

Minutes of Johnstone Community Council meeting held in the Village Hall on February 26th 2015

Members Present

Fred Dale Chairman Tony Thompson Deputy Chairman Sharon Bell Treasurer Sylvia Harper Margaret Currie John Graham Sally Graham, George Muirhead Marion Bell Jim Bell, Richard Mann. Michael Dickie, Stephen Thompson, Peter Diggle D&G Council and PC John Cowan Police Scotland

Apologies from Tom Halliday and Jacky Taylor Secretary

Matter Arising

The lottery have increased grant from £1,052,000 up to £1,081,000 to allow for additional works required for reed bed and firefighting water supply. It has been decided to hold back on spending for soft furnishings until the end of the building phase in order to ensure funds are sufficient. Lord David has pledged Annandale Estates to underwrite the £20,000 from the Harestanes benefit fund which has allowed Clyde match funding to be paid and satisfied the Lottery to commence building project.

Proposer and Seconder

The previous minutes were proposed as true and correct by Tony Thompson and seconded by Marion Bell.

Police Report

PC John Cowen reported on 27/1/15 a property near Beastockrigg had a theft of heating oil and enquires are ongoing. A theft of 30 chainsaws and a trailer was reported from the Barony College but the trailer was recovered near Chipknowe Farm. George Muirhead reported a white car parked outside his house on a few occasions which he believed to be an unmarked police car, PC Cowen did not know of a white police car in the area, George to take car registration if it returns. Sylvia Harper raised concerns about the use of stones at the roadside to prevent vehicles damaging the grass stating that they could damage vehicles, PC Cowen confirmed the practice is legal.

Councillors Report

Stephen Thompson reported he has contacted Nicola Simpson re grass cutting and memorial garden and NS confirmed she would be arranging a meeting in due course. No reply has been received from Education department re fire hydrant. ST has determined that the Lorry Park signs would have been placed jointly by Autolink and the Lorry Park so amendments would need to be pursued by that route.

Speed Petition

All the petitions were passed to Peter Diggle.

Hall Build

Mark from Atkien & Turnbull spoke regarding the position of "Clerk of Works". Atkien & Turnbull are in a position to offer a "Periodic Inspection Service" which would satisfy technical control of the build yet at considerable cost saving. A unanimous vote was taken to extend the contract administration of Atkien & Turnbull to include the "Periodic Inspection Service", Lord David and Julia having conveyed agreement to Fred Dale in advance of the meeting. Mark assured the control thereby given will achieve a quality building.

Lottery Update

A public presentation will be held at Johnstone primary school on Wednesday 4th March at 3.15 pm to meet with the team responsible for building the new centre. Sylvia Harper suggested part of the old hall could be incorporated into the new hall, Fred Dale to investigate. Fred Dale advised that the photos and notices from the old hall will be reused in the new centre. George Muirhead queried need to remove play equipment, Mark advised main contractor will assess limit of safety fence within the Health and Safety plan and it may be possible to leave equipment in place but close the playground when required. Tony Thompson queried if spoil removal had been allowed for, Fred Dale confirmed this was the case. Fred Dale confirmed building could start within next few weeks subject to paperwork being complete.

Treasurers Report

Sharon Bell presented the Hall account as £1161.41 with £139.02 in the cash box and the Community Council account as £5398.11 with £4975.76 ring fenced and £61.53 in the cash box . Sylvia Harper presented the fund raising account as £3079.50. It was noted that the legal bill had not yet been received. 10 advertisers are paying for space in the newsletter and will pay directly to Sharon Bell.

RTB Update

Design and planning permission is now required which will take several weeks so Katie has finished her contract thus allowing the remainder of the funds to be put towards the Planning Permission costs. The trees will need to be planted in temporary positions for this year. The lawyer needs to confirm the Allotment lease is OK which would allow signing new holders and they could prepare ground for the new season.

Upcoming Events

Childrens 10 pin bowling trip, details to be confirmed.

Correspondence

Two letters were received regarding the state around the church and works being undertaken without planning permission. It was stated there was rubbish including a burnt caravan around the church and rubbish had been dumped in the river. A plastic window has also been installed in the church. It was agreed the CC to contact David Sutie of the Planning Department to ascertain their involvement.

AOCB

Cylde benefit fund has agreed to maintain the current distribution system for the next three years before reassessing the system. A second panel representative is required to sit on the panel and Tony Thompson agreed to be the second member. A unanimous vote gave the two panel members authority to make decisions on behalf of JCC. Michael Dickie advised the planning permission for the CC should be at half price. Michael Dickie advised that a fundraising curry and quiz night was being held in Lochmaben on 21st March for Shelby Watson.

Date of Next Meeting

March 26th 2015 @ 19.30 in the Village Hall.