

MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW & FOUNTAINHALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL, AT STOW TOWN HALL ON 4th AUGUST 2014.

Present: Jack Mackenzie (vice Chair); A Riddell, S Jeffries, A McNeilly, Cllr S Aitchison, I Peacock (Acting Secretary)

Apologies: D Muir, J Mushlin, T Miller, Cllr W White, Cllr J Mitchell

Previous minutes approved & signed (JM)

Police Report (WPC Anne McNair attended the meeting):

23/7/14 around midnight, suspicious male reported on farm nr Stow; local area searched but no one found; another report had been filed prior to this, of similar sighting in Heriot area. Please continue to report any suspicious behaviour in the area.

29/7/14: Parking issue involving (?) BAM truck (a large truck, anyway) causing obstruction in Townfoot. SBC are aware of damage to the pavement; BAM have been notified of this. Police will monitor the area.

1/8/14 - report taken from Stow PO. 2 females were trying to exchange large quantity of English bank notes (common scam) - & were refused. Vehicle details were taken by shop staff & enquiries continue.

Road traffic accidents on A7 during the period:

No reported collisions

Wind Farm Panel:

No members of the windfarm panel were at the meeting

Applications to the above were: A McNeilly on behalf of Stow CC; consultation fees (£10,800 + vat); this to be re-applied for with more detail

Erratum: first £1000 from Longpark, and not Toddleburn as previously recorded

Wendy Ball presented application for grant of £250 for the Parish Archive to publish a piece about a young boy evacuated to Stow during WW1. Granted (approved J MacKenzie Seconded A McNeilly).

General Matters:

Robin Macmillan to be asked for notes of work that has been done, so the public can see what the money is being spent on. A Riddell asked (on behalf of a

member of the public) if the Scottish Tourist Board were involved in paying for the works. He had also been asked about the grant to the Pipe Band.

Ina asked about the new BT phone box opposite the Park, and the ground works..... which resemble a sandpit. This will be looked into.

Councillor's Report:

SA has a meeting with BAM in Heriot on Wed 13th.

SA had meeting with John Williams (Chair, Heriot CC) about the A7

Rabbies tourist minibus driver asked if planters were permitted at the Old Bridge... SA offered to ask how often they will stop in Stow (it was suggested a fee could be charged; our opinion was sought on this). Would SBC put up a sign saying No Parking for Lorries?

Robbie from the football committee has asked how much work remains to be done in the Park? The grass was supposed to have grown in April. There has been no 'ponding' due to rain, so far. SEPA has been asked about the delay... SA will look into this.

Craig Blackie will be in Stow on Thu 14th Aug.

SA received an email complaining about the new Stow play area, being just for small children, there being nothing for the over 8's; Sandy replied to the email but received no response. Linda Cornwall has said there are funds available for the equipment suggested, & that SBC would help design suitable play area & negotiate for funds/test & pass for safety etc....

BAM Chief Exec said that the noise from the railway would be too loud, & is aware of the Parent Council concerns about the school: there is talk of sound deadening.

Stow CC are looking into the idea of getting a defibrillator, and where its location might be.

Planning:

H Hunter application: no objections

Ms J Gallard: SA looking into

Correspondence:

SES plan consultation dates – all passed

Borders Network Conservation Groups launch June 2014 report

Letters to the Secretary regarding state of A7 & side roads; Tracey Logan happy to come to meeting, but some fact-finding needs to be done first.

Next meeting 1st September 7.30 pm in Fountainhall town hall