

MINUTES OF MEETING OF TROON COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY 2ND APRIL 2013

SEDERUNT:

TCC: H Duff, D Barr, E Williamson, A Cameron, K Workman, M Love, R Pollock, D Cram, M McIndoe, E McNish, T McNish, F Carson, F MacDonald, V Thornhill

POLICE SCOTLAND: PC B Downie

MUIRHEAD TENANTS AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION: T McCormack

SAC: Cllr P Convery, Cllr N McFarlane

APOLOGIES: Cllr W McIntosh, D Graham (TCC), K Beckwith (YF), T Cameron (TCC)

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

R Pollock opened the meeting by welcoming existing and new members to the Meeting and asked that each member introduced themselves. In addition he requested that those members present complete their contact details on the circulating sheet.

POLICE REPORT

PC Downie stressed that the amalgamation of the former 8 Scottish police forces into the new Police Service of Scotland, would have little impact on the way local services were delivered. He then gave a brief overview of the command structure of the new force and how it would operate. PC Downie issued an information leaflet explaining how to contact the Police with a phone no.(101) for non-emergency situations in addition to the customary emergency phone no. (999). A comparison of last year's crime figures for the same period this year showed these remain fairly similar, with 53 crime reports of which 26 have been detected, the most serious being a housebreaking at Balcomie Crescent. He advised that whilst there had been no detections in relation to the problem of vandalism at Muirhead Primary Schools increased patrolling was in operation, and that CCTV has now been installed. This was confirmed by MTRA members in attendance at the meeting. In response to an issue raised by A Cameron with regard to an accident at St Patrick's Primary, PC Downie advised that the initial cause appeared to be driver error.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

These were adopted as correct by A Cameron, and this was seconded by H Duff.

MATTERS ARISING

Destruction of Bollards at Merrick Avenue – M Love stated the an e-mail had been received from K Braidwood, SAC, confirming that the necessary repairs had been carried out.

Public Banners, Identifications Badges, HV Bibs, TCC Logo – TCC are still awaiting a reply from SAC granting permission to display a banner on the railings of the Town Hall intimating meetings of the Community Council. Both Cllr Convery & Cllr McFarlane suggested contacting Mr W Pollock, SAC on this issue, in spite of a letter having previously been sent to the then CEO in January. M Love was asked to write to Mr W Pollock requesting permission. **Identification Badges** are now well underway thanks to A Cameron; additionally thanks are due to R Pollock for the procurement of **10 high visibility bibs**, and Cllr N McFarlane undertook to email the proposed Logo to M Love for inclusion as a letterhead on future correspondence from Troon Community Council.

Website – Outbox 4 Web Design – R Pollock spoke of the excellent meeting held between he, D Graham and the web design company, in relation to the ongoing development of a TCC website.

Troon Walks – D Graham had obtained and passed on to R Pollock some relevant photos on disc.

Road Surface at Cemetery – Cllr Convery confirmed that this was in hand.

Repairs at Ramsay Court – It was confirmed that residents had received notice that the necessary repairs were to be carried out the following day (3rd April).

Toilet Block – no further information meantime

YOUTH FORUM REPORT – None available

CORRESPONDENCE

Outgoing –

Letters to Mr K Braidwood (SAC) on the following

- responsibility of Scottish Water with regard to making good any repairs required to roads;
- the poor condition of signage at Troon Cross;
- repairs to bollards at Merrick Avenue, Muirhead;
- written notification of the 28th Troon Tortoise 10k Race route.

Letter to Mr W Pollock requesting list of TCC members names and addresses

Incoming –

Reply from E Howat (SAC) re Access Pathway from Muirhead to Marr College.

Ms Howatt advised that as the path was not a Roads Authority formal adopted pedestrian route and that the recently installed strip lighting had been an SPT funded project the inclusion of additional lighting was not considered appropriate.

Following discussion it was agreed to await the outcome of the on-going Community Safety Audit. R Pollock stressed the necessity for local residents to write individually to express their concerns. In the short term, E Williamson asked that perhaps thought might be given to looking for a more secure route or the use of torches by those users of the path especially during the hours of darkness.

E-mail reply from K Braidwood (SAC) re

- Scottish Water responsibility for road repairs (confirmation of their involvement in restoration)
- signage at Troon Cross-(to be assessed)
- repairs to bollards at Merrick Avenue (having been carried out)
- TCC member D Barr confirmed that she had received telephone confirmation of Troon Tortoises Race Route acceptance.

Reply from W Pollock (SAC) advising that TCC members' details were available to view on SAC website

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Cllr Mc Farlane spoke of the following:

- The situation regarding the availability of grief counselling services which had been highlighted by a particular incident involving a local resident.
- Road safety issues at St Patrick's Primary School which had been highlighted by the most recent accident and the grave concern expressed by the Head Teacher with whom she has been in contact

- Confirmation of a 5 year booking arrangement re accommodation for the Glasgow Taxis Annual Outing

Cllr P Convery spoke of the following:

- The possible serious consequences which could have resulted from the recent accident at St Patrick's P School and advised that a holistic review of the area was to be undertaken by the Head of Service, looking at all issues including signage, road markings, etc.
- The continuing confusion by some drivers over the traffic lights at Jubilee Road.
- The statutory obligation to display notices at Council Car Parks giving the Council the option to impose charges. However he emphasised that there was no intention to start charging for such services at this time.
- The huge challenge to both Council and tenants due to Welfare Reforms and the instances of exemptions.

Following discussion it was felt that there was a general lack of information on the subject, and that the letters issued by the DWP were too complex and needed to be simplified in order to be understandable by all sections of the community. It was noted that assistance could be obtained by affected parties contacting Ayr Housing Aid Centre, the Benefits Agency or the SAC Housing Dept.

TREASURER'S REPORT

D Cram confirmed that funds were in a healthy position and that he has prepared accounts for auditing to be sent to South Ayrshire Council during the course of the coming week

OTHER REPORTS

M McIndoe spoke of having recently attended a Basketball Tournament at the Citadel in which all 5 Troon Primary Schools and Dundonald Primary School took part. Congratulations were extended to all participating pupils in achieving the following: Struthers Primary – Gold; Muirhead Primary – Silver; and Dundonald Primary – Bronze. M McIndoe undertook to report details of this event to M Love in order to convey the congratulations of Troon Community Council to Head of Service (Education) SAC, with regard to the exemplary behaviour of all pupils who proved a credit to themselves, their teachers, and to their schools.

The Glasgow Taxis Outing (19th June) & Mini Fair, Gala Day (23rd June);

H Duff confirmed that all arrangements were well in hand; that stallholders had been contacted; all correspondence had been attended to by the **Activities Committee**; forms for the Odd Objects competition had been distributed; the hospitality arrangements for the Lord Lieutenant, the Provost and others attending the Taxi Parade had been reserved; and that the date of November 17th has been confirmed as Wintertainment 2013.

H Duff voiced her concern re the apparent closure of Cheeky Charlie's (one of the main sponsors of the Glasgow Taxis Outing). It was suggested that following the appointment of a new manager the premises will re-open within the next few weeks. Cllr Convery agreed to investigate and report back to H Duff.

D Barr asked about the possible prospect of housebuilding being carried out at Ottoline Drive/Wilson Avenue, given that the area hosts some protected plant species, viz rare orchids, moss and lichen, together with colonies of bats. It was confirmed that test bores were being carried out re soil engineering, with no further information available re land owners/builders' intentions.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

A Cameron spoke of a banner announcing a function which took place on February 26th still being on display at the Town Hall; of new rent cards and community charge cards being unavailable due to a delay in production and of the poor service being received by their suppliers. Note was also made of lorries still coming through the town in spite of the alternative route, and it was agreed to monitor the situation to see if this was a regular occurrence.

K Workman spoke of a rubbish bin being thrown on to railway property; of containers at the Hosiery Park fencing off the area; of tarmac being dug up.

H Duff spoke of the situation of a dilapidated touring caravan sited at Maple Grove being a vandalism target for youngsters and PC Downie agreed to re-contact the owners.

BMX Park - Cllr Convery advised that SAC were considering developing a BMX Park on an area of waste ground near to the Esplanade, and sought the views of TCC. The proposal was unanimously supported by Community Councillors, with some discussion taking place on possible location.

Archive Display - Mention was made of seeking the return of the silver bust of the Duke of Portland to the Council Chambers, along with other artefacts pertaining to the town and the recovery of photos presently in archives in Ayr.

Ivy Cottage - E Williamson confirmed that the situation at Ivy Cottage was satisfactory.

Muirhead Tenants & Residents Association extended their thanks to H Duff and D Barr for their presence as judges at the recent MTRA Easter Bonnet competition.

CONCLUSION

Chairman R Pollock reminded all members of the impending AGM which will be held on Tuesday May 7th 2013 to be chaired by Councillor N McFarlane. This will be followed by the regular monthly meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING INCLUDING
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 7TH MAY 2013

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