

Whitehills& District Community Council
Minutes of the meeting Thursday 21st June 2018

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

Also attending: Cllr Michael Roy, Cllr John Cox and Terry Pickard.

Apologies: Cllr Glen Reynolds and Karen Wiles (Interim) Area Manager Aberdeenshire Council.

Minutes of the meeting 17th May 2018, were approved as correct, proposed by Anne and seconded by Stuart.

Matters Arising:

- Chas said the repairs to the loose steps up the brae behind the harbour have been done.
- Chas has spoken to Mike Duncan regarding tidying up the Bullring with the help of the community service.
- Bill received a message from Alistair Millar apologizing for the delay clearing the stones at the Low Shore drains as he is currently very busy with the resurfacing of roads program.
- On going flooding: Lee Watson held a very good meeting with Stuart Geddes, Terry Pickard, and councillors. Lee sent an email which was passed on to all members giving the latest situation. Work will proceed after the harvest in September. Permission from Seafield Estate is still to be sorted but no problem is foreseen. Terry was happy with the outcome.

Treasurer's Report:

Anne distributed copies of the monthly accounts and detailed the activity since the last meeting. There is a balance of £5115.94 in the working current account. A balance of £31351.30 is in the Gift account and the Wind Farm Account balance remains the same at £72510.77.

Anne has reinvested the full amount of the Term Deposit of £73584 at a fixed interest rate of 0.8% in the Bank of Scotland. It will mature on 24 May 2019.

Anne was thanked for a good job done.

Planning Applications:

There are no objections to the two applications posted on the website. We have no say about the mast to be erected in Knock Street.

Festive Lights workshop – report & requirements

Robbie asked if our insurance covers the lights as the matter was raised. Ross will check. Cllr John Cox gave an update of the meeting held today. The decision was made that the community councils will not be charged for inspection of the poles, nor for the electricity. Communities are encouraged to use LED lamps in their lights to conserve electricity. The issue of lighting the Christmas Tree was discussed and Cllr John will check.

Robbie said the number 7 light is broken. Ross said he is to please go ahead and order what is needed to repair it.

Robbie was thanked for his help and for staying on top of this matter.

“CommunityAction Plan”/ Whitehills Primary School Wednesday 23rd May - Report on event

The “Community Action Plan” public meeting was very successful and although it was made known to most people, numbers attending were disappointing. There was a good atmosphere and the children also enjoyed being involved. Much information was gathered and Duncan is confident he will be able to draw up a good working document to look at in September. Duncan mentioned some points made from the many ideas and suggestions:

- Many people asked for the completion of the path from the cross roads to Ladysbridge.
- Use some of the old buildings and create some history and places of interest.
- Collaboration meetings between the pupils council, parent teacher council and WDCC.
- Potential entertainment day in the summer.
- An ‘Open doors’ day.
- Speed bumps by the school. Make Forbes Road one way.
- Lots of bits and pieces including bins and chairs.
- Refurbish the footpath from the cemetery to the old railway.

Ross expressed gratitude to Duncan for organizing the whole event.

Police Report:

No report. There has been a good visual presence in the village of the Police which is very pleasing.

Correspondence:

None.

AOCB:

- Thanks to Chas, Bill, Stuart and Derek Dryburgh for planting up the flower tubs in the village and by the harbour.
- Chas said a bench has been disposed of by the harbour if a space is needed in the future.
- The road by the harbour will be closed on 21 July when the Gala is on.
- Cllr Cox said planning permission for the cables to come in Boyndie Bay was passed today.
- Cllr Mike Roy said the road markings in Loch Street have been approved more or less as we suggested. He also said that there is a proposal to close the skip site at the harbour as there is not sufficient separation of rubbish.

There being no further business, Ross thanked everyone and closed the meeting.

Date of Next Meeting – Thursday, 20 September 2018 at 6.30pm
in St Brandon’s Centre, Whitehills.