

Whitehills & District Community Council
Minutes of the monthly meeting held Thursday 18 May 2017
at 6.30pm in Whitehills Public Library

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

Also attending: Cllr John Cox, Cllr Mike Roy, Cllr Dr Glen Reynolds, Jan Emery as well as residents of Ladysbridge David Richard-Jones and Gary MacBeath.

Ross welcomed everyone to the meeting and congratulated the Councillors on their re-election and a special welcome to the new Cllr Reynolds. Great to have a full house in attendance.

Police Report:

PC Mildred Robertson (0508) and PC Rastislav Zubaj (0715) gave a report on all the activity in the area. The committee is very thankful that there is little or no crime in Whitehills. The police have Operation Cedar in action this year to reduce poor driving standards and motorcycle speeding. The Police were thanked for their continued good work.

(The public is reminded to report anything suspicious to the Police by phoning 101 or Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 or sending an email to the Community Policing Team (CPT) locally at BanffDistrictCPT@Scotland.ppn.police.uk.)

Minutes of the meeting 20th April 2017 were approved as correct, proposed by Stuart and seconded by Bill.

Matters Arising:

- **Whitehills Public Toilets Team**
Adverts have been put out for a few more helpers. One person has shown interest.
- **Whitehills/Ladysbridge Pathway sign off**
This is being done month by month.
- **Whitehills Welcome Banner** Thanks to those who helped to put it up. It looks nice for the summer.

Treasurer's Report:

Anne distributed copies of the monthly accounts. The bank has delayed three weeks in depositing the term deposit but it is still working at 0.8% interest per year.

This leaves the balance in the working account at £4757.56, the Windfarm Community Fund balance stands at £49795.14 and the Gift Account remains the same at £31581.08.

There being no queries, Anne was thanked for all her work.

Planning Applications:

Duncan explained that he is tasked by CC to trawl through planning applications to make sure official objections are being considered and that there is nothing contentious. Residents of Ladysbridge, David Richard-Jones and Gary MacBeath, were given the floor to explain their situation which they did thoroughly. (As this is a contentious issue, the Councillors left the room during their presentation.) Duncan said he had spoken to Stuart Newlands about the issue at Ladysbridge and it was encouraging that Stuart knew all about it and all the information including the two excellent letters written by David and Gary explaining their objections. It was suggested that there have been no more objections due to other residents being unaware of the situation. As this is such a contentious matter it will probably go to the Ward 1 Committee.

Ross thanked both for their clear presentation and insight to their situation. David and Gary thanked the meeting for the time to express their situation and left the meeting.

Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils - The project has been put back 42 days. This process now should produce a new document that is satisfactory to all. Yesterday's meeting was poorly attended.

Duncan and Ross are meeting with Margaret Jane tomorrow to find a definitive answer about what happens to funds gifted to Whitehills specifically should the CC have to close as there are terms and conditions about all monies given.

Amendment to constitution.

The Scheme of Establishment for Community Councils exercise has been discussed at length at our meetings over the past months, including that we would like to confirm that we wish our complement to be 10 for the whole C.C. area. In light of the new process, the meeting agrees that Ross please write to make the following amendments to our constitution:

"That our Constitution be amended as follows:

Item 3 (ii) - The community areas including Whitehills Area, Boyndie & District Area and Ladysbridge Village Area shall be represented by 10 (ten) Community Councillors.

Item 5 (a) - The community council shall meet 10 (ten) times throughout the year on the third Thursday of every month other than July and August, with our Annual General Meeting in May."

These motions to be presented to Margaret-Jane for her approval and confirmation thereafter. We have also noted the change in the Admin Grant for next year.

Bon Ami Tournament Sat. 20th May – presentation of strips for Whitehills Primary

Ross and Anne attended the formal presentation of the strips to the team last Friday. Photos were taken. The team are wished all the best for the Bon Ami Tournament this Saturday which is held annually in memory of a fishing boat that was lost at sea in 1985.

Aberdeenshire Council - Boyndie War Memorial/ Whitehills CemeteryWall

Ross received confirmation from Alistair Millar, Aberdeenshire Council, that they have approval to move the RAF Memorial stone and that the cemetery wall is to be fixed.

Chas mentioned the need for space in the cemetery as was raised a few years ago. Ross will write to Ken Reagan to ask what space is left at Whitehills Cemetery and what the future plans are.

Correspondence: None

AOCB:

- Alistair and Bill said that the holes in the Coastal road beyond the caravan park have been repaired by Alistair Moore of Crudie. He also asked if the Whitehills Caravan site, a community amenity, could be added to the Whitehills and Boyndie Website. Mattie said anyone was most welcome to send their details and she will gladly add them to the new website.
- Duncan said they would like to put up a play area at Boyndie but it needs to be in keeping with the rest of the garden. He will look into the insurance implications as many people use the outdoor area in the mornings and evenings out of business hours. Ross said the CC will be willing to help from the Windfarm Fund when they have decided what they want to do.
- Bill said many people are using the new footpath and Annie's woods to have a picnic and it would be good to have a shelter. Something to look into.
- The plants for the village, ordered through Alex Kemper, usually come in the second week of June. Bill and helpers will make preparations.
- Jan Emery said that the Multi Functions Activity Area plans are going ahead and it is hoped to be ready in the new school year.
- A reminder there is no meeting in July or August.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 15th June 6.30pm possibly at St Brandon's Centre as discussed at AGM. The WDCC website can be found at www.whitehillsandboyndie.co.uk