**Whitehills & District Community Council**

**Minutes– Thursday 15th October 2020**

**Present:**  Duncan Leece (Chairman), Anne Balharry, Chas Findlay, Robert Mackie, Bill Bain, Mick Moloney, Mike Duncan

**In Attendance:** Cllr John Cox, Cllr Mike Roy, Rebecca Ross, Bill Wiseman.

**Apologies:** Alan Stewart, Alistair Wiseman, Cllr Glen Reynolds.

**Adoption of Minutes of 17th September 2020:** Amendment to be made of an incorrect date. Minutes then adopted: proposed by Bill Bain and seconded by Robert Mackie.

**Matters Arising:**

* Ladysbridge Village: we are still awaiting their funding application.

**Co-option of new members: Bill Wiseman and Mike Duncan:** Duncan explained the process of co-option. Mike Duncan was co-opted at the September meeting. The co-option of Bill Wiseman was proposed by Anne Balharry and seconded by Mick Moloney, there were no objections and Bill Wiseman is co-opted to the Community Council.

**Police Report:** Duncan updated on the report he had received from the community policing officer. There are no serious crimes to report within the village. The police do wish to make everyone aware of ‘Con-man’ type crimes and asked that vigilance is given to helping the elderly and vulnerable.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Anneupdated on the activity since the last report. Working Account; payments have been made for Ross’s memorial seat, toilet rolls have been purchased £1200.00 has been taken out for the Community Hub (from the money that the CC holds for them) the working account balance is £6266.30. The Gift Account remains the same as does the Windfarm Account. Anne advised that the deposit account matures in May and she has ‘rolled it over’ for another year.

**Planning issues:** Duncan advised that there is only one relevant planning application: an alteration to a walled garden, no comments or objections were made.

**Update on practical projects listed at September meeting:**

* Chas updated on the three-way partnership for the memorial bench for Ross, which is now on-site.
* Duncan asked for any up-dates on flooding issues as the Council Area Manager was keen for information after the last heavy rains. Bill reported that a lot of water had flowed by the garages in Reidhaven Street, but this was not a new problem in heavy rain, and thankfully no one had heard of any property damage to houses.
* Chas updated on the coastal erosion issue at the Compass Rose, which is becoming progressively worse. Contractor Colin Smith had provided professional advice and a guidance as to cost of work needed. A discussion was held around this and funding issues – *Action CC will follow up on funding avenues and Elected Members will assist where they can.*
* Duncan reported on various conversations he has had regarding the football pitch and its future maintenance, as Aberdeenshire Council had indicated it would be unable to continue cutting the grass FOC past April 2021. Duncan and Peter Dawson from WFC, who lease the ground, had discussed various options and it was agreed the CC would continue to work with WFC and AC to find a long-term sustainable solution. **However**, in conversation with Peter, they had discussed a more pressing issue which was the WFC financial position resulting from inability to raise income during COVID and their efforts to get the club able to re-start operation while meeting COVID rules. *Action - Duncan will speak to Peter again re the financial aspects of their current position and Duncan and Anne were given a mandate to progress a one-off grant funding application to help the club become ready to open.*

**405 Bus service:** Duncan updated on changes to the 405-bus service. *Action – Rebecca will publish the new timetable on the website.*

**Correspondence:**

* Duncan has received an email from Seafeild Estates regarding size and delivery date for the Christmas tree. Robbie stated that it should be 20ft and delivered outside Red Well Court on the 27th of November. *Action – Duncan will email back.*
* Remembrance arrangements: Duncan and Anne updated on their current knowledge of the situation and a discussion was held. Dates will be 8th Nov at the Seafield Street war memorial (time to be confirmed), and 10.45 on 11th Nov at Whitehills Cemetery. Chas reminded everyone that it will need to be checked that the old wreaths are away before the ceremonies. *Action – Anne will contact the piper. Duncan will speak again to Lord Lieutenant re arrangements.*

**AOCB:**

* Bill updated that Seafeild Estates will be sending a digger circa the 26th of October to start the pedestrian ‘safe-havens’ on the Red Well road. .
* Bill also updated that Jill Clark will be cleaning the toilets until the New Year and then the contract will be re-negotiated. Currently Jill is not charging. Thanks, were given to Jill for all her hard work.
* Chas updated on the removal of the ‘Welcome to Whitehills’ banner.
* Mick reported that there is a large amount of water lying on the Boyndie to Whitehills road – Mike said he would report it.
* Rebecca updated that the last two online meetings had been organised by Aberdeenshire Council but from the next meeting she will be doing this.
* Duncan asked Chas to update on the recent award won by the marina – Duncan will write to congratulate that Harbour Commissioners.
* Duncan was congratulated on being awarded a BEM in the Queen’s Birthday Honours list.

**Confirm DONM:**

The next meeting will be held virtually on the 19th of November, joining instructions will be sent out by Rebecca.