

TORPHINS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th January 2009

- 1. Present:** John Williams (Chair), Liz Moore, Eric Day (Treasurer), Denis Christie (Sec), Sheila Blair, Rona Edgar, Anna Fraser, Cllr Peter Argyle & Cllr Bruce Luffman
- 2. Apologies:** No apologies were received.
- 3. Police Report:** The Police Report contained no references to Torphins.
- 4. Minutes:** The minutes of 4th December 2008 were approved subject to a minor correction.
- 5. Matters Arising:**
 - A. Old Schoolhouse:** No change from the last meeting.
 - B. Learney Hall Extension:** No change from the last meeting.
 - C. Roads Matters**
 - **Bridge Crescent Bridge** - the land issue mentioned at the last meeting is still outstanding. Bruce and Peter agreed to see that the start date of the works was pushed on.
 - **Sundayswells Pavement** - the works are scheduled to start next week.
 - **Bus Stop on Beltie Road** - fliers are to be delivered to residents affected by the decision in regard to the bus stop. They are to be asked to comment by the end of January.
 - **Battock Terrace Lane surface** - Rona produced a cost estimate £1.019 plus VAT from Nicholas Edgar Property Maintenance and Development. Funding was discussed and it was agreed the Treasurer would make an application to Aberdeenshire Council for a contribution to the cost. Bruce advised that the maximum award would be 50% of the total cost. John will write to Messrs Burnett & Reid the agents for Learney Estate to ask for a contribution from them. **Action:- Eric and John**
 - **Gateway onto Craigour Road** - Jim Craig of Aberdeenshire Council had advised the Secretary that he would look at the situation as soon as conveniently possible.
 - D. Children's Play Equipment in the Park:** Work had been delayed because of problems in getting a concrete mixer onto the site but this would hopefully be resolved soon.
 - E. Torphins Website:** The Secretary reported that he expected to receive two templates for consideration within the next fortnight.
 - F. Footbridge over Learney Burn:** John is chasing Strutt and Parker for a response and he was advised that he should have one within two weeks.
 - G. Torphins Directory:** Copies of the directory were being delivered to households in the village. The Treasurer is to ask Alan Bainbridge for details of his expenses incurred before a decision on what to do with any profit. **Action:- Eric**
 - H. General State of the Village:** Cllr Luffman undertook to see whether Aberdeenshire Council could produce a map of the village for posting on the notice board. Liz suggested that other societies could be approached with a view to the upkeep of the notice board whereby they could also post notices in regard to their organisations. Rona undertook to ascertain whether the school would be interested in space on the notice board. **Action:- Rona**
 - I. Homecoming 2009:** Cllr Luffman pointed out that there was much information about the Homecoming events on the Aberdeenshire Council Website. Rona Edgar suggested that the Community Council should organise some activity to commemorate the Homecoming

event and members were asked to come up with some ideas. Cllr Luffman suggested that the event could be tied in with the Gala **Action:- All.**

J. Christmas Tree Lights etc. Eric announced that some bulbs had been stolen from the Xmas Tree lights over the festive period. Discussion then followed on whether the Community Council should continue to erect lights. Putting lights on lamp posts was suggested but this could be a costly exercise. It was agreed however to explore this further. Cllr Argyle suggested that a fundraising group be set up.

Eric and John had received puzzling information about powering the lights to the Xmas tree internally from the Hall. John undertook to speak to Aberdeenshire Council to try to resolve the matter. It was agreed that the mulled wine event for this year would be held on 23rd December 2009. **Action:- John**

K. Disabled Access, Roads and M N & N: Mark Skilling of Aberdeenshire Council had agreed to gradual slopes being installed where the problem of disabled wheelchair access to pavements in the village was difficult. The manager of 'Morning Noon and Night' had said that staff will take produce out to the cars of those who cannot gain entry to the shop.

6. Finance: The Bank balance was £3,934.86 credit. The sum of £85 had been raised from the mulled event but some expenditure had to be deducted.

7. Planning

Applications:

APP/2008/4378 Erection of dwelling house and garage at site south of Easter Beltie House Glassel. This application followed upon an already existing outline application. It was a new detailed application to take care of details which Aberdeenshire Council found objectionable in the last detailed application. No objection.

APP/2008/4163 Alterations and extension to 50 Beltie Road, Torphins. No objection.

APP/2008/4133 Hydro Electric Notification in regard to overhead line at Dubs House Transformer. No objection.

Local Development Plan 2009 Draft Proposals

Aberdeenshire Council had asked land owners and developers to identify areas of land that they would wish to see zoned for development in the next Local Plan. The development proposals had been placed on the Aberdeenshire Council website so that members of the public could gain access to the information. Community Councils were requested to indicate which land they would like to see developed around their local area and land which should be protected. The view of Torphins Community Council on this matter was requested by 2nd February 2009 so it was agreed that a special meeting to discuss this matter should be held on 22nd January.

8. Correspondence: There were various items of correspondence tabled for noting.

9. Any other Business

9.1) Monboddo Road Water Leak This leak was now under repair.

9.2) Rain Water From Golf Road. Eric Day reported that he was concerned about water flowing off the hill behind Golf Road (extension to Grampian Terrace) and then flowing down to the intersection Grampian Terrace/Innermarkie Wynd. As a result of the recent sub zero temperatures ice was being created at the bend of Grampian Terrace and down Innermarkie Wynd. The Secretary agreed to carry out some research into the position and to see whether the authorities had any responsibility. **Action:- Denis**

9.3) William Street. Concern was expressed about the state of the surface of William Street being coarse and rutted and the pavement conditions being unsatisfactory. Bruce and Peter undertook to speak to Mark Skilling about the position. **Action:- Bruce and Peter**

9.4) Gritting of Roads and Pavements. There was concern about the lack of pavement gritting and particularly those leading to the school where children had fallen in the icy conditions. The Secretary had heard from Malcolm Christie of Aberdeenshire Council to the effect that the footpaths had been treated regularly over the recent period of winter weather. Beltie Road, The Square, Station Road and Bridge Crescent had been among the first pavements to be treated. Leaflets giving information of Aberdeenshire Council's winter maintenance gritting and snow clearing are available from Torphins Post Office.

9.5) Community Forum Meeting. The next meeting will be held on 12th February 2009 and it was hoped that it would be held in Torphins.

10. Date of next meeting and the AGM: - 5th February 2009