

Draft minutes of meeting of Parish of Stow
Community Council held on Monday 9th January
2017 at 7.30pm in Stow Town Hall

Those present: D.Muir (chair), N.Hodgson,
I.Peacock, A.Riddell, J. MacKenzie, C.Hendry, S.
Jeffrey, A.McNeilly, J.Mushlin, Cllr Aitchison, Cllr
Mitchell, Cllr White.

Apologies : R. Murphy, T. Millar, Cllr Herd, pc A.
McNair

Minutes and Matters Arising : There is the
question of whether our microgrant allocation
from EDF is yearly or not. Tom Black , Community
Foundation, states this is not a yearly allocation
and that we are not allowed to hold any funds
forward from year to year. He states that the
money is payable when needed so that we are
not owed any money. We have been getting it at
intervals of 15 months during the last few years
and the treasurer has calculated a substantial
shortfall in payment due to us . The secretary will
look through past files to see if anything has
been minuted regarding this.

The minutes were proposed by D.Muir, seconded
by J.MacKenzie

Police Report – This was circulated prior to the meeting. The matter of dog fouling was raised. It was mentioned that the person who was caught driving at 74mph through Stow in April was only fined £300 and disqualified from driving for 4 months.

Councillors Reports

Cllr Aitchison noted that the Park Committee are functioning. At the Eildon Area Committee there was a presentation on the Community Empowerment Act. This should give the community council powers regarding SEPA. The Secretary is to invite Clare Malster to the February meeting to inform us about the Act.

Cllr Mitchell stated that the SBC budget will be set on the 9th February. The community council will get an invitation regarding this.

Cllr White informed members that there is funding for a feasibility study of bike trails for Galashiels A bike trail to Stow could be included in the study which will design trails and put together a proposal. It was mentioned that Bill Jamieson is going to put together road routes for cycling However a real difficulty is that Albellio only provides 2 spaces for bikes per train and people want to bring their own bikes. There needs to be better provision for bikes on trains.

General Matters

Sound Out organised a party for Hogmanay in Stow Town Hall ,with the help of a microgrant to cover the Hall rent. All the tickets were sold out but when people turned up the Hall was locked. This was in spite of there being a booking for the Hall. Cllr White is meeting with Live Borders and will raise it with them.

D. Muir has applied for road signs and been given the go-ahead. The wording needs to be looked at and police approval needed. Brian Young will approve the signs.

Part of the road is missing at Bowland and the side of the road at Halkburn also needs repairs. Cllr Aitchison will check this.

Craigend Road actually had the drain cover repaired between Christmas and the New Year. However there is still a street light that needs to be repaired.

Residents who use the bus in Fountainhall would like to see the X95 sometimes coming into the village. The G20 school bus turns at Still Haugh and there is now a strong bridge into Fountainhall. The Secretary will write to First Bus asking for this to happen.

A walks around Stow pamphlet is being drawn up at present. So far one person has been in touch.

Last year 2438 people logged into Stow Website. 487 people logged into community council minutes and 245 into things to do.

J.MacKenzie asked for approval to apply for a windfarm grant for planting, with a planter for Craigend Road. This was approved .There is a grant of £1000 from biodiversity for permanent planting at the station.

The microgrant recently received from EDF was £2497.67.

There is £588.89 remaining in SEE microgrant funds

It was agreed to pay £50 per year towards electricity for lighting the Christmas tree for 2014, 2015 and 2016

There has been a meeting with Albellio regarding the Station House. Bob Howarth has put in a new plan. The Railway Heritage Trust have indicated that they will give £100,000. A vote of thanks was given to Alan and his team for their persistence.

It was noted yet again that lack of white lines on the A7 is a problem. This will be raised at the next A7 Action Group at Hawick.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

The next meeting is on Monday February 6th 2017 at 7.30pm in Stow Town Hall

AGENDA

1. CLARE MALSTER ,SBC - COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (2015) ACT
2. APOLOGIES
3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING
4. POLICE REPORT
5. GENERAL MATTERS
6. COUNCILLORS REPORTS
7. PLANNING
8. CORRESPONDENCE
9. AOCB