

Draft minutes of meeting of Parish of Stow Community Council held in Fountainhall Village Hall on Monday August 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm

Those present: C. Hendry (chair), J. MacKenzie, I. Peacock, J. Mushlin, S. Jeffrey, T. Millar, Cllr Anderson, Cllr Scott, 2 members from Gala Cycling Club, member of the public

Apologies: Cllr Aitchison, A. McNeilly, R. Murphy, N. Hodgson, A. Riddell

The members of Gala Cycling Club informed the community council that they are organising the National Hill Club Championship to be held in Stow on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Competitors will leave from Stow Town Hall, cycling up Earleston Road to the windfarm. The distance will be exactly one and a half miles. 60 - 80 competitors are expected. This hill race was done 6 years ago. They have booked Stow Town Hall and will provide officials. For parking, they are considering Stow Health Centre, Stow School, Mill Road and would also like to park on Stow Quoiting Green. J. MacKenzie will contact the Parish Trust about this. The Cycling Club will organise marshals and wish minimum disruption to residents in Stow. They have to get police permission, notify the Council and the Safety Advisory Group. They will have temporary road signs along the route and will discuss a road closure with the Safety Advisory Group. Marshalls are not allowed to stop traffic in Scotland. The race will start at 10am and should finish by 12noon. No one should be on the course after 12.30pm. Afterwards there will be the prize giving in the Town Hall.

The 2 members of Gala Cycle Club left the meeting at this point

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Proposed by I. Peacock, seconded by T. Millar

The police report was noted. Pc A. McNair is taking up a different post and will no longer be the community police officer for our area. We would like to thank pc McNair for her dedication to the community and taking on board and progressing all our concerns. She will be much missed.

General Matters: Wendy Ball is wondering about the community council holding a public meeting once or twice a year for all organisations in the area to meet up and give a general update on what is happening in the area. This should be considered for discussion at the next meeting. There is a display board at Stowed Out but this is difficult to organise in the time available. Volunteers are needed for Stowed Out.

Residents in Fountainhall are not keen on ideas that have been proposed for development in Fountainhall. The infrastructure does not exist for any large scale development and there is a concern that if areas in Fountainhall are designated for planning, the Council will look on this more favourably without considering its general effect on the existing community. Charles Johnston, a Senior Council Officer concerned with the production of the 2 year local plans, is attending the next Community Council meeting to hear views about development. It is important that as many people as possible from Fountainhall should attend to express their views. This should take place for the first half hour of the meeting, from 7.30pm on 4<sup>th</sup> September in Stow Town Hall. Councillor Anderson stated that he has heard similar concerns from Heriot and has forwarded an email in response to them which he will forward to the Secretary.

Since D.Muir is no longer in the area, a second community council representative on the Windfarm Panel is needed. N. Hodgson has been approached and is considering this. J. MacKenzie will represent the community council if N. Hodgson feels he cannot take on this role.

The Church are going to put in an application to the windfarm. They are waiting for a quote for the clock face, to upgrade lighting and do roans.

The Community Council are going to put in an application for planters to the wind farm. The type of planters and where they need to be put was discussed. 2 planters need to be changed next year and 3 the following year. 2 smaller planters are needed for the corner of the station building , 2 new long planters to replace planters at the crossroads and 2 square planters at the station platform. £500 is received from Network Rail annually but this is used for the flowerbeds. The windfarm can fund for up to 3 years to save putting in an annual application but this restricts any changes coming in year 2&3. An application needs to go in . The figures will be provided for the next meeting. The application will be for 7 planters and plants. The planters should have a water reservoir so that they only need to be watered once a week.

Councillors Reports - The stickers which were removed from Stow streetlights cannot be put back as stickers are not allowed on street furniture, which apparently applies to streetlights. The community council deplored this. The 30mph stickers are only out on bins one night a week and should be visible 24/7.

Cllr Aitchison is looking into the whitewashing of the toilets. There is still the question of having a mural there.

There has been no further progress regarding the gravestones.

There will be realigning of the pavements at the garage.

The Park Committee have received funding from Landfill and TESCO. Their funding bids are getting approved.

#### Correspondence

A letter has been received from a resident regarding power outages in Stow. The Secretary is to write to SP Energy expressing our concerns.

There is currently a Health and Social Care Consultation regarding Eildon Area Locality Plans. This is to get the health and social care services needed to enable people with care needs to have fulfilling lives in this area. The document will go on the Stow website in the hope that as many people as possible will access it and respond.

John Williams notified the community council that SBC have delayed discussion about the Gilston Windfarm until September 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### AOCB

The grasscutting along the back road between Stow and Fountainhall has not been properly done.

The footpath between Fountainhall and the A7 is overgrown.

There is a great deal of concern that there is no lighting on the road between the bridge and Still Haugh, walking from the bus to and from Fountainhall. This is for approximately 400 yards. It is being noted again, now that the nights are drawing in. It has previously been raised at the community council, with no satisfactory result. It is an issue that Fountainhall people feel strongly about, as stated by the member of the public present, that will not just go away if ignored.

Cllr Anderson stated that he would walk along the footpath with the Secretary . She also raised the problem of the pothole next to the footpath that it is very easy to twist your ankle in after dark.

We need to find a way to encourage more people to come on to the Community Council. The 2 places for Fountainhall are filled but there are Stow vacancies.

Cllr Anderson tendered his apologies for the next meeting.

The next meeting will take place on Monday September 4<sup>th</sup> 2017 in Stow Town Hall at 7.30pm. Please note that this is open to the public and the first item on the agenda is proposed development and all interested are very welcome.

#### AGENDA

1. CHARLES JOHNSTON, SENIOR PLANNING OFFICER SBC
2. APOLOGIES
3. MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING
4. POLICE REPORT
5. GENERAL MATTERS
6. COUNCILLORS REPORT
7. TREASURERS REPORT
8. PLANNING
9. CORRESPONDENCE
- 10.AOCB