**Whitehills & District Community Council**

**Minutes– Thursday 17th February 2022**

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

**In Attendance:** Cllr John Cox, Rebecca Ross, Brian Wilkie, Cllr Mike Roy, Alan Addison, Annette Addison, Ronnie Simpson (Scottish fire and Rescue Service)

**Apologies:** Cllr Glen Reynolds, PC Racheal Davison, Alan Stewart, David West

**Adoption of Minutes of 20th January 2022:** Proposed by Bill Bain – Seconded by Jill Clark

**Matters Arising:**

* Recent weather discussion – Information has been received from the Area Managers office that a questionnaire will be available online to report back. Replies must be made by Sunday 20th of March***. - Action – Rebecca will send out the link***.
* Cemetery gates – Aberdeenshire Council has retained engineers to look at subsidence for a wall at Whitehills St Brandon’s Church cemetery, when this is completed they will look at the condition of the rest of the cemetery including the gates.

**Ronnie Simpson (Scottish fire and Rescue Service):** Ronnie Simpson came to update the CC on the recent change in the law regarding fire alarms which means that every home in Scotland must have interlinked fire alarms. A discussion was held around this. The issue of parking was also raised particularly the amount of room a fire engine needs for access. ***Action – Bill will put a statement on the hub as a reminder to people.***

**Flooding:** Final matters are being clarified between certain parties and a date for the start of the works should be made public shortly.

**Police Report:** Duncan updated on recent activity on behalf of PC Davison.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Anneupdated on the activity since the last report. The balance of the Working Account is £11570.09 (this includes the Hub and Fisherman & Seafarers Memorial Fund money). £15.00 was in the Xmas light collection and £24.50 in the toilet box. A bill of £316.80 has been received for the cleaning of the Redwell. The balance of the Gift Account and Windfarm remains the same.

**Planning issues:** Two applications have been lodged. Ladysbridge Village work – no objections. Retrospective planning for two gazebos at the Seafield Arms – no objections.

**Coastal Path:** Duncan reported that he has been in touch with Alison Simpson regarding a path to the Control Tower at the Drome.

**Funded project update - Ladysbridge:** ongoing

**Harbour Commissioners project:** ongoing

**Correspondence:**

* A reminder about the Queen’s Jubilee events from the 2nd-5th June.
* A local resident has enquired about when and why New Road was re-named Boyne Place, (thought to have been well before WW2?)
* A visitor to the village has offered to pay for a bench to be placed by the Compass Rose. Duncan and Bill are working with the lady regarding costs etc.

**Project updates:**

* Toilets – Duncan updated that Aberdeenshire are undertaking a review of toilet facilities and Angela Keith will keep him updated. Jill reported on the current conditions of the toilets. Anne and Duncan are dealing with the toilet money.
* Plants & Planter’s – Bill updated on the application for perennials for the Green Space Project. There are now 8 volunteers for the gardening group.
* Xmas lights – due to the weather conditions the last few weeks all the lights are not down but the CC are aware of this and it will be done as soon as reasonably practicable.
* Steps – the steps require a lot of work, they are roped off and signs up until Sievwright’s can repair them.
* Other paths – condition report – Bill updated. Dog mess situation remains an issue.

**AOCB:**

* Cllr Cox wished to draw the attention of the Community Council to increasing the capacity of the industrial usage at Inverboyndie to encourage new business start-up.
* A discussion was held regarding the condition of various un-occupied buildings in the village.

**DONM:** The next meeting will be held in person on the 17th of March at the St Brandon Centre, 6.30pm (subject to the Covid-19 situation).