



Minute of Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council 13th February 2017

Joyce Wylie Chairperson, welcomed all Community Councillors, Councillors and members of the public

Present:

Community Councillors: Joyce Wylie, Marion Stewart, Alan Kay, John Ramage, Walter Hunt, John Bonner, Sylvia Moore, Allan Weild, Mark Sindall

D&G Councillors: Councillor Sean Marshall, Councillor Richard Brodie

In Attendance: Rod Edgar Annandale Observer, Robert Peirce, Community Safety Officer, PC.Iain Leggett, Christine and Peter Mathews, David Sibley, James Cox

Apologies: Bunty, Rhona, Lewis

Minute of 13/02/17 the minute was proposed by Allan Weild seconded by Sylvia Moore

Matters Arising

No Matters arising

Police Report:

PC Leggett attended and gave the following report:-

8 Vandalisms, 3 Telecommunication offence, 3 Fire-raising, 16 Assaults (3 of which were domestic 1 against a police officer) 4 Breach of the Peace 7 Thefts, 2 Fraud, 2 Bail related offence, 2 Drug related offences, 1 Offensive weapon.

Road Traffic

A 2 vehicle RTC in Standalane, 2 tickets issued for parking within bus stop on High Street, 1 careless driving, 1 person issued ticket for carrying a person in the boot of car, 1 failing to stop for police

Community Issues:

From Wednesday the 1st of March legislation commences to increase the fixed penalty fine levels for road traffic offences involving the use of mobile phones and hand held devices. The penalties for those offences will double from 3 points to 6 points and £100 fine to £200 fine and could lead to a charge of dangerous driving

Questions for PC Leggett

Marion asked if it was still okay to speak into a phone integrated into car. PC Leggett said yes Marion also asked about the Chevrons marked beside the disabled parking spots at the Fish Cross. PC Leggett said it was not an offence to park there.

Councillor Brodie advised a meeting had been arranged at Annan Football Club on the 30th March regarding parking.

Joyce advised PC Leggett of plants being stolen from planters at the Railway Station. PC Leggett advised that this was for the Railway Police to investigate.



Community Safety Report: Robert Piercy advised on the following:

1. Fly tipping reported near Seafield Farm 6 Tyres and a bed base all uplifted
2. Fly tipping reported near Annan Distillery, rubble and pallets all uplifted
3. Fly Tipping reported near Watchhall House, one black bag uplifted
4. Dog Fouling complaints in Addison Place, no information known
5. Dog Fouling complaint from St Columbus Primary School, full dog poo bags are being thrown into school grounds
6. Dog Fouling complaints in North Street, Addison Place, Butt Street and Johnston Street
7. Abandoned vehicle in Queensway, the vehicle looked like it had been involved in an accident and was removed the following day.
8. Dog Fouling in Windermere Road on one stretch of footpath 36 full dog poo bags were found and dumped with a further 8 that were unreachable. There are also plenty of dog fouling offences taking place without the use of bags. The footpath is only about 200 yards long which makes this even more disgusting.
9. Dog Fouling complaint in Fernlea Crescent, again no information
10. Fly Tipping on Seafield Road, a carpet was uplifted
11. Fly Tipping in Fieldside, some concrete had been dumped in a grass area
12. A FPN issued for littering in Lady Street.
13. Abandoned vehicle in Wood Avenue, investigation ongoing
14. A syringe was reported in Shawhill Road and uplifted by the Police
15. Dog Fouling complaint in Preston Park, good information given
16. Dog Fouling complaint in Springbells Road opposite Newington Primary School

As always Robert advised the meeting if anyone has issues to contact him.

Alan Kay passed round a photo of a banner being used by Argyll and Bute Council that has reduced the complaints of Dog Fouling complaints. Alan advised by the Councillors to contact Shona Henderson and work with her to get some signage. It was also agreed the Community Council will pay for banners if necessary.

Joyce introduced James Cox from Dumfries and Galloway Council who addressed the meeting to advise and consult on the proposals for the new Library proposals in the Town Hall.

Drawings were passed round.

James advised:

Reference material would not be reduced

Books available will be rotated in the same way as they are now

Space for local children from nurseries will be adequate to deliver sessions.

Cost £165.000

A full debate followed and Mr Cox agreed to take back some suggestions made.

Treasurers Report: Allan gave the following report: Web account £1421.65, Ordinary account £6492.45.

Correspondence

Agenda for Annandale and Eskdale Area Committee

Email from Jaime Nicholson regarding Community Safety Fund application for work at Jubilee Gardens. Councillor Marshall agreed to give £500 from his Capitol monies and Marion to write to other Councillors with same request. Hopefully these donations will be used as match funding for the project.



Notice of Local Council Elections

Email from Andy Wightman, MSP regarding work he is undertaking on Common Good Land. He is a member of the Local Government and Communities Committee and they are looking for written evidence on the future of common good funds and land. Alan Kay asked if members could respond via the web site if they have relevant information for them to consider.

Councillors Report

Councillor Marshall: advised a report to the Council's Access Officer regarding the Right of Way issue at Beckfoot Farm found overwhelming evidence submitted in the report allows them to continue legal proceedings to form a case for a Right of Way at Beckfoot Farm.

Councillor Marshall advised that the Council Budget had now been agreed. There is to be a £500,000 Employability Scheme for Stranraer, Dumfries and Annan

High Street update: Aiming to set up a sub group of Annan Regeneration Steering Group made up of representatives from High Street Businesses.

An officer has been identified to take forward the High Street Public Realm, Annan Gateways and car parking strategy project.

Annan Business Park: Ponsse has started work on a new building plus 2 others interested in 1 remaining unit.

Sean advised that there is precedent been set in Kirkcudbright for the money from the old Library Site to be ring fenced for the Victoria Halls project.

Councillor Brodie:

Advised £2M in budget for roads

£160,000 for Parks

Report on Beckfoot gone to the Council Legal Department and hoped a resolution could be found.

Lorries wrongly going to Watchhall to get to the Sawmill

Councillor Brodie also passed round the notes of a meeting he had with Senior Managers regarding Annan Library:

The proposals for the Library fall well short of aspirations for a modern facility which will meet the 21st century needs of our community. It is unsatisfactory that the reception area is larger than both the children's and reference sections which have been drastically downsized. Floor space is inadequate for children. Three separate uses (pre-school, primary and Secondary), of this area need to be met – under fives; homework and study; relaxation and book browsing and furniture needs to be suitable for these specific ages. The success of story time at Annan has to be maintained. Sufficient space for class visits needs to be built in.

Members Report

Mark: Reported on the Shap meeting he attended with Joyce and Marion.

Following a full discussion at the meeting it was agreed that what was required was more a Community Neighbourhood Scheme where small areas of the town work within their area to assist vulnerable people on a wide variety of issues. A small working group is to be established to develop a scheme to support communities in our area. Mark is the Community Council representative on the small group

Sylvia: Advised the Notice Board at the Cemetery is in a poor state and needs replaced or repaired. Upgrading sunken graves is continuing.

Marion: reported the large pot hole a Roundabout in Springbells road had been repaired but disappointed that one 6" away was left

John B. Advised a pre-meeting of the Common Good Committee has been arranged to discuss the Common Good Assets. Compensation for Fishing Rights still not finalised.

Walter: Nothing to report

John R – Nothing to report



Alan K– disappointed that the project for a permanent Town Walk following Beat the Street has been abandoned. It is disgraceful the route agreed did not meet H & S and disability safety, surely there are other routes that can be considered. Allan Weild responded that the project was hindered by time restraints for the money.

Allan W. advised that Nicola Simpson from Harthill Depot had confirmed the Council do not have any cages to protect flowers at the cemetery.

Joyce: advised she had written to Tommy and Andrew and asked them to resign as they have not attended enough meetings. She also advised she is unable to attend the Federation meeting in Beatoch, Marion will attend. She also advised Rhona would attend the Constitution meeting at Lockerbie on Tuesday night.

Public Forum.

Christine and Mark advised during British Clean Up day 14 bags of rubbish was collected from the Harbour Area and Waterfoot area over a 4 hour period. Thanks were expressed for their hard work

AOCB

The next meeting would be the AGM

The meeting closed at 8.55pm and Joyce thanked all for attending.

Date of next meeting 10th April 2017 at 7pm