



Minute of Royal Burgh of Annan Community Council 10th December 2018

Allan Weild Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance at the Fire Station in Annan, and welcomed PC Iain Leggett back to the meeting.

Present:

Community Councillors: Allan Weild, Alan Kay, Marion Stewart, Rhona McCarton, Mark Sindall, Walter Hunt, Joyce Wylie.

D&G Councillors: No Councillors in attendance

Apologies: Sylvia Moore, Ruby McGregor, Councillor Brodie, Councillor Marshall

In Attendance: Abbey Morton Annandale Observer, Jaimie Nicholson, PC Iain Leggett.

Apologies Councillor Henry McClelland

Minute of 12 November following a correction to the minute it was proposed by Mark Sindall and seconded by Rhona McCarton

Matters Arising

No matters arising

Police Report: P.C Iain Leggett presented the report: Drug offences 3 Theft 4, Theft by shoplifting 2, Theft by Housebreaking 3, Assault 6, Breach of the Peace 4, Threatening and abusive behaviour 3, Vandalism 9, Fraud 1, Fireraising 2 Breach of Bail 4, Hate Crime 13 and Offensive weapon 1.

On 18th of November a fire was started deliberately in the Central Hotel, Annan. Enquiries were carried out and 2 youths have been cautioned and charged with fire-raising.

Road Traffic: Nothing to report

Significant Incidents/occurrences

PC Leggett advised the meeting that the National Drink Driving campaign commenced on 27/11/18 and as we move into the festive party season the campaign reinforces the message that the best approach is none. The consequences of drink driving can be devastating and they'll be dedicated resources on patrol during the festive season to discourage anyone thinking about it. The best advice is don't risk it, don't drink and drive.

PC Leggett also gave the members information on the rules for users of powered wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

Allan asked PC Leggett about the incident at Newington School where a pupil was injured by a car. PC Leggett advised the meeting the incident was investigated and highlighted the dangers of parents parking outside the school to drop off and pick up pupils.

Allan Weild thanked PC Leggett for the report.



Empowerment Act – Asset Transfer

Allan Weild advised the meeting he had attended the AGM at Annan Athletic and at the meeting information was given that the club intended applying for an Asset Transfer of the Common Good land at Galabank to Annan Athletic through the Empowerment Act . Allan asked at the meeting what would be the benefit to Annan Athletic of this move. He was advised the Club wanted to get out of a Service Level Agreement with the Council to enable them to access grants. The club had recorded losses of £97,000

A long discussion took place and members were very disappointed to hear that although the Community Council had alerted the Council two years ago to the fact that Annan Athletic and other Common Good Tenants were not paying rent the club were told they would start with a clean sheet and start paying rent this month, 14 years into a 25year lease. This situation angered the meeting as the excuse was that no invoices were sent by the Council. However it was pointed out that when you sign a lease it is the tenant's responsibility to ensure this is paid although the Council should have picked up on this many years ago. There was further anger as it was reported the Club charge Annan FC a substantial amount of money to rent their facilities for training, when they have been sitting rent free for many years and they now want to try to get ownership of a Common Good asset from the community of Annan.

The meeting was advised there had not yet been a formal application for Asset Transfer. A decision was taken to keep a watching brief on this situation to ensure the whole community of Annan are kept informed and asked that the Ward Officer keep the Community Council informed. There were no Councillors from Dumfries and Galloway Council in attendance at the meeting to comment on the situation.

Treasurers Report: The treasurer reported the following balances: - Web account £1386.42 General account £7,323.44. Including ring fenced money for Jubilee Gardens. There are still some outstanding expenses for the Battle's over event. Rhona will provide a breakdown of our accounts next month.

Correspondence

Marion advised that correspondence had been received from Ashleigh Building who is undertaking the work on the old Carrs facility. We have been advised that there will be essential work carried out on the High Street and Port street commencing 14th January to connect the sewerage and storm water system to the existing main sewer within the High Street..

Marion advised the meeting a representative from the Energy Agency has asked to come to our next meeting the advise us of an external wall insulation project in Annan/Newbie area they are managing on behalf of the Council.

Joyce advised correspondence had been received from Oliver Mundel MSP thanking the Community Council for inviting him to the Battle's Over event.

Councillors Report

No reports.



Jaime Nicholson Ward Officer:

Jaime asked if she could have the results on the budget consultation undertaken on Annan Online to enable her to feed back.

Members Report

Allan Weild: Allan attended the Federation meeting where Graham Allison from Dumfries and Galloway Council was in attendance. He advised members we should not use the CCES system to report issues but use "Report IT" instead. This site is found on the Councils WEB site. Allan advised the outcome of the consultation on the Tree at the Fish Cross done on Annan online was that most replies were in favour of keeping the tree but with the caveat that work is carried out soon to make the surrounding area safe by either building a small wall round it or seating was also suggested.

Joyce Wylie: Joyce confirmed the seat at Annan had been taken away by the Council for maintenance. Joyce also advised she had correspondence from Don Barty regarding comments from Alan Kay, our Regeneration representative regarding the lack events in Annan. Allan Weild spoke to Mr Barty and advised he was talking about festivals and markets. Joyce also asked if she could now remove the wreaths from the monument. This was agreed.

Walter Hunt: Walter advised he had now finished the flower tubs at the station.

Mark Sindall: Nothing

Alan Kay: Alan asked Jaimie Nicholson if there is a register of Common Good land as per the requirement of the Scottish Government. Jaimie advised there is a list on the Council's WEB site. Alan also advised that Annan Online needs updating. It was agreed to ask Saskia when she is sending out renewal letters to customers advertising on the site she asks them to update their information and we will update our information too.

Rhona McCarton: Rhona gave the results of the Window dressing competition as follows: 1st Flowers by Joan, 2nd John Smith Electrical and 3rd LJ Residential. Marion asked if there are changes to arrangements for events that everyone involved are advised to avoid inconvenience.

Marion Stewart: Advised she had cancelled all of the meetings booked at the Town Hall up to April 2019

AOCB there was no other business

Allan thanked Rhona and Marion for bringing along sandwiches and shortbread and wished everyone a Merry Christmas

The meeting closed at 8,40pm

Date and Time of Next meeting. 14th January 2019 at the Fire Station