

Draft minutes of meeting of Parish of Stow Community Council held on Monday 4th November 2019 at 7.30pm in Stow Town Hall

Those present: S.Jeffrey, J. MacKenzie, N. Hodgson, J.Mushlin C.Hendry, R.Murphy, T.Millar

Cllr Anderson, one member of the public

Apologies: A.Riddell, A. McNeilly, Cllr Aitchison, Cllr Scott

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Proposed : J. MacKenzie.Secoded: T.Millar

Police Report : This was noted by members of the Community Council, who welcomed the fact that there was only one incident in the area during the last month, with road traffic continuing to be the most obvious difficulty in the area. The more detail we can get of any type of road traffic incident in the area, the more we can achieve in our constant attempts to make the A7 safer for everyone.

General matters

The speed signs can proceed in Stow. However clarity is needed that they are definitely covered in the community council insurance policy. N. Hodgson will email A.McNeilly to verify the insurance situation. It is unclear whether VAT is included in the price of speed signs. SBC will put up poles which will rotate at each of the 3 locations. The suggested locations were approved, although there was a suggestion that the sign at the north end of the village should be further north. It will cost £396 + VAT to move a sign between locations. It was agreed to submit a windfarm application for the cost of purchasing 2 signs and running costs of 10 moves over a period of 2 years. This will amount to £15000. SBC require that the community council sign a statement that we will maintain these signs and remove them if necessary. N.Hodgson and J. Mushlin will do the funding application. Eddleston are doing research into successful rural schemes to reduce speed. Philippa Gilhooley , SBC, will put Stow forward for this.

S. Jeffrey reported back on the meeting for community councillors at the Scottish Parliament, hosted by MSP Christine Grahame

14 community councillors were present. 7 from Newtongrange. Stow Community Council are extremely fortunate to have the presence of Councillors at our meetings, who take matters up for us and show an interest in our community. The main issues raised seemed to be grasscutting, graveyards, white lines, stopping planting in towns. The Secretary will send Christine Grahame a copy of the report of matters discussed at our meeting with her in Stow during the summer.

Microgrants :

Community Newsletter - £61.18 for gusset envelopes

Leonie Cairns - £100 hall hire and refreshments for cost of community engagement into bike track

Fountainhall Parents Council: £290.50 for annual pantomime tickets .

£95 for Charanga music

Community Garden : £300 to buy bark

Walks – A grant has been received from SBC. Christine Grahame might be able to help with funding.

A walk is being planned to Lugate but planting is being done, so that is for the future.

An idea that has been raised is for the Camera Club to do photography for the leaflet.

Defibrillator- The defibrillator at Craighend Road is up and running. The defibrillator at Stow Town Hall has a new battery ,which will last for a couple of years. There will be 2 sessions of defibrillator training in Stow in January. A session in Fountainhall was also requested.

C.Hendry received an email in response to her email about the white lining on the A7. SBC are only going to do white lines in the centre of the road. White lines are also needed at the edge. The question was also raised regarding the money that was paid for damage to the road during the construction of the railway. What happened to that? Members felt very dissatisfied with the response and C.Hendry will send another email. The community council would also like to invite the person in charge of white lining at SBC to attend a community council meeting to discuss the issue with us.

It was noted that some street lights are not working. There are the usual problems with drainage. The Lauder Road was closed for 3 days but only the section at the top seems to have been done.

The roof repair at Stow Town Hall has not worked. The plaster at the top is still damp. A section of the gutter has not been done.

Further details have been sent regarding the proposed wind farm at Wull Muir, Heriot. It was agreed that J.Mushlin will make these plans available for comment by residents in Fountainhall. She will rent Fountainhall Village Hall for 2 hours on one evening in November and publicise the consultation. The Community Council will pay the costs of the rental. She will respond to Planning according to views expressed in Fountainhall.

The Chair of Moorfoot Community Council has contacted the Secretary regarding the shared ownership scheme proposed by the developers, Energiekontor for the Wull Muir wind farm. Members of Stow Community Council know nothing about this scheme. The Secretary has been asked to invite him to the next Community Council meeting .

THE NEXT MEETING IS ON MONDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.30PM IN STOW TOWN HALL

ALL WELCOME

AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES
- 2 MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING
- 3 POLICE REPORT
- 4 GENERAL MATTERS
- 5 TREASURER'S REPORT
- 6 COUNCILLORS' REPORT
- 7 PLANNING
- 8 CORRESPONDENCE
- 9 AOCB

