

Draft minutes of Parish of Stow Community Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019 at 7.30pm in Stow Town Hall

Those present: C. Hendry, S. Jeffrey, A. McNeilly, T. Millar, J. MacKenzie, A. Riddell, P. Porter, J. Mushlin, Cllr Scott, Cllr Anderson. L. Cairns, A. Carlino

Apologies : Cllr Aitchison

The minutes were proposed by A. Riddell, seconded by T. Millar

N. Hodgson was asked to check with the insurers whether the proposed speed signs would be covered by the community council policy.

Leonie Cairns spoke about the proposed pump track in Stow. A pump track is a bike track in a loop with bumps so that it is possible to go round the track without pedalling.

There has been a community survey which was 85% positive. It will be safe to access by foot and bike. There has been an options appraisal with 5 options. 2 sites were considered the most viable. Site 1 is the land next to the Bowling Club and site 5 is adjacent to Mill Lade.

The school is currently using site 1 as an outdoor space but have agreed to allow community consultation regarding community use of it. Site 5 is a flood site. Both sites are on a flood plain but it is possible to build a pump track on a flood plain. It will be built to take this into account. It was pointed out that access to the Mill Lade is needed so that it can be cleaned out.

There will be a community consultation on December 13<sup>th</sup> regarding the pump track as a permanent feature in Stow. Ms Cairns will be consulting the Bowling Club regarding the plans.

It will have an asphalt surface. Not concrete or timber. Drainage will be in the ground.

It is estimated that a track will cost £50,000. Potential funding sources include the windfarm and the Big Lottery.

It is planned to constitute a club and have coaching qualifications.

A. Carlino has been given a number of small trees which the school could not use. The Parish Trust agreed that they could be planted on the Quoiting Green. They have been planted around the edges. Concern was expressed that this will make it impossible for machines to clear the Gala Water. It was agreed that some can be moved to keep access to the Gala Water.

L. Cairns and A. Carlino left the meeting.

C. Hendry received an email listing capital works on roads rather than works done as a result of railway damage. Members were not satisfied with the response and will ask a Council Official to come to a meeting of the Community Council. Cllr Scott will arrange this. White lines continue to be a major concern. Every trunk road has lines on the edge of the road. The A7 needs lines on the edges.

Police Report – The police report was noted with no issues needing to be fed back.

The windfarm application for funding for speed indicator signs by the Community Council was approved. The application will be for 2 signs with 3 poles. It will need to be VAT inclusive. Cllr Anderson will check whether they are purchased without VAT by BBC.

The application for funding for the Layby has been submitted.

Drainage is urgently needed on the back road at Watherstone, especially in view of the recent icy conditions.

The top of Fleming Place has a drainage problem with water flowing down the street when it rains. It has been a sheet of ice recently.

The Twenty Plenty sign at Fountainhall needs remounted. There is also a streetlight demolished.

Signage for Earlston Road does not exist. Cllr Anderson will ask for one.

There is a Pole with no sign at Station Road.

Members wished to congratulate all the people who produced the flower displays in Stow on the beautiful flowers this year.

Maintenance in Stow Town Hall leaves a great deal to be desired. There is a boarded up window in the cloakroom. Plaster is hanging off the top of the back stairs. The downstairs windows have been stripped. Three have been painted but not the fourth. The ivy needs cleared. Cllr Scott will take this up.

Planning Application : Erection of 8 wind turbines. Land North of Carcant Windfarm, Heriot.

The Secretary made the plans available to the public in Fountainhall Village Hall, as agreed at the previous meeting. Objections were raised and the Secretary will put in a response on behalf of Stow Community Council. In future it was agreed to put in objections jointly with Heriot Community Council.

Councillor Scott informed members about the Audit and Scrutiny Committee. He also raised the situation regarding playparks.

Councillor Anderson has been trying to get white lines reinstated on Earlston Road . Also salt on Earlston Road. He is continuing to try to resolve the Hill Terrace situation which has been ongoing for 20 years.

#### Treasurer's Report

The treasurer has transferred £150 to Stow Park , which is the money remaining for Ian Anderson's memorial bench. The bench has been placed in Stow Park by Stow Park Committee, with an inscription to Ian Anderson.

In the past year the Community Council have raised £29,676.38 in grants. There are 11 restricted grants.

The annual community council grant is £630.

There is currently £457.38 in unrestricted funds

EDF microgrants – 1155

319.09 remaining

SSE microgrants – 923.54

664.00 remaining

The application for Highland Dancing was mentioned. A. McNeilly will find out the situation.

The Newsletter application should be made in April.

S. Jeffrey will try to find out if it is possible to have a Christmas tree next to the Church next year.

The dates for meetings in 2020 were discussed. It was decided not to have a meeting in July.

The next meeting of Parish of Stow Community Council will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2020 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' REPORTS
- 7 PLANNING
- 8 CORRESPONDENCE
- 9 AOCB