

Draft Minutes of Meeting of Parish of Stow Community Council held on Monday 6th November 2017 at 7.30pm in Stow Town Hall

Those present: J. MacKenzie (Chair) A. McNeilly, A.Riddell, S Jeffrey, T Millar, R Murphy, M Craig.

1. Paul McGreal The Great Train Ride:

Mr McGreal did not attend the Meeting to give his presentation

2. Apologies: Cllr Aitchison, J Mushlin, C Hendry, N Hodgson, I Peacock.

Old Graveyard

Mary Craig attended the Meeting to give an update on the Old Graveyard in Stow. The proposal to re-erect the gravestones has been backed by the Scottish Environment Committee and after 12 weeks of local information gathering there have been 37 responses from people wishing that this should go ahead. Although there is a requirement for 3 quotes from firms willing to carry out the work before we can obtain a grant, there have been problems finding 3 firms who are willing to quote for the job. To re-erect the stones will cost on the region of £85,000. The other possibility is to carry out local fund raising. This will take much longer, but it would be possible to carry out the work in sections starting with the most prominent areas. It was suggested that a bid could also be put into the Scottish Borders Council Local Bids Fund (LBF) to obtain a Grant.

It was also suggested that bids could be put into the LBF to obtain funding for maintenance on St Mary's Well and for upgrading the path to the Well.

3. The Minutes were Approved: by A McNeilly and seconded by J MacKenzie

4. Police Report: No Police Report was submitted

5. General Matters:

It was agreed that T Millar and S Jeffrey will attend the Church Meetings to discuss obtaining grants from the Wind Farm Funds to carry out work on the fabric of the Church.

Although the recent cycling event was well marshalled it was disappointing that the Catering was done by themselves in the Town Hall when it had been hoped that the local cafe would be involved.

A letter was sent by J Mushlin to ScotRail requesting that when the new timetable is issued, all trains stop in Stow.

The Committee working on the proposed new playground in Stow park has sourced benches at a cost of £250. It was suggested that an extra one is ordered to be placed at the crossroads in memory of I Anderson.

The application for the new planters for the village and station has been submitted to the Wind Farm.

It is felt that we should be agitating to have the 30mph signs reinstated in the village. Although there have been suggestions that there is a problem with powering them, many in other villages use solar power for the signs.

Although white lines have been painted on the new stretch of road at Torsance, there are still none on large sections of the A7

There is a Meeting on Thursday 9th November in Stow to discuss the acquirement and refurbishment of Stow Station Building. An initial grant of £10,000 has been obtained by the Community Trust for the feasibility study, and a further application for £40,000 will be submitted to the Wind Farm funds. The total costs are estimated to be in the region of £600,000. The Business Plan will be ready for the Meeting on Thursday. A Micro-grant may be needed to pay for the use of the Townhall.

6. Treasurer's Report:

There was nothing to report

7. Councillor's Reports:

No reports were available.

8. Planning:

The Proposed Stow Regulation Traffic order proposed by the Council was read out.

The Planning Application for 7 Wind Turbines at Gilston Farm has been refused by the Planning Department

A letter has been received detailing the need for a Micro-Grant submitted at the last Meeting by FountainHall bowling Club.

A proposal for forestry planting at Cathpair was discussed.

The LBF was discussed.

The next Meeting will be on Monday, December 4th 2017 in Stow Town Hall at 7.30pm.