

Torphins Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Held on July 2nd 09 at 7:30 pm in the Small Learney Hall

Item		Action
1	Present , Denis Christie (chair), Sheila Blair Eric Day Alan Bainbridge, Anne Allardyce, Gordon Pirie, Richard Owen, John Lucas, Liz Moore	
2	Apologies , Anna Fraser, Rona Edgar, Cllr P Argyle, John Williams	
	In attendance ; Mr Thomas Innes, Mrs M Grant, Cllr R Bruce, Mr H Strang, Mr Brian Adams, Mr David Ewen	
3	<p>Police Report</p> <p>PC Graeme Wilson was welcomed to his first TCC meeting, he responded by thanking the members for the invitation to attend.</p> <p>There have been two incidents of theft in the last period.</p> <p>The community should always be in a state of vigilance and report any concerns to the police using the call centre number 0845 600 5 700</p> <p>Parents of teenage children should be especially careful about monitoring the whereabouts and activities of their children, checking out when and where they are and that they are where they say they are.</p> <p>We should tackle inappropriate alcohol consumption and substance misuse and not ignore it among teenagers.</p> <p>In order for the police to be able to respond with certain effectiveness to complaints from members of the public they require two eyewitnesses.</p> <p>There is legislation in force to deal with anti social driving. When anti social driving is reported it is possible for the police to issue a caution to the driver. If that driver re-offends within twelve months the police are empowered to impound the car on the second offence. The cost of reclaiming the car is two hundred pounds.</p> <p>A programme to monitor the speed of cars driving through the village was requested.</p>	
4	<p>Approval of Minutes of Meeting of 11th June 2009</p> <p>Agreed as accurate</p> <p>Proposed for acceptance by John Lucas, seconded by Eric Day</p>	
5	<p>Local Development Plan</p> <p>The following is a brief summary of the main points raised during the discussion.</p> <p>Mr Innes thanked the TCC for the invitation to him and Mrs Grant to attend the meeting. Both Mr Innes and Mrs Grant are aware of the contents of the Main Issues Report and the implications that it could have for Torphins.</p> <p>They have read the TCC Submission to Aberdeenshire Council in respect of the LDP.</p> <p>The area of land that has been identified in the MIR as 'M5' was suggested by Mrs Grant as possible for development when the Aberdeenshire Council sought the views of landowners and developers.</p> <p>To date a number of comments on the TCC Submission have been received, one of which is a negative comment relating to the suggested housing at Sundayswells.</p> <p>Mr Innes is aware of the ongoing difficulty regarding parking within the village, particularly in relation to shopping and around the community facilities.</p> <p>He and Mrs Grant consider that developing the field next to the Learney Hall so that the area contained a number of retail units, parking, low-cost housing units, sheltered housing/ housing suitable for elderly or more vulnerable residents would be beneficial to the community and enhance the village amenities.</p>	

Many of the suggestions that Mr Innes and Mrs Grant have made to date have been for the long term. They do envisage some development in the field next to the Learney Hall within the next five years but the remainder of the 'M5' site they regard as suitable for development over the next fifty to sixty years.

Mr Innes stated that one of the main drains of the village runs from Beltie Road through the field under discussion to Kinnairdy Terrace. He also stated that Sundayswells is regarded as an envelope settlement.

Both Mr Innes and Mrs Grant are aware of the concerns that have been raised regarding the visual impact of any possible development. They would want any development that takes place to be well designed and of a good standard of construction, with due consideration of visual impact.

Mr David Ewen, a member of the Save Torphins action group, requested that TCC produce a holistic map showing the proposals which it had put forward in February in its Submission to Aberdeenshire Council. The chairman responded to the effect that he would look into this with a view to it being done.

Mr Innes indicated that permission had been granted in 1975 for 40 houses to be built on land to the west end of Battock Terrace. Sixteen houses were built, although a route was left in the far south west of the site that would allow for further development. He believes that there is potential to develop the remainder of the site and has suggested so to Aberdeenshire Council.

Station Garage Workshop

The current location of the Station Garage Workshop (centre of the village behind the school) had planning permission for residential development if/when the workshop was relocated. Mr Matthew Merchant would be prepared to enter into dialogue about this if required.

Protected areas

The Forestry Commission controls all the areas of forestry around the village. Mr Innes is supportive of protecting the walkway along the old railway line. The Estate requires this land for access. They are content that householders whose properties adjoin the railway cultivate the side of the walk way but they must always remember that the cultivation of the land does not give them ownership.

The area of Woodland between the Old Mart and Inchley Terrace will be protected.

Core Paths

Notice has been received from Aberdeenshire Council regarding the final consultation regarding the above scheme.

Locally two paths have been suggested; one from the Waulkmill Farm to the Learney Hall and the other is through the Church woods.

6	Matters Arising from the Minutes	
a	Old School House A closing date had been held with several offers received and Aberdeenshire Council are meantime considering these offers.	
b	The Colours Communications with Gordon Ingram and Susan Raeper to resolve issues and get colours temporarily hung in Learney Hall are progressing.	

c	Torphins Website All members are asked to confirm what contact details they would like to have posted on the website and to let John Lucas know as soon as possible. Members were also asked to pass any articles or items for inclusion on the site to John. The PDF of the proposed development of the Small Learney Hall to be forwarded to John. Agreed to ask for direct link to a TCC page to be made. Following a short discussion it was agreed to sponsor the Website to the amount of £154 (Equivalent to the level of grant obtainable to develop a website.)	All All GP JL ED
d	General state of the village Materials to repair the notice board have been acquired and repairs will be carried out soon.	ED
e	Homecoming Scotland No update available	
f	Christmas Tree lights No update available	
g	Marr Area Partnership No update	
h	Re-positioning of Recycling bins. A quote for the repositioning of the bins is to be sought by Lorna Hogg of Aberdeenshire Council.	
i	Donation to Football Club. TCC has donated £350 Torphins Football Club.	
j	Pavilion in the Park. Renovation work to the building is to be considered for inclusion in the new local development expenditure plan.	
7	Finance Current balance £3215.86 Anticipated that following all outstanding transactions balance will be £2639.86 at end of July.	
8	Planning Applications App/2009/1763 – Variation of colours and materials to extension at 2 St. Marnan Road <i>No comment</i> App/2009/1785 – Installation of roof lights at 4 Craigour Court <i>No comment</i>	
9	Decision making process Model Standing Orders to be considered by DC, LM, AF and JL. To be discussed at September meeting.	DC
10	Correspondence Various items were tabled including one re Bridge Crescent and there will be an Accident Investigation Unit visit to the site in August.	
11	AOCB Bus shelter In need of cleaning. Responsibility for cleaning to be researched LDP Regarding LDP concern had been raised to the effect that the 'saveTorphins.org' website contained the implication that TCC had acted in an underhanded manner in that TCC had deliberately not consulted the village on the proposals. Members felt strongly as to the inaccuracy of this and it was agreed that the Chair meet with representatives of 'Save Torphins' to resolve this issue.	Cllr Bruce DC

Date of next meeting – Thursday 3rd September 2009, in Small Learney Hall at 7.30pm

The following matters are currently in abeyance

Car Park surface
Pavement to Station Garage
Learney Hall Extension
Pavement to Station Garage
Bridge crescent Bridge
Battock Terrace/Grampian Terrace Lane Surface
Gateway on to Craigour Road
Innermarkie Wynd Rainwater