells Pavement.

Installation of the pavement has begun but is being delayed because of the current weather conditions.

DC

<p>c. Bus Stop on Beltie Road. All but one of the comments received by the TCC about the possible installation of a bus shelter on Beltie Road have been negative. The majority view is that the community would be in favour of the reinstatement of a bus stop (sign only) on Beltie Road either where it was at the junction of Beltie Road and Kerloch Crescent or further west towards Sundayswells. Write to Aberdeenshire Council to inform them of our decision, request a bus stop only or nothing.</p>	<p>Acti on By</p>
<p>d. Footpath linking Battock Terrace and Grampian Terrace. Grant form for the Marr committee being completed in regard to financial help towards the resurfacing.</p>	<p>DC</p>
<p>e. Gateway on to Craigour Road. The gate contravenes the planning permission for the site. The planning enforcement officer may carry out a site visit.</p>	<p>RE DC</p>
<p>f. Innermarkie Wynd. Drains require a significant amount of remedial work. SEPA have been approached and we await a response. They suggested contacting the Aberdeenshire Council</p>	
<p>g. William Street. The road has been inspected. The street will be monitored and assessed for inclusion in the future work programme.</p>	
<p>The general state of the roads is causing concern. Repairing the roads during the winter is difficult and can only be temporary.</p>	
<p>As soon as the weather permits permanent repairs will be carried out.</p>	
<p>It is important to notify the authority about the location of pot holes</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Children's Play Equipment</p>	
<p>Installation delayed due to bad weather</p>	
<p>Torphins Website</p>	
<p>Two basic examples have been circulated. We are asked to comment on the style and consider what text could or should be included on the site.</p>	
<p>Denis is undertaking some preliminary work on the history of the village for possible inclusion on the site.</p>	
<p>Footbridge over the Learney Burn</p>	
<p>The bridge could be included in the Core Pathway Network that is being developed. Aberdeenshire Council have agreed to seek funding in order to undertake survey of the bridge's condition.</p>	
<p>Torphins Directory</p>	
<p>The final costs of the Directory are not available yet. Once finalised the TCC will consider a potential honorarium for the Editor.</p>	
<p>Decision to be taken at next meeting.</p>	
<p>Agenda item for next meeting</p>	<p>DC</p>
<p>General state of the village</p>	
<p>The broken lock on the free standing notice board is to be replaced</p>	<p>JW</p>
<p>A letter is to be written to the owners of one of the local shops asking them to consider repairing and or decorating their shop sign</p>	<p>DC</p>
<p>Agreed to approach Aberdeenshire Council to discuss the relocation of the re-cycling bins currently situated in the centre of the village.</p>	
<p>The recycling point in the park is well used but the surface of the ground is very poor. Approach the Council to re surface the park car park. Request that the resurfacing is not granite chips.</p>	
<p>The road to the park has been adopted and will be brought up to standard once the weather permits.</p>	
<p>The car park half way along the avenue of Beeches is well used but litter is huge issue. Litter-bins have been installed but are not well used. Could access be restricted with large boulders? Approach Aberdeenshire Council</p>	<p>DC Acti on By</p>
<p>Homecoming Scotland 2009</p>	
<p>Liaise with the Gala Committee to see if they would be interested in a theme linked to Homecoming 2009</p>	<p>RE</p>

The Gala Committee are currently looking for funding and sponsorship as the Gala last year ran at a loss because of the police insistence that there be a huge and costly security presence.

Christmas Tree Lights.

Fortuitously five or six of the lampposts in the centre of the village are to be replaced and their replacements will be able to 'host' Christmas decorations. This could form a firm basis to build the village Christmas decorations around.

Thanks were expressed to Les Allan for his full and helpful reply to our enquiry regarding Christmas decorations.

The costs of acquiring and installing decorations could be large. We would need to acquire sponsorship. Write to local businesses seeking sponsorship

ED

6 **Finance.**

Current bank balance £2973.10

7 **Planning**

Gordon Pirie agreed to act as TCC planning officer.

Ref APP/2009/0077 - 6 Fairview Courtyard. No comment

Ref APP/2009/0073 - 68 Beltie Road retrospective application. No comment

Local Development plan

We have responded to the Council expressing our vision for the future of our village.

We have noted areas where we think that development could be undertaken to the benefit of the village and we have also identified areas of land that we think should be protected from development.

We will display our response on the notice board along with a statement of the process and how to access the relevant pages on the Aberdeenshire website.

The next step is to undertake an intense consultation on the views of village residents once the first draft of the plan is published.

We are to try and engage in a dialogue with the landowners who have indicated an interest in developing land around Torphins

Write to local land agents /landowners

DC

To ask Suzanne Wall of the MAP to help us organise our community consultation.

LM

8 **Correspondence.** A variety of items were tabled.

9. **AOCB**

Marr Area Partnership Local meeting February 12th in Learney Hall everyone is invited

Local Area Community Planning Officer New officer called Hazel McClaren has been appointed. We will circulate the minutes of our meetings to her.

All

DC

Local Photographs for inclusion on the website

Encourage local residents to submit photos for inclusion on the website.

All

Cllr Bruce Luffman is resigning on the 13th February to become an enforcement officer with Cairngorm National Park.

We would like to record our thanks for his interest and support and to send him our best wishes in his future career.

**Acti
on
By**

Date of next meeting March 5TH at 7:30 in the Small Learney Hall