

Torphins Community Council
Minutes of Meeting
Thursday 11th June 09 7:30pm Held in the **Small Learney Hall**

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

2 **Apologies** Richard Owens, Anne Allardyce, Eric Day **In Attendance** Cllrs P Argyle, & R Bruce, Hamish Strang, Gordon Smith.

3 **Local Development Plan; Local Consultation**

Hamish Strang, representing the Save Torphins action group, gave a report on the results of the survey of residents received so far. He indicated that there had been a reasonable response to the information that has been circulated.

The final report, with conclusions, will be published as soon as they are available.

All

We were reminded that there will be a public meeting that will be held in the village on Wednesday 17th June 09

4 **Police Report**

Our new link person with Grampian Police is Inspector Andrew Todd.

The Police are aware of the late night door knocking and ask that any future instances are reported quickly.

If we have any issues to raise with him or any incidents to report we should use the following number **0845 600 5700**

5 **Minutes of Meeting 07th May 09**

Add Sheila Blair and John Williams to the list of attendees.

All

Under Planning change estate manager to estate ranger.

change Elected Members to members of the Planning Committee.

With the above changes the minutes were proposed for acceptance by Gordon Pirie and seconded by Sheila Blair.

6 **British Legion Flag**

The Council members present visited the Learney Hall and identified their preferred location for hanging the Flags.

We are to ask for the flags to be hung 'crossed' and to be available for removal at least annually for parading to the War Memorial.

Our final decision to proceed will be based on the ongoing financial commitment that the above would place the TC Council under.

Research the costs involved with hanging the flags and with an annual removal.

Contact Maggie Wilson and or Gordon Ingram and then Susan Raeper.

LM

LM

7 **Matters Arising**

i. School House

Les Allan, the Marr Area manager, has made comment on an article in the Press and Journal on 26th May 09. He felt that the content reflected a negative attitude towards the actions that have been taken by the Aberdeenshire Council regarding the future development of the Schoolhouse.

Discussion took place and it was agreed that John Williams' quotes referred to his view that he had not managed to achieve what he considered to be a positive outcome for the site and the building during his time a chairman of the TCC.

He had not meant his comments to be in any way a criticism of Les Allan or of the efforts that he has made on our behalf. Cllr Argyle indicated that there had been a misunderstanding and that criticism had not been levelled at T C Council.

The property has been advertised a number of times and there are a number of noted interests. A closing date has been set for the 24th June 09.

ii. Extension to the Learney Hall

A copy of our proposal/plan has been sent to the Area Manager.

C. Cowie is currently absent from work due to illness. When she returns to work a copy of the plan will be sent to her for her files.

The only comments that have been received have been about the toilets and the question was answered by an examination of the plan.

iii. Local development Plan

See comments above

iv. Road Matters.

a. Bridge Crescent Bridge.

Awaiting outcome of safety audit.

b. Sundayswells Pavement.

Feedback has been given to the concerned resident.

c. Footpath linking Battock Terrace and Grampian Terrace

Discussion regarding the icy surface of the lane in winter and whether or not it should be resurfaced in a stepped or terraced fashion took place. It was agreed that it would not be a practical idea to step or terrace the lane.

The idea of naming the lane was mooted. It was agreed that subject to historical verification application to call the lane 'Coopers Lane' would be made to the Council.

d. Gateway onto Craigour Road

Waiting visit and report from planning enforcement officer.

e. Car Park Surface in the Park

Some superficial work has been undertaken.

Still awaiting a response to the letter sent to Mark Skilling.

f. Pavement to Station Garage

Awaiting response to letter.

g. Innermarkie Wynd rain water

No progress as yet.

v. Torphins Website. Gordon Smith in attendance

A Motion was tabled that we should amalgamate the website that we are currently developing with the site www.torphins.org

Gordon Smith would be happy to post information for us to his site. He is prepared to develop an area devoted to the Torphins Community Council.

He would not like to be contractually bound to the TCC as the site is a hobby and not a business enterprise.

He would find it easiest to load any information onto the site if it were presented to him in 'word' or 'excel' format.

If we agree to amalgamate the sites Gordon could organise it so that anyone going to the 'Visit Torphins' website is redirected or connected to 'torphins.org'.

Our current commitment for the development of the 'Visit Torphins' website is £380.00

We agreed:

- To put the development of the 'Visit Torphins' on hold.
- That we will ask Gordon to develop an area of his site that will include notices from the TCC, our minutes etc.
- To pay any out of pocket expenses.
- That we would work with Gordon to progress website.

JL

vi. Footbridge over the Learney Burn

It has been agreed with Strutt and Parker that works to repair the bridge will be carried out as soon as the necessary 'plant' becomes available.

vii. General State of the village

A source of funding that would allow retailers to repair shop signs has been identified.

Inform local shop owners.

DC

The notice boards have still to be repainted.

ED

The Victorian Fountain still requires renovation. Contact Grigor Robertson re works.

LM

viii. War Memorial Garden

Contact has been made with the NHS trust and they have agreed to maintain the garden around the War Memorial.

They have already undertaken some work to tidy up the site.

ix. Pavilion in the Park is in need of renovation and upgrading. Susan Raeper, the responsible officer, is aware of the problem.

One of the concerns is the number of keys for the pavilion that are available around the village.

Raise at the appropriate meeting.

Cllrs
A&B

x. Homecoming Scotland 2009

Rona will continue to liaise with the Gala Committee.

The Gala incurred a large deficit last year.

The Gala Committee continue to look for funding.

To invite a member of the Gala committee to make a presentation to TCC.

RE

We suggest a village 'Strip the Willow'.

xi. Christmas Tree lights

No update available.

ED

xii. Marr Area Partnership

A successful local meeting took place in the Learney Hall.

RE

xiii. Re Positioning of Re Cycling bins

Sketches of possible re-sitting sites for the bins have been forwarded to Lorna Hogg the recycling officer within Planning and Environmental Services of Aberdeenshire Council.

We are currently receiving a neutral response from the Council to our suggestions.

xiv. Donations to Scouts and Football Club

Agreed to offer £350 to the club to include their insurance premiums.

Inform Football club of our offer.

LM

8 **Finance.**

Bank balance will be £3215.86 once all pending transactions are completed.

9 **Appointment of new Secretary**

Anna Fraser was proposed by Rona Edgar and seconded by Liz Moore.

It was confirmed that her appointment as secretary did not conflict with her continued role as a Council member.

10 **Planning**

Garage at Glenmhor Kincardine Road - No Comment.

10 Kinnairdy Terrace - No Comment.

20 Craighour Ave. - No Comment.

The council expressed their disappointment at the permission being granted for the farm buildings at Wester Beltie.

The planning application for the Church still has to be considered by committee.

11 **Decision making process of the TCC**

Paper to be presented to July meeting.

DC

12 **Correspondence**

Various items were tabled.

13 **AOCB**

Negative comments have been made regarding the wild flower garden sited at the Innermarkie Wynd/ Grampian Terrace corner of the park.

It was agreed that the area was a successful experiment and should be left as a wild flower garden.

A member has been approached by a resident asking for a 'No Through Road' sign to be placed at the entrance to Village Farm Court.

Following discussion it was agreed that when road signs were replaced we would ask that a cul-de-sac or no through road statement would be added to the signs as appropriate.

The members did not wish for a new range of 'street furniture' to be installed around the village.

Flower Beds

A number of flower beds around the village have been being maintained by the school. They are no longer able to undertake this task.

Gordon has repaired the gates into the parks.

14 **Date of next meeting 2nd July 09 at 7:30 in the Small Learney Hall**