Troon Community Council Meeting

Council Chambers, Town Hall, Troon

Minutes

5th December 2017

**Present**

Helen Duff chair, Douglas Graham Vice Chair, Dawn Barr, Walter Barr, Anne Cameron, Frances Carson, Linda Matheson, Robert Milligan, Amanda Wainwright, Erica Williamson, Kathleen Workman,

In attendance, Peter Convery SAC, Craig Mackay SAC, Robert Pollock SAC, Phillip Saxton SAC, Stephen Houston Ayrshire Post.

**Apologies**

Elizabeth McNish, Nicky Power,

**Approval of previous meetings**

Philip Saxton SAC identified that in his report it should read that for any rent increase there is a consultation of 14 days.

With this amendment the minutes were adopted as correct. Proposed Dawn Barr, Seconded Robert Milligan.

**Matters arising**

Dog training area will not be improved as dog owners have access to the beach all the year round. Comment made that the gates are in a state of disrepair. Peter Convery has examined these and feels these are in good condition.

**Treasurers report**

The Treasurer is not in attendance. Helen Duff stated that the bank balance is healthy. However, detail is required from the treasurer about the category of expenses. Dougie will speak to Brian about this. If anyone wishes further information regarding details and the audit, please contact Paul Scully SAC.

**Councillors report**

Bob Pollock

* Horses on Monkton Road - Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA) have agreed to erect warning notices in due course
* Wilson Avenue - McTaggart and Mickel have agreed to contribute towards resurfacing the road. ARA will have to programme the work but hope to start it in this financial year. It is important to report road defects to the ARA as they actually have a very good response time particularly in relation to priority repairs. People often think that a defect must have been reported, when often it has not been which leads to delays in it being fixed. A member of TCC questioned why when you reported a defect on the ARA website you did not receive an incident number which would allow Councillors to follow it up if the defect was not addressed. Bob agreed to follow this up with ARA.
* The underpass at Dundonald Road is part of an un-adopted footpath which ARA have no responsibility for. However, lighting has previously been installed in similar circumstances and it has been passed to their Lighting Team to conduct a feasibility to see whether lighting could be cost effectively introduced.
* Isles of Pin road - ARA are keen not to widen the road as in their opinion that would only lead to further complaints of speeding and it is classed as a single track road. There are also sufficient arterial routes leading into the town. However, they are reviewing accident statistics on the road to see if any improvements are required.
* Police Scotland have confirmed that they are happy with the quality and operation of the existing town centre CCTV cameras. Paul Scully has also checked and they are all fully functional. Police Scotland have also confirmed that they are not in favour of fixed CCTV cameras as they are of little use. SAC have obtained funding to investigate developing an enhanced mobile CCTV system so it is unlikely that there will be any developments to the existing CCTV systems until the outcome of that work is known.
* Depending on the Scottish Budget later this week, there are likely to be savage cuts in Council services as a result of having to make potential savings in the region of £17 million. All members of the public are encouraged to respond to the consultation on where potential savings might be made, which will start in January 2018. Like the LPD2 consultation process responses from public will be taken into account so it is vitally important that people make their views known.

Craig Mackay

* Budget - no decisions have been made about the cuts reported in the press but there will be some. Consultation will start in January.
* The Marr College Playing fields issue relates specifically to the car park on Dundonald Road not being able to cope with the number of badly parked vehicles, particularly on Saturday mornings. Head of Property and Risk Donald Gillies has accepted that guidelines are not being followed and is looking at how to ensure the Marr College car park is used instead. Marr College gate is now open outwith school hours. This is still an issue for local residents wishing to get into town or to the Railway station.
* Craig attended opening of extension of Marr College. It has been given an award for its design and has extensive rooms for use by the public.
* The Hosiery Park parking issue is when there are matches on at the park. In the absence of a Traffic Regulation Order ARA are unable to assist. Craig has requested that advisory signage be installed in the first instance, in particular to direct visiting teams to the parking area at the bottom of Brown Avenue, and will also look at the possibility of extending this over the site of the former lock-ups.

Philip Saxton

* Hosiery Park is not a police matter unless the cars are causing an obstruction.
* Marr College gate - accessible in every other direction but this one crucial gate is closed. He has requested opening 24 hours.
* Templehill toilets will be leased for 175 years and there will be a considerable amount of money made from this which will go into the Common Good Fund.
* Net at the 16th hole at the Lochgreen golf course has been replaced by trees; once grown the net will be removed.
* Shop in disrepair in Portland Street. Philip visited these premises on Saturday and pictures were taken. The situation has been blown out of proportion in the media. A pipe is broken and will be repaired in the next couple of weeks preventing water ingress. The owner has been contacted and will contribute to further work if needed.
* Application for Care Home in Temple Hill. Phil is supportive of this application. Planning however has knocked this back as it is meant to be an industrial area and also they received two objections from local residents. Duke Road is industrial but Templehill is not. There is a great need for Care Home beds. Bob Pollock added that architects have now met the planning committee and this will be reviewed.

Peter Convery

* Paddling pool on the sea front will be filled in possibly by aggregate from the clearance of Prestwick Beach. There have been lots of suggestions for its use and it would be good to use it for something the people of Troon wish.
* Lots of other suggestions have been made to improve the appearance of the prom. Fountain may be restarted. Palm trees could be memorial trees like the memorial benches behind the paddling pool. Rickshaws maybe. Beach huts. Many suggestions being put forward. Where the finances come from has yet to be determined.
* Damage to road down at the harbour is giving concern. Peter is consulting with them on this and the company has patched some bad areas.

Questions for councillors.

Dawn Barr suggest converting green area next to cemetery into parking spaces for the playing fields. Also enquired whether Craig Mackay had approached the Co-op regarding parking. No response as yet.

Wilson Ave - somebody has put lights on a tree on the communal grass verge. It was reported to council who came out immediately to check the lights which were considered a fire hazard. Is this not a waste of public money?

Helen Duff - are councillors aware of any plans regarding a shop 13b Church Street looking for planning permission to be a nail bar. Residents above this shop are concerned about the fumes. Is this an area that the TCC should object about? There are many other similar shops for which no objection has been made.

Hosiery Park - double parking is stopping emergency vehicles. Member of the public has suggested that the changing facilities be moved which may relieve the congestion. Alternatively demolish unused garages and create parking. Philip Saxton responded that there are considerable difficulties with any of these suggestions. Bob Pollock reminded everybody that if the cars are preventing residents from exiting their property then this should be reported to the police. Further discussion of the options. No easy solution especially in the light of the likely council cuts.

**Police report**

None

**Youth Report**

None

**Matters arising from previous minutes**

Marr College - Ann asked if there is a plan to have an Open Day for the public to see the new facilities. Craig has asked and this is planned before the summer.

Stagecoach - request for them to attend a TCC meeting. Robert Milligan has spoken to a number of local businesses who are disappointed with the lack of bus services and the effect on their staff who are needing to take taxis to and from work. Robert has taken five letters from these business about their concerns and has received no response. Has also rung but no one is ever available. Robert will speak to the TCC secretary to organise an official letter from TCC to request they attend a future meeting. Ann Cameron who attends the Bus Users group commented that they have had a Stagecoach representative attend the meeting and promised to look into this but there has been no response since.

**Other reports**

Planning report (Dougie Graham).

Dougie has received a letter about the proposal for a Care Home on Templehill and will discuss with Robert Milligan. A query was raised whether the proposed developers have considered the noise and hassle up Templehill on a weekend night.

Civic award

Invitations have been out for this and proposals are to be in for 22 December. TCC will meet at 6.30 on 9th January to decide who should be given the award.

Activities Group

Wintertainment was very successful. Frances Carson asked if TCC should do something for Easter? Music? Easter bonnet parade. Frances will come up with a plan.

Bag packing will be cancelled due to lack of volunteers and TCC councillors will attend with buckets instead. A suggestion was made that something could be put in shops all year round to collect for Christmas Lights. Administration of this may be complicated.

**Any other competent business**

A contribution towards St Meddans fund was agreed.

Another Participatory budgeting event will be held on 10th February with amounts up to £5000. Should TCC put in a bid and if so what for?

No dates are being sent in from local groups for Going Out. Linda Matheson will ask for these via Social Media.

**Next meeting**

9th January 2018 6.30 for discussion of Civic Award, 7pm for TCC meeting.