



Minute of Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council 9th February 2015

The Chair Neil MacIntyre welcomed all

Present:

Community Councillors: Neil MacIntyre, Joyce Wylie, Marion Stewart, Allan Weild, Sylvia Moore, Bunty Taylor, Alan Kay. Rhona McCarton, Tommy Woodman

D&G Councillors: Sean Marshall, Ronnie Ogilvie, Richard Brodie, Ian Carruthers

In Attendance: Rod Edgar, Annandale Observer, Alan Wilson, Police Scotland, Robert Piercy, Community Safety Officer

Apologies: John Bonner, Walter Hunt

Minute of 12/1/15 was approved

Matters Arising: Alan asked if John Bonner had written to the Council regarding custodial ownership of Scheduled Ancient Monuments. This could not be confirmed.

Defibrillator Joyce advised the meeting she had been contacted by John Steele who's uncle had died suddenly after collapsing on the High Street. Mr Steele's family would like to fund raise to provide defibrillators on the High Street in case of a similar incident in the future. Following a full discussion on the issue it was agreed that Joyce would contact Julie at the Town Hall to enquire about match funding from the Heath, Safety and Welfare fund and also regarding location and training. Joyce will report to the next meeting.

Police Report: PC Alan Wilson reported as follows: 10 Assaults, 1 Offensive Weapon offence, 5 Vandalism offences, 3 Drug offences 2 Theft by Shoplifting. 1 Urinating in Public offence, 2 Breach of Bail, 1 Breach of the Peace, 2 Sexual Offences, 1 Fraud offence, 1 Theft by HB and 1 Theft offence.

The Community Police are working with DGHP and the Council to alleviate issues within Hillview Crescent.

Community Warden Report: Robert Piercy reported they had been dealing with anti-social behaviour in various areas including, Hillview Crescent, Bus Stop at Wood Avenue. They will continue to monitor this but would welcome any information from Community Councillors if they are notified of any Anti-Social behaviour by the public.

Treasurers Report: Allan sent a written report as follows: General Account £6311.79, this includes the Discretionary Grant of £1060.65. A new cheque was issued to the RBL Annan Pipes and Drums for £100 this has now been cashed.

Correspondence:

Marion advised the meeting of correspondence from John Howell in respect of a Bid to Community Links funding for 2015/2016. The bid is for a controlled crossing from Church Street to Solway Street for pedestrians and cyclists. We have been asked to support this bid. Following a discussion it was agreed that Marion write to John Howell with a letter of support.



Marion notified the meeting that the Annan Common Good meeting scheduled for 4th February had been cancelled and re-scheduled for the 25th of February. At this meeting the Hire Charges for John Bell Field will be discussed. Following a discussion it was agreed that Alan Kay will provide a factual report for this meeting of the hire charges in other authorities.

Marion advised the meeting there is to be a Scottish Parliament Communities Conference at Easterbrook Hall, Dumfries on 21st of February. Any Community Councillors wishing to attend to let Marion know.

Roadworks and Road Closure information was received and left for Community Councillors to peruse.

Planning Applications were received and left for Community Councillors to peruse. Correspondence received from Cannonbie and District Residents Association regarding Fracking licences about to go up for auction and the implications for Annandale and Eskdale. Following a full discussion it was agreed to note the correspondence.

Councillors Report –

Councillor Carruthers advised that at the Licencing Board Meeting Megano's & the Queensberry Hotel are to extend their core hours. Annan Distillery has also applied for a Drinks Licence for their premises. No problems have been expressed by the police.

Councillor Marshall: reported that following complaints from the public the police will be patrolling this area to ensure pedestrian safety. He further reported that following the consultation on St John's Road it looked like they will take more traffic information but is likely there will only be signage here and not speed bumps. However he is asking if the Community Council is in agreement that speed bumps are necessary in Elm Road. The CC will report back at next meeting. Councillor Marshall also advised that the pathway and roadway in Johnstone Street has to be repaired.

Councillor Ogilvie: Reported that he had lots of complaints regarding Educational Establishments not being cleared for pupils. He advised that the priority for Winter Maintenance is High Streets and Schools as well as main roads. Then other areas will be done.

Councillor Brodie: Reported that Don Barty has had a meeting with the Council regarding the positioning of Christmas lights for next year. He further reported that the threat to local Steak and Half nets is escalating. The Council's position is to keep both but to put conservation protection measures in place. Councillor Brodie advised that the Council budget was set last week and he had concerns regarding the 53 Support for Learning staff reduction. This position is to be monitored to ensure that children requiring the service are not disadvantaged.

Members Report

Alan Kay: Raised the issue of the state of the pavements at Newington School. He also raised the issue of the state of the road at Battery Street. He had been contacted by a number of people regarding the re-location of Kate's Kitchen and the possible impact on the Bridal Shop next door.



Rhona McCarton: Asked the meeting if there was any word on the work needing done on Jubilee Gardens. She was advised that the work had been approved in principle but the Council were seeking quotes from other interested parties.

Sylvia Moore: Asked if anyone could update her on the position with the Library in Charles Street. It is in a bad state of repair with the roof leaking etc. She was advised by the Councillors that it will be shut down and relocated as soon as possible but they could not confirm where this would be. However in the short term it is to remain where it is.

Marion Stewart: Advised the meeting she had been contacted by a resident in Wood Avenue following the relocation of the bus stop. The old bus stop was removed last week and the new cantilever bus stop put in. However the new bus shelter has been moved 3m. further to the west and is now looking right into the residents garden. This was one of the problems he had with anti-social behaviour and he feels this will make matters worse. He believes the new siting of the shelter will cause his Autistic son more problems. Contacted Harry Thomson who says it is staying where it is. This situation is now ongoing to try and resolve it.

Joyce Wylie: Raised the issue of Seaforth Nursery closing and the work moving to Dumfries. Four jobs will be lost in Annan. She raised concerns that this land was gifted to Annan Community by the Minto Family and believes the Council cannot sell it.

Bunty Taylor: Raised the issue of the Crossing at the lights on the High Street. The Green Man is not on long enough for disabled people to cross. Sean Marshall said he would look into this

Tommy Woodman: Nothing to Report

Graeme Wellburn: Graham advised that he had been contacted by a number of people enquiring about salt bins. He advised that D & G Council have a Web Site and people should contact them direct. However if they have no access to a computer he will contact them on their behalf.

Neil MacIntyre: Also raised the issue about Kate's Kitchen move to Bank Street. He has requested that the clients use the back yard as a smoking area and not at the front on Bank Street. He also raised concerns about the smell that cooking might have on the Bridal Shop next door.

AOCB: Marion will contact Alison Ferguson to ensure the Heating is on in the room for next month.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

The next meeting will be held on the 9th March 2015 at 7pm