



Minute of Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council 12th Oct 2015

The Chair Joyce Wylie welcomed all to the meeting and informed all that the next meeting on the 9/11/15 would be the election of Community Council members and Insp Graham Kerr would chair this.

Present:

Community Councillors: Neil MacIntyre, Allan Weild, Bunty Taylor, John Bonner, Sylvia Moore, Walter Hunt, Marion Stewart, Rhona McCarton

D&G Councillors: Richard Brodie

In Attendance: Rod Edgar, PC Ian Leggett

Apologies: Alan Kay, Tommy Woodman, Graeme Wellburn, Robert Piercy, Sean Marshall

Minute of 14/9/15: Approved by Sylvia Moore, Seconded by Allan Weild

Ammendments: Requested by Marion Stewart to change the following on her report with Rhona Lewis- that she had contacted Alison to look in the archives for rules made by Steve Southam to she will contact Alison as no contact had been made at time of Sept meeting.

Request from Jamie Ferguson – Marion Stewarts report said she had arranged to meet Alison Ferguson to go over Common Good assets. Alison says she has not been consulted to date.

Matters Arising:

Allan expressed interest on the work going on behind the scenes to look at the assets of The Common Good that Don Barty had mentioned. Who was doing the work and what was it? As Don was not in attendance this could not be discussed.

Marion brought up her concerns with a letter that was received by all Community Councillors from Ronnie Ogilvie, discussed later in the meeting.

Police Report:

PC Ian Leggett reported the following – 5 assaults, 2 of which were domestic incidents, 1 youth charged with assault for striking another youth on the legs with a piece of wood, 1 youth assaulted another youth and also made comments about his nationality, a male and female were assaulted at the bus stance in Butts St and a number of young adults have been charged with the offence.

4 Thefts, 1 mobile phone taken from Victoria Halls, a large dog kennel taken from a rear garden, a bike was taken from outside a house in Annan however it was later found in Gretna and taken back to owner. Positive lines of enquiry are being followed. A mobile was taken from a shop on Annan and a male person was later traced in another part of Annandale & Eskdale and arrested



and charged with the offence.

1 housebreaking, 4 persons outwith the area arrested and charged with the break in of a house on Elm Road.

1 vandalism, a window smashed in Winterhope Road after a heavy object was thrown through it. Positive lines of enquiry being followed.

1 drug offence, a male arrested for possession of a controlled drug and reported to the PF

1 male charged with wasting police time after making false allegations against another male.

3 BOP, 1 male arrested for shouting at a female neighbour, 1 male arrested after leaving a licensed premises heavily under the influence of alcohol and trying to fight with 2 other persons. Enquiries being carried out in relation to a male making derogatory remarks to a vulnerable adult.

3 Civic Gov Offences, 1 person issued a ticket for urinating in the street, 1 male for drinking in the street, manager of a fast food outlet charged for serving food outwith license hours.

Male arrested and will be reported to PF for attempting to pervert the course of justice.

Sexual offences, 1 female charged and reported to PF for inappropriate behaviour.

Road Traffic, 3 parking tickets issued, 2 of which were drivers parked in disabled parking bays without the appropriate badges, 1 female charged for illegal tyre tread, 1 male stopped and charged with a number of offences including no insurance, no mot and illegal tyre tread. 1 male stopped and charged for driving unaccompanied while holding a provisional license, 1 male charged with careless driving.

A large scale disturbance occurred within a license premises between a group of males (local and outwith the area) 7 males arrested and charged with various offences including assault and BOP (3 local and 4 outwith the region) operation being carried out nationally about bogus workmen, patrols carried out by police and trading standards officers speaking to trades persons about the issue, leaflets distributed to banks and building societys asking them to be aware of any vulnerable persons taking out large sums of money. Media and social networking sites also used to get the message across.

Pubwatch online is progressing well with further bans being proposed.

Community Safety Officer: Robert Piercy

Fly Tipping reported in Shawhill Road, Caravan was reported to be blocking access to council workers in Addison Place, Loud noise from motorbike and constant dog barking from a property in Fernlea Cresc, A vulnerable adult has been the target of anti-social behaviour in Bruce St, Fresh reports of dog fouling on the Annan to Eastriggs road, Fly tipping on the B721 road on the outskirts of town, Fresh reports of dog fouling in Millpark Terrace and Addison



Place, Littering is still an issue in the Harbour area with one FPN likely being issued this week.

If anyone would like any info from me I can be contacted direct –

Robert.piercy@dumgal.gov.uk or contact the council (030 33 33 3000) and ask for the Community Safety Team.

Letter from Ronnie Ogilvie- Marion was disgusted with the email that had been received from Ronnie Ogilvie in which he claimed that Community Councillors were going to try and prevent his re-election. Marions feeling was that Mr Ogilvie has no intention of bridging gaps and as the Community Council is non political his writing of this email to Community Councilors was a disgrace. It was also written that Mr Ogilvie felt he was owed an apology from John Bonner and Alan Kay in which John replied that he would respond to accusations about himself personally. The general feeling from all was that the working relationship between Community Council, Common Good and Councillors was a good one. No one had replied to this email and the decision was made not to.

Treasures Report: Gen Acc - £6853.68

Web Acc - £1515.71,

invoices have been sent out and money is starting to come in. 1 cheque still to be presented. A bill received for £624.20 from council to put up tourist info boards. There was no cost in planning as written permission from proprietors was sent to the council. Joyce emailing Alan Kay about the amount and Allan Weild challenging the amount

Bulb Planting-

Neil and Joyce had requested funding for summer bedding plants and bulbs when they attended Rt Hon David Mundells lottery funding roadshow but unfortunately they do not give funding for cosmetic projects. 2400 bulbs left (daffodils, tulips and crocus) which need to be planted now. The decision was made to do Battery St first and see what is left to allocate to other areas. Joyce will email the Boys Brigade to see if they will do planting at Battery St. Joyce bought the bulbs for Seaforth Park and distributed to residents to plant. It was suggested that Daffodils be planted at the entrance to the caravan site and Walter could take some for the station. Brydekirk road end and Lockhart Gardens were also suggestions but the Rotary plant Crocus' at Brydekirk and Walter said that Lockhart Gardens is private land. A suggestion was also made if there were enough bulbs left to plant around the pillars as you come into town or from Brydekirk road end up to the pillars. These wouldn't need removed seasonally.

Remembrance Sunday – Everything has been organised and Community Council wreath ordered. John Bonner has phoned Poppy Scotland for 150 crosses that will be laid at the cemetery, cost of £1 a cross and is awaiting an



email back. John will lay the RAF wreath on remembrance Sunday. A sculpture of a soldier's head with plinth has been donated and suggestion was that this could be used as a small memorial at the cemetery as John reported that names on the gravestones are starting to disappear due to weather damage. The decision was to do more research and John will do a report before a final decision was made.

Christmas Window Dressing Competition- The judging of the competition will take place on Wed 2nd of Dec before the Christmas light switch on on the Fri. Bunty, Sylvia and Rhona will be the judges and will meet at 10am to start the judging. Marion will put something in the paper and Joyce will put flyers out.

Correspondence: Alan Kay had reported a pupil at Annan Academy was interested in joining the Community Council. Joyce was emailing Alan to encourage this person to come along to meetings and represent their age group.

Councillors Report : Richard Brodie- Richard started his report by thanking the Community Council for their work and he felt that there was a good relationship between Community Council and Councillors.

Back of the Hill – work was carried out by the council without consultation and residents knew nothing until work started, this work also fell far short of what was needed. A meeting was held for residents and there was a lot of bad feeling about the work which had been done. A halt to any work until new plans were put in place was put to councillors. Better proposals needed and better handling of the situation. Marion stated that this had now wasted money as all that was needed was the grass cutting back at least 1 flagstone wide. There had been flooding at Charles St which had received prompt action from the fire brigade. Scottish water are doing works at Newington Park to prevent flooding and blocking of drains. Marion asked about cleaning out drains at Rose St and Annandale Observer which is meant to be done once a year. Richard Brodie has to be emailed areas in need of work and date of the last time they were done. Exiting Fruids Park there is poor visibility, this will be looked into and reported back.

Fishing- Govt has put forward a proposal for the killing of salmon, the data they have based this decision on is from only 4 rivers out of many in Scotland. This would mean that most rivers in Scotland would have no catching unless its catch and release, this includes Dumfries & Galloway. This would not only affect commercial fisheries but also angling associations, river owners and tourism. Allan made the point that fisherman won't pay if they can't keep the fish and also that catch & release is not always the best option as fish may still die. Local councillors have put in a request for Haaf Nets and Stake Nets as



these are a big part of the towns history.

A meeting was held on the 6/10/15 with regards to the future of net fishing which Richard said Haff Netters were invited but no Stake or Poke Netters. On hearing this Community Councillors could not believe they were not informed of this meeting as the Community Council are represented on Common Good sub committee which oversees local fishing. Neither John Bonner or Neil MacIntyre received emails about this meeting. Richard will check to see if they had been CC'd in.

Members Report :

Joyce Wylie – I attended the day centres 10th Anniversary on behalf of the Community Council where Bunty as founder member of the day centre gave a lovely speech. Thoroughly enjoyable day had by all.

Cheque has been sent to the British Heart Foundation for the 3 defibrillators for the town and these should be up on walls by Christmas, located at the Station, Queensberry and Atwals

Neil MacIntyre – Reported that The war memorial has been splashed with oil which he has reported. If nothing is done about this issue he has to let Richard Brodie know

Allan Weild – Street signs have been reported and already some have been replaced. Disabled Parking at the Fish Cross is becoming increasingly difficult to use and restrictions may help resolve this issue. Allan will put in a report to see if restrictions could be put in place.

Pothole at land head was checked 9/9/15 and the road is now caving in on one side, looking into this. Drains at Hecklegirth reported which has been done numerous times.

Sylvia Moore – Has received complaints from people as to why buses do not go into Tesco (buses do sit in tesco carpark). Asked if Community Council could get someone from Stagecoach to come and discuss this issue at a meeting or a letter be sent. Neil said he had spoke to a bus driver and they had told him it was because they are large buses and not town buses. It was agreed that Joyce would send an email which Marion would follow up with a letter.

Graham Wellburn – No report

John Bonner – Reported that the padlock has now been put back on the gate at the everholm

Walter Hunt – No report

Bunty Taylor – Expressed concern at state of the grass which is growing



everywhere and unkept in areas. Richard Brodie is looking into this.

Also asked PC Leggett about foot patrols on town in which he replied that they do try and get out as much as possible on foot but due to the changing nature of the job sometimes time is limited to do this.

Marion Stewart – The situation with the disabled parking in McMurdo Road has still not been resolved and an email was received by Marion from someone who is very familiar with the disability discrimination act, Marion is continuing to help with this issue.

Port St has foliage growing out of the wall right across the pavement making getting past difficult as the pavement across the road is cordoned off. A request will be put in to cut back the foliage. Rhona aid that she cuts back Heatley Court.

Rhona McCarton- The sign on the Annandale Way to Newbie with all the quotes on has been badly vandalised. Can this be replaced or removed? Joyce will ask the question and report back

Public Forum:Nothing to report

ACOB- Neil invited everyone to the Remembrance Sunday Parade on the 8/11/15 and thanked John Bonner for laying the RAF wreath.

The meeting closed at 20:40

The next meeting will be the 9th Nov 2015 at 7pm