

Minutes of Meeting held on October 31stth 2013 in the Village Hall

Members present Fred Dale Chairman Tony Thompson Deputy Chairmen Sharon Bell Treasurer Jacky Taylor Secretary Sylvia Harper Jim Bell Marion Bell Margaret Currie John Graham Richard Mann Pc John Cowan. Also present John Howell D&G Council service manager network strategy and two members of the public.

Apologies from Tom Halliday George Muirhead Stephen Thompson D&G Council and Peter Diggle D&G Council.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Area Committees are being proposed to administer future Windfarm monies for the relevant local communities. Holywood have confirmed grant towards Play area equipment and the Gazebo has now been ordered. Leader funding application is now in the final stages and will be decided in early December 2013.

Proposer and Seconder

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as true and correct by Richard Mann and seconded by Jim Bell.

Police Report

A report of poachers at Johnstonecleugh Farm on 1/10/13 resulted in a police attendance but no trace of persons or vehicles was found. On 28/9/13 Annandale Water Services reported 14 vehicles and caravans parked on their land without permission. Police attended and referred to social work and council gypsy traveller liaison officer. Advice was given to the landowner. The group moved on to Lockerbie on 30/9/13 and then out of the local area. The Ready for winter campaign runs from 21/10/13 until 24/11/13 to ensure home owners, businesses, drivers and vehicles are prepared for winter. This included community resilience preparation and other partners such as the Red Cross

Councillors Report

There being no councillor in attendance the councillor's report was read out by Fred Dale. The new waste collection service will commence in the local area in 2015, a representative from D&G Council will be making a presentation on the new service at the Community Council meeting in September 2014. The proposed closure of the Village Hall has been deferred until November 2014. The owners of the Hall, Annandale Estates will be having a meeting with D&G Council on 15/11/13 to discuss what will happen if the Lottery application is unsuccessful. The lease cannot be offered for renewal to any other party as the Hall is not considered to be in a suitable condition. If the Lottery application is successful D&G Council have generously agreed to provide footpath and pavement surfacing up to the value of £25K for the new Centre. There was a question from a member of the public querying why the Community Council could not get funding to repair the Hall. As the Hall is privately owned the Community Council are not eligible to apply for funding.

Proposed re positioning of the Bus Stop.

John Howell the service manager network strategy from D&G Council presented his report and comments regarding the proposed re positioning of the Bus Stop for the Moffat bound bus service on the B7076. This matter has arisen because of concerns regarding the speed of Lorries and other vehicles on the B7076. After various meetings it was decided that the speed limit in force was sufficient and legal in accordance with the local geography. It was decided to review re positioning of the Moffat bound Bus Stop in conjunction with pedestrian refuge and hatched areas on the road.(see drawing attached) It had been established that 25 children were using the bus service daily to attend school.

There was then some discussion regarding whether Lorries delivering to and from local farms up on the C98a would have enough room to safely manoeuvre onto the B7076. John Howells agreed to check that this would be safe to do. The intention was to leave the existing Bus Stop lay by to be used as a general parking location. This was not well received by local residents due to the previous problems with human waste and litter which had accumulated from the other lay byes together with the noise of refrigerated Lorries parking overnight. It was also pointed out to John Howells that the other lay by was almost directly opposite the present Bus Stop and that there was a lay by a few metres further up the B7076. John Howells stated that if the Bus Stop was moved then he would be agreeable for the existing Bus Stop lay by to be removed if that was what residents wanted. The matter of a more effective Bus Shelter was discussed but it was felt that a new Bus shelter would not be erected in this financial year. It was decided that letters were to be sent out to the local residents adjacent to the proposed new Bus Stop from the Community Council requesting their views. The matter to be discussed in more detail at the AGM in November. John Howells stated that he would revisit the matter of speed limit signs to be displayed on the B7076 .Fred Dale to contact our local D&G Councillors to discuss temporary lighting for the Bus stop.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Bell reported that the Community Council account stands at £1101.02 of which £500 received from the PTA is ring fenced for the Play Area. The hall account stands at £781.62. Sylvia Harper reported that the Fund raising account stands at £10776.47 this money being for the Play Area.

Play Area Funding

Fred Dale reported that £32K has been raised to date for Play Area equipment. Leaving £10K+ still to be raised. .Holywood Trust will release approx. £4K for the Play Area Gazebo prior to the rest of the award to enable us to install the gazebo in time. It has been confirmed to Holywood Trust that when the 5 year maintenance agreement with the manufacturer of the equipment has ended then D&G Council will maintain the equipment.

Upcoming Events

16/11/13 Christmas Craft Fare at Moffat Town Hall

22/11/13 Quiz with a Difference Night

20/12/13 Children's Christmas Party

21/12/13 Seniors Christmas Lunch

22/12/13 Christmas Carol Service

AOB

The Right to Buy has been approved, funding application now being made. Harestanes Windfarm to forward £5K for the required 5% deposit to purchase the land. The land has been valued at £67k with £2K for legal fees. We will also be employing a Business development Manager to take the project forward. Presents are being purchased for the Childrens Christmas Party Samuel Elliot grant to be confirmed for the Seniors Christmas Lunch. Fred Dale to contact D&G Council re potholes at the entrance to Kirkbank Road and also the removal of the hedge and repairs to the pavement at the rear of Maclean Drive.

A resilience meeting was held attended by Tony Thompson and Richard Mann in October where free first aid training was proposed for interested parties. If anyone is interested please contact Richard Mann or Tony Thompson. Richard Mann to cost a resource/supplies box.

John Graham to review a letter received regarding the maintenance and up keep of the War Memorial. John Graham was proposed to lay the wreath on behalf of the Community on 11/11/13. The Earl of Annandale will also be laying a wreath.

Date of next meeting will be the AGM held in the Village Hall on November 28th 2013 at 19.30