



Minute of Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council 11th April 2016

Joyce Wylie, Chair welcomed all and advised the meeting that Community Councillor Walter Hunt's mother had died and a card of condolences was sent from the Community Council

Present:

Community Councillors: Joyce Wylie, Marion Stewart, Allan Weild, Bunty Taylor, Sylvia Moore, Lewis Douglas, Neil MacIntyre, Alan Kay

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

In Attendance: Rod Edgar, Annandale Observer, John Ramage, PC Leggett

A large number of members of the public were in attendance regarding a Right of Way issue.

Apologies: Rhona McCarton, Walter Hunt. Robert Piercy, Community Warden

Minute of 14/3/16 the minute was prozed by Allan Weild and Seconded by Neil MacIntyre

Matters arising from minute of 14/316 The Chair advised the meeting that a visit to the Bunker at Dumfries had been arranged for 16th May at 4pm. Names to Joyce for the Bus

Councillor Marshal advised the meeting that tenders had gone out for the demolition of the Weyroc. The final element of the project is funding. A meeting with the Chief Executive is being arranged. The project will be to demolish and then have small Business Units on the site.

Police Report: PC Ian Leggett presented the following report 3 Assaults (2 relating to domestic violence) 4 Breach of the Peace 10 Theft related crimes,(2 relating to large amounts of alcohol taken from a Supermarket, 12 Vandalisms, a number of cars receiving damage however not thought to be linked. 1 Breach of Bail, 1 Culpable and Reckless. Youth reported for placing lit fireworks within a letterbox, 2 Frauds, relating to £20 counterfeit notes being tendered in local shops, 1 Firearms Offence. Youth reported for being in possession of an air rifle, 2 Telecommunications offences relating to domestic incidents, 1 Fire Raising offence related to Seaforth Tennis Pavilion.

Road Traffic:

A number of incidents are reported in relation to persons being reported for a wide variety of Road Traffic offences including, careless driving, drink driving. A number of tickets have been issued in relation to drivers parking in disabled bays without relevant badge. Double yellow offences and parking in parking bays longer than the time prescribed.

Community Issues: Work still being undertaken as part of the ongoing Operation Resolve to deal with anti-social behaviour issues. Lots of good work has already been undertaken in this regard and this includes Police Scotland working with Youth Justice, Education, NHS, Social Work, the Council and other agencies and partners to effectively engage with young people involved in ASB and to take steps to prevent similar types of behaviour.

Community Warden Report: No report



Treasurers Report: Allan reported: General Account £5091.63 The Web Account is £1463.71 with one account to be paid.

Joyce Wylie introduced Bryan Scott, Countryside Development Officer.

Mr Scott addressed the meeting in response to complaints regarding a Right of Way through Beckfoot path being closed off. Mr Scott advised the meeting of the laws around right of way. There is no Right of Way for this path registered with the Scottish Right of Way Department however although not recorded it could still meet the definition of a Right of Way.(needs to be used for 20 years)

Mr Scott advised there were a number of options open to the groups:-

- Rights of Way Enquiry
- Negotiate alteration to the route avoiding new layout of farm
- Negotiate with neighbouring landowner to make a new route

Mr Scott had contacted Mr Butler regarding the issue and has been advised the gate was closed because of irresponsible access by the public both walkers and horse riders.

Mr Scott opened the discussion to the floor for views from users of the Right of Way.

A heated discussion followed where conflicting views from Mr Butler's were relayed to Mr Scott and the four local Councillors. These included rubbish being deliberately being dumped on the path and no maintenance being undertaken by Mr Butler.

Following a long discussion with the users Joyce Wylie suggested that the users group, the Councillors and Mr Scott retire to the other room for further discussions and a way forward. This was agreed.

Correspondence:

Marion advised the meeting of the response sent to Alistair Campbell from the Roads Department regarding proposed work on the High Street in July. There has been no response.

Marion advised that the Queen's 90th Birthday medals had been ordered but have not yet been received.

Marion advised that the Food Train Spring Newsletter had been received and members were given opportunity to peruse.

Councillors Report

As the Councillors were involved in further talks with the Beckfoot Path Users Group there were no Councillors Reports

Members Report

Allan Weild: Allan advised that the top rail has now been put on the steps at Galabank and the other set of steps closed off. He wished to congratulate Jamie Nicholson of DG First for her progress with this issue.



Lewis Douglas: Nothing to report

Andrew: Advised the meeting that a Facebook campaign had been started by a group of young people led by Danny Poole to upgrade the A75 to dual carriageway. He asked for support for this initiative as it was good to see young people getting involved in the community

Bunty: Nothing to report.

Alan Kay: Suggested that all the community councils in the region should get together to complain about the state of the roads with potholes. Following a discussion it was agreed that Joyce would ask for this item to be discussed at the next Federation meeting.

Sylvia: Sylvia advised that she had positive feedback regarding the Community Wardens issuing FPN of £80 to 3 people in Annan for dropping cigarette ends. She also advised she had some complaints about the new town bus time-table. The last bus leaves the bus stand at 4.30pm. This is not convenient for people finishing work at 5pm or 5.30pm. Could this be changed. She was advised to speak to the Councillors.

Sylvia advised that the cemetery was looking okay but the car park needs clearing. She also advised that the back path to the cemetery is very overgrown. Could this be a job for Community Payback. She had also been notified of an abandoned caravan in Drummond Road. Members felt that there was little that could be done about it unless there was proof that it had been abandoned as it is not against the law to park caravans on a public road.

Marion: Advised she had been contacted by the Secretary of St Columbas School Parents group regarding a Minsca Grant. As she was not sure about the rules she advised her to contact Allan Weild.

Neil: Advised the Annan Transport Initiative were looking for £100 towards the purchase of a new bus. Following a discussion it was agreed not to support this request as users of the service have to pay.

Joyce: Advised the meeting that she and Neil will be attending the next Federation meeting.

Public Forum Eric Dodd brought the Woodland Trust information to the meeting for our consideration.

AOCB

Marion asked the meeting to consider using some of next years Minsca grant to help with the repairs to the Tennis Pavilion following the arson attack. Following a discussion Mark Sindall advised that the building is covered by the Council's insurance but there is likely to be a hefty excess. Alan Kay thought this could be as much as £500. A survey of the damage has been carried out by the Council's Assessment team.

Allan Weild suggest that as there was no time for further discussion suggestions for Minsca Grants be brought to the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Date of next meeting: AGM 11th April 2016