

DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING OF PARISH OF STOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY
NOVEMBER 3rd at 7.30 pm in STOW TOWN HALL

Present: T Miller, J MacKenzie, S Jeffrey, A McNeilly, A Riddell, J Mushlin, C Hendry, Cllr S Aitchison,
D Brown (member of the public)

Apologies: D Muir, Cllr J Mitchell, Cllr B White

Alterations to draft minutes were made (grant for Patient Transport Scheme & correction to
endowment schemes offered by renewables companies)

The minutes were then approved by A McNeilly, seconded by S Jeffrey

Matters Arising:

Cllr Aitchison stated that he was waiting for a price for streetlights in Fountainhall. The pedestrian
access to Fountainhall had been meant to be via the old road. He & Philippa Gilhooley have visited
the new footpath following objections by Fountainhall residents, and for all this week (first week in
Nov) the school bus will come into Fountainhall both before & after school. All the obstructions on
the new footpath have been removed and the footpath should be completed by the end of the
week.

Quoiting Green: John Frater, (SBC) has stated that there is no reason why there should not be
parking here. However, this is a matter for the Parish Trust.

Old Bridge Wall: SBC have no objections to works being done to this; the DLO have quoted £11,300
for these, but a second quote is needed. Potentially there could be a small grant of £5k from SBC
towards them.

The hedge at the old school has been done.

Cllr Aitchison is hosting a broadband presentation in Stow Town Hall (29th Nov)

Stow school is in the middle of a building site owing to the railway works, but the contractors are
working around the school day.

On 25th Nov the railway will have tracks laid through Stow (on 11th Nov they will be laid thro Heriot).

Old Graveyard: this is in a bad state. The Secretary will write to Philip Barr to inquire about the
issuing of a contract to deal with this

Speeding in Fountainhall: convoys of lorries go past the school during school hours as they can't go
through Stow. Cllr Aitchison will look into this

The Stow Playground Group have plans for improving the facilities in the playground. The Park has
now 'healed' sufficiently for football to recommence. However, the Football Club do not want to
start playing here again until after the new year.

Floodbanks: SEPA have said that sediment can be removed for 10m each side of Station Bridge, without a licence. We can take the top off the gravel bank at Springbank, but should speak to the Tweed Commission & SNH. Work should not be carried out during nesting season, or during the spring or autumn salmon runs. SEPA does not want us to go near the river banks, and would like us to consult a hydrologist; they will find one.

The original flood defence scheme is still on the list to be carried out....(though this is unlikely to happen in the near future); This scheme will bring about immediate measures while we wait for a complete overhaul; it is the first part of a larger flood defence scheme, which will be necessary in the future. All present agreed to accept the project as it stands.

It was mentioned that Still haugh in Fountainhall still has a flooding problem. Since SBC installed the culvert, Stillhaugh has been regarded from 1 in 200 years to 1 in 25 years.

Windfarm Panel: the next meeting will be on the 2nd Dec.

Community Foundation have notified the Windfarm Panel of a funding stream called Digital Scotland Challenge.

General Matters:

HART have offered Stow a reconditioned defibrillator. The Secretary will contact them regarding how we could ensure security if this was installed, and to find out what other villages/communities have done about this.

Community Website – there have been no Minutes posted since May, and no reply when people have tried to post information; Alan & Diana have contacted Marcus who has come up with a quote of £250 p.a to run the website.

The Stow Community noticeboard needs a refurbishment

The initiative to install speed monitoring equipment has stalled, as SBC do not consider it effective. Cllr Aitchison will look into costing it – Clovenfords has a scheme that we could copy.

W Ball notified Alan McNeilly that money has been raised elsewhere for printing an account of life in Stow Parish during WW2 . As we had granted £250 from the Microgrants fund for this, she asked that the this money be used to put the catalogue online. This was agreed.

A McNeilly reported that he had emailed Robert Little from Network Rail (no response as yet). There is a probability that the Old Station House will be the Waverley Museum, part of a consortium that also includes the Mining Museum, with a lease obtained from Network Rail. More information will be sought as to how this will be funded.

The new road into Fountainhall from the A7 has just been opened. There is a question as to whether it is wide enough: the junction is insufficiently wide to allow a farm vehicle and car to pass each other, and the junction travelling north is very tight; plus there is no safety 'run-off'.

Masts have been noticed at Fountainhall and at Bow – with no correspondence from Planning regarding them. J Hepton will be asked about this.

Stow Parish Trust: It was suggested that a general meeting be held between members of the CC and the Parish Trust.

Correspondence:

1 'Connections'

2 Muircleugh Windfarm Planning Application

3 Stow Parish Archive

4 Free Energy Scotland

The next meeting will be on Monday 1st December in Stow at 7.30 pm

AGENDA FOR MEETING OF PARISH OF STOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL, TO BE HELD ON MONDAY
DECEMBER 1st at 7.30 pm in STOW TOWN HALL

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Police Report
4. Windfarm Panel
5. General Matters
6. Councillors' Reports
7. Planning
8. Correspondence
9. AOCB