

**DRAFT MINUTES OF MEETING OF PARISH OF STOW
COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD IN STOW TOWN HALL ON
MONDAY 3RD OCTOBER 2011 AT 7.30PM**

Those present: I. Anderson, G. Saunders, J. Mushlin, D. Muir (Chair), T. Miller, N. Muncaster, A. McNeilly, Cllr S. Aitchison, Cllr F. Lackenby, 1 member of the public

Apologies: I. Peacock, PC John Lennon

Minutes of the previous meeting

These were approved. Proposed by A. McNeilly, seconded by G. Saunders.

Matters Arising

G. Saunders has had another meeting with Mr Young who states that the Council do not wish to discourage overtaking at the Fountainhall straight. They might re-locate 2 existing signs.

It was mentioned that the police have left decommissioned police cars and bikes with officers on the Fountainhall straight which has slowed down traffic. Cllr Aitchison has received an appraisal of what the police do from Inspector Sillitoe which he will circulate.

Bill Elliot of Scottish Water stated that the drain on the road at Townfoot has not been obstructed.

It was agreed that Jonathan Hepton, SBC, would be present at the November meeting to respond to queries we had regarding the railway.

Stow Website

G. Saunders brought an estimate for the new website of £151 set up cost and £50 to transfer data. The future costs will be £56 per year. Currently we pay £216 per year. A second estimate is needed to take the matter forward. Cllr Aitchison will get one. All societies can get their own user name and input their information. This will be vetted. This will be done by agreement between all members on email.

Blocked Drains

Blocked drains on the hill up to Lauder are continuing to flood, although Craig Blackie and Chris Hardie have been up to see them. Cllr Aitchison will follow this up.

Dog Wardens

Dog wardens have leafleted every house in Fountainhall about dog fouling. They have also been asked to keep an eye on Station Road in Stow for dog fouling.

Poppy Wreath

The poppy wreath has arrived for Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr Aitchison stated that the contract has gone out to add the name of Isabella Oliver of the ATF (during the Second World War) to the War Memorial. This will be done in time for Remembrance Sunday.

Lorries on the A7

It was commented that when the A7 is closed articulated lorries go down the back road, but not buses. Bill Jamieson has written regarding public transport on Tuesday 27th September, when the road was closed and the bus had been diverted to Lauder. Cllr Aitchison will take this up with Public Transport.

Police Report

There have been 3 car accidents, which is a worrying upward trend.

It was agreed that the traffic on the A7 is now outrageous. People use it to avoid speed cameras. Satnavs also recommend it as a shorter route. The A7 is shorter than the A68.

Wind Farm

The consensus at the public meeting about Shaw Park was to lodge an objection. The Secretary received an extension until 7th October for our response. Members have been contacted by people present at the meeting asking why we have not yet responded. It was agreed that we would lodge an objection on behalf of those present, and the reasons would be

the cumulative effect of Shaw Park, taken in conjunction with existing wind farms on the general amenity of the area. Also concerns about the effects on Lauder Common. In the objection we would state that 2/3 of those entitled to vote, that is residents of Parish of Stow area, objected to Shaw Park Wind Farm.

Stefan Taschner

Stefan came to the meeting to give us information about the project ideas of Low Carbon Stow. An energy day at Stow was suggested, where a full range of low energy ideas and organisations could be seen by the community. It was suggested that this could be on a Saturday in November from 10.30 – 4.00pm. Stefan will organise it. We can make a micro grant available if needed.

Planning

Erection of dwelling house. Land NE of Muirhouse Farm house.

Erection of 5 no holiday chalets – Muirhouse.

Extension to provide double garage external alterations – Symington.

Correspondence

Housing Strategy – the Secretary will do this.

Wendy Ball – requesting suggestions for people to be featured in the newsletter.

Date of next meeting – Monday 7th November in Stow Town Hall at 7.30pm. All Welcome.