Whitehills & District Community Council Minutes of the meeting Thursday 15th December 2016

Present: Ross Balharry (Chairman), Robert Mackie, Anne Balharry, Alistair Wiseman, Stuart Ironside, Duncan Leece, Chas Findlay, Bill Bain, Alan Stewart, Mick Moloney

Also attending: Cllr lain Taylor, Chris Cowie.

Apologies: Mattie Verster, Cllr Michael Roy, Cllr John Cox

Minutes of the meeting 17th November 2016, were approved as correct, proposed by Stuart and seconded by Bill.

Matters Arising:

Website development is well advanced and all are encouraged to take a look at the new site. Mick suggested we consider a sales/wants area.

Police Report: Nil

Treasurer's Report: Anne distributed copies of the monthly accounts, detailing expenditure totalling £850.00 since the last meeting, against an income of £551.00. Main items were cost of Christmas gifts for the hard-working volunteers who clean the public toilets, and a welcomed donation of £500 from Earl of Seafield. Bank balances stood at £4054.45 in the working current account, and £31,581.08 in the gifts/projects account.

Whitehills/Ladysbridge Pathway: The contractor, Colin Smith, is well underway with construction and work seems to be on schedule, and of a good standard. Duncan confirmed that, upon completion, an opening ceremony would be held and Whitehills School would be invited to take part.

Terms of Establishment of Community Councils: Ross confirmed that there was no further update on this exercise. It linked to an issue re the suitability of our constitution in view of the number and scale of activities and facilities we now take on as jobs, and he and Duncan had discussed this with Margaret-Jane Cardno, who would get back to us in due course.

On a linked subject, Ross and Duncan confirmed that we would now keep a monthly record of repair and maintenance activities, and we will document the inspections we all undertake of community facilities such as paths. This would become a monthly agenda item.

Primary School MUGA: Ross relayed messages from Jan Emery and Elaine McGowan that the planning for the new Multi-Use Games Area is well underway, with prices being sought from contractors. Potential completion could be Easter/early summer, but an accurate date was not yet possible.

Planning Applications: Four were discussed and noted, but none were felt to require further comment.

Correspondence: Ross and Duncan had been part of discussion re minor alterations to the RAF Banff Memorial, and a satisfactory/amicable compromise reached with Council's Roads Dept..

AOCB: All were delighted to note that excellent new sound and lighting equipment for Whitehills School had been purchased using money donated some while ago to the school by the late George Lovie.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 19th January 6.30pm at Whitehills Public Library.