

MINUTES OF THE DINGWALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN DINGWALL ON MONDAY 13th November 2017

PRESENT: Nigel Greenwood (Chairman) (NG), George Murray (Co-Secretary) (GM), Andrew Foley (Treasurer) (AF), Fred Lees (FL), Jack Shepherd (JS), David Lockett (DL), Brian Simpson (BS), (PJ), Cllr. M. Paterson, Murray MacKay (MM). Mary Foley (MF)

APOLOGIES: Sara-Lynn Thain, Andrew Henderson Cllr. MacKinnon, Cllr. MacLean, Brian Simpson, Peter Jamieson, Cllr. Paterson,

Ron Macauley and Ron Davies from 'the Peffery Way' were present and asked by the Chairman if they would like to talk before the meeting to allow them to leave early. They accepted and gave a progress update. Planning permission had now been granted and they expressed thanks to the Dingwall Community Council for assistance with this. Landowner negotiations were ongoing and 88% had now been secured with a positive outlook on the remaining 12%. They are to raise a survey as they would like to hear from Schools, businesses and the Public. They have received enough funding to start on Phase 1 and the 1st bridge but more funding was required to complete the route. There will be more 'Volunteer days' ahead and the first one would be on 16th Dec meeting at the Strathpeffer station at 9:30am

1.1 POLICE REPORT:

In the absence of Inspector Ogilvie, the Police report was read out by PC John MacLennan. This month's report included some key messages regarding Motoring, dwelling security and current Online/Telephone scams. MM Brought up a 'scam' letter received and asked why the Police could not act to trace these scammers. PC MacLennan confirmed the Police don't have the time but they would pass the information to other departments. DL asked if there was any substance to reports he had seen that current 101 call centres were being oversubscribed. There was no definitive answer other than if 101 do not respond simply call 999

2. MINUTES OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING OF 14TH AUGUST 2017

2.1 Addition to be made of discussion regarding trees in Craig woods

2.2 The minutes were accepted on a motion proposed by JS and seconded by DL.

3. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS:

3.1 None

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

4.1 New Bank of Scotland CC notice board

Ongoing - No further forward with replacement screens. GM to contact Acorn Signs.

BoS notice board - GM had received cheque from AF but when presenting Planning forms to Planning Dept They could not accept a Cheque. It was mentioned that Pat Munro could be asked if they would be willing to erect the sign once planning was acquired

Action: GM and AF to find alternative payment acceptable to HC.

4.2 Hector MacDonald monument

Update - NG has completed report on the monument. As there has been no additional comments regarding the report he will forward onto HC. It was noted that Hugh Gardner in an email had questioned the professional qualifications of the Report authors. JS has ongoing talks with the Fire Brigade regarding evacuation and access to the tower.

Action: NG to e-mail report Hugh Gardiner.

4.3 Ferry point seating

Update - AF and DL reported excellent progress had been made with the 15 new plinth installations. A decision needs to be made regarding the type of fixings to be used for the seating and tables. DL mentioned the possibility of discounted costs due to inconsistencies from the Groundwork contractor and the original workforce plans. The Chairman voiced his Thanks to AF and DL for their efforts overseeing and pushing the project forward. It was agreed to ask Di Agnew if it would be possible to gain help to fund the completion of the project.

4.4 Christmas Lights switch on

MM had talked with Debbie Downie from The DBA and Pamala Mackenzie from Batty's Baps who both said they would not be doing a street fayre this year but would be holding a craft fair inside the Legion on the 2nd December. The Dingwall Fire Brigade Community Group will be holding a Santa's Grotto on 9th December. It was decided to switch on the Xmas street lights on 2nd Dec. as the 9th Dec seemed to be a bit late. MM reported that there was no booking made for the Reindeer this year.

There was a quick discussion about the possibility of getting businesses to sponsor elements of the Xmas lights and Trees but there was no Decision made on this however, Cllr Patterson offered to talk with Di Agnew about a possible donation towards the purchase of Xmas Trees. DL may look into the cost of purchasing 2 trees' similar to the ones he had been supplying in previous years.

4.5 Pefferside Park and pond

Ongoing: *minutes to be confirmed.*

4.6 Canal footbridge

Ongoing: no change, although a MoP did raise the question as to why the bridge had been closed. Cllr Paterson agreed to look into this issue and possibly obtain report for next meeting. The Chairman agreed to have another visual at the bridge.

4.7 MSP Kate Forbes

There was a brief discussion over the invitation of the MSP invite to meeting/s. It was mentioned that Monday evenings would/could be difficult as she had to be in Edinburgh for Tuesdays. It was decided to continue to seek a possible meeting on a separate evening between the MSP and the Community Council.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT:

5.1 DCC General Account

The general account balance is currently standing at £7210.97

Committed spend on Main Account:

£5043 for the Ferry Point Project

£101 towards planning application for BoS Notice Board

Income advised but not received:

£132 Reimbursement from HC for Vinyl Wrap to grey Traffic Light Box

5.2 DCC Christmas Lights Account

The lights account balance remains at £1874.13. no change from last meeting

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

An email had been received from a member of the public asking about the closure and development of the wooded area in Macintyre Place. They believed it was Council land with public access, but it has all been fenced off now. Comments indicated it was not Council Land - GM to enquire

7. A.O.C.B.

8.1 Dingwall Volunteers

Although as previously mentioned the Volunteers would be slowing down operations towards the winter months, DL mentioned that the Cromartie Car Park would be an ongoing project and any offers of seeds or bulbs would be gratefully received. DL's wife, Denise had a meeting with Ingrid Jamieson discussing the Pefferside Park issues including weeds, paths, litter and Bins.

To date £640 had been spent on plants, materials and tools leaving the DV with a balance of £360. DL asked Cllr Patterson if there would be another round of funding available, Cllr Patterson showed a positive reaction.

8.2 Pot Holes

A MoP brought up the issue of dangerous pot holes on Tulloch Street all the way down towards Peters Bridge. They have reported the issue to Ross House but had no response.

8.3 Primary School Parking

This subject provided a lively discussion. Suggestions required to find a solution.

9. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 13th November 2017 at 19.00 in Room 11, Dingwall Academy.

10. PLANNING / LICENSING

None