

Draft Minutes of Parish of Stow Community Council held on March 4th 2019 at 7.30pm in Stow Town Hall.

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

Apologies : T.Millar, R.Murphy

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Proposed: I. Peacock. Seconded : J. MacKenzie

Everything has been received for the website being hosted by Chris McVie. The website needs updating and this can be done in different ways. A microgrant will pay the costs of the transfer, with the running costs coming from the annual community council grant.

Police Report : This was received from pc Entwistle. Community Speed Watch was mentioned. The Secretary is to request the information pack about this.

General Matters : There is a speed indicator at Lauder and the question arose as to whether this was SBC funded or community funded. SBC have done testing in Lauder and found that the indicator in Lauder was effective in reducing speed. The current policy regarding community funding of speed signs is currently being reviewed. It was felt that when the Council were testing speed in Stow, it was at the slowest points in the village – by bus stops and junctions and there was an inaccurate picture formed. The question was raised whether the Council would consider retesting for speed through the village, as Stow was not tested under the same criteria as Lauder.

The 20mph sign at Station Road could prove a hazard. It is below head height and should be higher.

The request was made for the red tape to be removed from the gravestone at the Old Kirk, if it has been made safe.

There is still no bin at the Quoiting Green.

The bank is coming away at the Quoiting Green.

SBC might have money to spend on graveyards. If so, could they please do a little bit in Stow.

A letter has been received from Scottish HART stating that the defibrillator in Stow was a reconditioned one , which does not have the lifespan of a new defibrillator and needs to be replaced. The Secretary will apply to the windfarm for a replacement defibrillator, which is new from Scottish HART. The defibrillator at Fountainhall was a new one and is not needing replacement.

The Secretary received a response to her letter to SCOTRAIL regarding the deficiencies of the service. The reply stated that extra trains will in the future stop at Stow but these will be phased in gradually rather than in one change of timetable. There was no indication of a timescale for this.

Treasurers Report: There is £628.58 remaining in SSE microgrants and £1907 remaining in EDF microgrants. The next tranche of EDF microgrants is due in April.

There are unrestricted funds of £307 available.

An application was received for funding for a songwriting workshop led by Archie Fisher to be held in Fountainhall Village Hall from Gala Water History & Heritage Association. The Community Council agreed to fund the hire of Fountainhall Village Hall but felt that people should pay a fee for something of this nature, rather than have it subsidised by a microgrant. The Secretary is to arrange with the Treasurer of Fountainhall Village Hall for the Community Council to be billed directly.

Foundation Scotland stated that an award could not be made from EDF Windfarm for Highland Dancing for children in Stow Town Hall because it is not a constituted organisation. It was agreed that this is a really valuable activity for children with an unaffordable rent of £50 per session in Stow Town Hall. Also that one individual runs it on a voluntary basis with a great deal of dedication. Therefore the Community Council decided that this scheme can in future be run under its auspices as a subgroup of the Community Council. The Community Council will submit an application for funding to the Windfarm..

Councillors Reports

Cllr Aitchison stated that the plans for the area of the park by the Bowling Club are progressing, with benches and wild flowers proposed. The area where there are drains and drainage issues is off limits.

Cllr Anderson stated that the trees in the park have been felled but the contractor who was going to carve the trunks is unable to do the work at present. This will need to be resolved.

Next month there is the Rail Partnership AGM at the Galashiels Interchange. Alex Hynes, CEO of SCOTRAIL will be attending this.

The Layby wall needs to be monitored.

The Ian Anderson memorial bench has been placed in the park instead of at the crossroads.

The next meeting is on Monday April 1st at 7.30pm in FOUNTAINHALL VILLAGE HALL

AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES
- 2 MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING
- 3 POLICE REPORT
- 4 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH
- 5 WALKS AROUND STOW
- 6 GENERAL MATTERS
- 7 TREASURER'S REPORT
- 8 COUNCILLORS REPORTS
- 9 PLANNING
- 10 CORRESPONDENCE
- 11 AOCB

ALL WELCOME