**Whitehills & District Community Council**

**Minutes – Thursday 20th October 2022**

**Present:**  Duncan Leece (Chairman), Anne Balharry, Chas Findlay, Jill Clark, Brian Wilkie,

**In Attendance:** Rebecca Ross, Cllr John Cox, Cllr Stewart Adams, Gordon Donald, David West

**Apologies:** Alan Stewart, Cllr Glen Reynolds, Carol West, Mike Duncan, Billy Gatt, Alison Jenkins, Audrey Cameron

**Adoption of Minutes of 15th September 2022:** Proposed by Anne Balharry – Seconded by Brian Wilkie.

**Matters Arising:**

* Clarity on the responsibilities for grass cutting at the football park is ongoing.
* Duncan contacted the community police officer but as yet no reply has been received this could be due to a change of staffing. Counsellor Cox has supplied an alternative e-mail address.
* Duncan and Brian contacted Paul Macari and have a meeting scheduled for the third of November.
* Monument at Old School Court - Contact has been made with Aberdeenshire Councils ‘Asset Monument Project Officer’ It will be structurally surveyed and put on a maintenance list as soon as possible. Discussions are being held to have an explanatory plaque put on the monument. This could have links to the school bell project, which Chas then updated on the progress.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Anneupdated on the activity since the last report. Poppy wreaths have been purchased. Money's have also been paid for the cleaning of the Redwell and strimming works done. The money from the wind farm account has been paid to the Harbour Commissioners.

**Planning issues:** In future a link will be sent with the agenda to the monthly planning lists. Only one planning application has been lodged this month, alterations, and extension to a dwellinghouse at 2 Thriepland cottages - no comments or objections have been lodged.

**Community Council Forum:** Duncan and Rebecca attended the forum. Aberdeenshire Councils Resilience Officer made a presentation. Brian has also attended Aberdeenshire Councils’ resilience workshops. The outcome of this is that it is felt that WDCC should have a written resilience plan. A full discussion was held around this. Brian is happy to take the lead on this but will require the input and help of the other community counsellors.

**Remembrance arrangements:** Duncan has been in contact with the Lord Lieutenant to confirm arrangements. On the 11th of November the ceremony will be at 10:45 AM (for 11 AM start) at the cemetery. On the 13th of November the ceremony will be at 1:00 PM at the Seafield St memorial. Anne has made arrangements with the piper.

The memorial at the RAF Banff monument is organised by Lord Lieutenant. Duncan also would like to flag up that he has had a meeting with the RAF Banff Association who are keen to have an information board erected at the memorial. A discussion was held around this.

**Ladysbridge update:** Brian updated that there is no further progress with the nursery issue. SSEN - Brian has contacted them to inform them that the pavilion has been held up and therefore the generator cannot be installed yet, he also updated on everything the award contained. A successful training course was held last week on the use of defibrillators, this course had 11 attendees and it is hoped to run another one in four to eight weeks’ time. The course can hold a maximum of 20 people and Brian suggested that this should be put up on the Hub. It was then flagged that a new community notice board will be going up inside the new village shop.

**Correspondence:**

* The next Community Council Forum is being held on the 14th of November.
* Timetable for the new village shop opening is the 3rd of November.
* Alan emailed to say the dog poo bags have been restocked.

**Project updates:**

* Toilets - Jill updated that she is dealing with quotes. A discussion was held regarding the piece of ground behind the toilets, Mikey is dealing with this.
* Xmas lights - Robbie has serviced the lights I made some minor repairs. All forms have been completed and the lights will go up on the 19th of November and taken down on the 7th of January.
* Plants & Planter’s – Duncan updated on behalf of Carol. She has put in the orders for the annuals and perennials under the green space project from Aberdeenshire council. The daffodils are arriving on Monday to be planted in tubs. Duncan expressed the thanks of the community council to Carol and her team for all their hard work.
* Paths etc – condition report. - Alan updated by e-mail that there was nothing new to report.

**Ideas for new projects we can take forward – discussion continued** - the discussion continued around lighting between the caravan park towards the village. Duncan has briefly looked into alternative powered lighting. At the end of this discussion, it was agreed that Duncan will continue his research and we will scope out how many lights may be required to decide if this is a viable project to take forward.

**AOCB:**

* None raised.

**DONM:** November the 17th at the St Brandon Centre.