DUNEATON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES 4th OCTOBER 2016

Members Present

John McLatchie, Chairman. Anne Jefferies – Treasurer. Ryan Cox, Malcolm Muir

Apologies – Jo Talbot (Secretary), Katie Stuart-Cox, Robin Craig, Andy McLarty

Associate Members Present: Karin Norman-Lawson, Alison Mitchell,

Others: Bob Norman, Stuart Baillie, Julie Scott

Councillors: Ralph Barker.

## Adoption of Minutes Proposed Malcolm Muir and seconded by Anne Jefferies

SECRETARY. John McLatchie announced that sadly Jo Talbot, due to heavy work commitments, was resigning as Secretary and asked for a volunteer. Only someone who is a member or is co-opted can take on this role. It was left for anyone interested to contact JMcL.

CLYDE WINDFARM COMMUNITY PANEL. JMcL advised that Robin Craig had taken over this responsibility from Heather Watt.

CLYDE WIND FARM. The comments raised at the last meeting were sent to John Archibald and his reply had been circulated to members. It was noted that he was prepared to come to a meeting to discuss our concerns. Alison Mitchell handed out a breakdown of all the monies spent during the years 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 which showed a decrease in the spend over the last two years from £789,043 in the first year to £345,748 and £225,761 in the last year. AM also raised a number of issues such as match funding, the openness of SLC in giving advice to potential groups.

AJ and Ralph Barker advised that SSE and SLC are looking to make changes and that SSE are looking to take over running of the fund but that it will not operate as it currently is in the future. Leaders of SLC are concerned that the fund is not working correctly. RB advised that at the Enterprise meeting this month it was stated that the new arrangements will now not be available until January.

Much concern over what happens to the balance each year, RB advised that not all committed grants are shown as the funding is still in the process of being spent, so the paper balance of £500,000 may be incorrect. BN asked that this should be shown as being earmarked.

JMcL read out an email from Glyn Booton with his concerns that 70% of the money allocated so far had gone to Biggar and not to the areas generally affected by the wind farm.

TO DO – Invite John Archibald and SSE to the next meeting. To submit questions to JA prior to the meeting. Can members please let JMcL have their questions ASAP?

A G M The November meeting will potentially be the CC’s AGM, notice of this needs to go into the papers and onto notice boards around the villages.

TO DO JMcL checking with SCL CC liaison as to whether this is acceptable or if it has to take place in October as a separate meeting.

MUIRHILL WIND FARM. Stuart Baillie advised that he had emailed the planning department but had still had not response regarding the application and he gave a breakdown of how far he had progressed since the last meeting. Julie Scott advised that the wildlife in the area was abundant with bats, otters and the old Roman Road goes through there. There is much worry due to the increase in the wind turbines and road will not be able to cope and could be construed as hazardous. Julie advised that householders near Priestgill has been offered compensation and that the road would be improved but this detracted from the critical question of how many more can this area take, the impact on wildlife and habitat. Stuart Baillie advised that he had emailed SLC’s roads department to get historical data on A702 accidents, and there were is still concerns on the suitability of the A702. It is not clear at the moment when Muirhall are planning to submit their planning application.

TO DO JMcL will chase up planning regarding the application. Stuart Baillie will set up a local committee to look at the application, Bob Norman from Roberton volunteered. . JMcL will contact Police Scotland for traffic accident stats. ALL- People to think of a suitable name for the group.

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN. JMcL advised that the meeting had been very valuable and the planning were looking at ways to involve local communities and seeking their comments and concerns. He asked that we pass round the Place Standard questionnaire to as many people as possible as it gave a good indication to the quality of life in the area. This questionnaire is in conjunction with the NHS.

MM are what are the fundamental needs of the area and what do we need to do. The Access Forum is very keen to make developments. MM feels that we should promote the extension of the public footpaths to bring them into the Duneaton area. Clyde walk ends at Hyndford, Tweed walk at Broughton and South Upland Way (SUP) just goes through the tip of South Lanarkshire. If these could be joined together it would bring in tourists and walkers into the area and help with the regeneration. We also need to encourage more natural planting of native trees to help with grazing, preserve the peat on the hill tops as we need to identify this as an area of natural scenic beauty.

TO DO MM will speak on this at a future meeting and let Duneaton CC know what needs to be done to support this scheme and get it started.

MUIRHILL ENERGY COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND. The memo of understanding was discussed and AJ gave a breakdown on her reply to the points raised which had already been circulated. It was agreed that AJ would supply JMcL with these to pass onto Muirhall. Emphasis on the point that a support worker should be provided by Muirhall rather than from the funds available.

There was comments regarding the roll of the CC in relation of the wind farm application and representing the communities opinions and discussing with the developers the money due to the community. BN felt it was cynical with one hand trying to stop whilst the other hand is trying to spend the money. AJ explained that Plan A is opposition to the wind farm in response to local concern; Plan B is ensuring that the community got the best possible deal if it does go ahead. Both need to be pursued in parallel.

TO DO – AJ to supply JMcL with details of the points raised in her memo.

TREASURER’S REPORT AJ had prepared a statement which was handed out. SLC Admin account balance £308.18, no activity since September meeting. DCC general account balance £2847.82, no activity since September meeting.

Completed multiple 2015-16 micro grant audit documents and sent them into John Archibald 23rd September 2016. Needs to be processed and approved before 2016-17 £5K funds are released. Notified John that we will be paying any interim grant claims out of the DCC general account (so SLC admin doesn’t stop local projects).

Micro grant approved unanimously via email – £380.00 Abington Family Halloween Party.

Grant monies remaining – CWFF £134.97 remaining of the initial grant of £3000. Glenkerie £750.00 remaining of the initial grant of £1000.

TO DO AJ to add further funding sources to the DCC website, ongoing action from last meeting.

AOB

AM attended the **Clydesdale Community Council Annual Event** in Lanark on 29th September and handed out a report of the discussion that took place. In the main it was agreed that a CC group would be beneficial in negotiating with SLC and that at the next meeting this would be formalised and committee members elected.

**HARRYBURN** – Ryan Cox advised that the Harryburn people would like to talk to Duneaton and it was suggested that December be proposed to them. There is a liaison meeting in November but it appears that Leadhills and Crawford do not want this. General malaise that if SLC reject the application the developers only have to go to Scottish Government for approval. The number of turbines has been reduced from 41 to 19; the southern side of the development has been shelved due to geographical reasons

**ROBERTON BENCH –** Karin Norman Lawson advised that she had obtained a quote for the upgrade of the benches on Roberton Moor and it was agreed that we should apply to Glenkerie for a grant to undertake this work.

TO DO KNL to apply to the Infinis Glenkerie fund for a grant to undertake the work.

**GOOD CITIZEN’S AWARD-** AJ advised that nominations had been received from Roberton, Crawfordjohn and Abington. Pending Wiston, Coulter and Lamington.

**MOFFAT SURGERY -** Ralph Barker advised that the surgery in Crawford is to close and the surgery will be held in Leadhills two days a week. Prescriptions will be sent to Leadhills. This will cause considerable difficulties for many members of the community as local transport does not coincide with surgery opening times.

**ACTION UPDATE** AJ had followed up with the police and the estate regarding Crawordjohn’s cars being unsightly and causing potential hazards. Two of the offending vehicles are on private land, one on the public road. Pending response from Douglas and Angus estate manager. Ongoing

**OUTSTANDING ACTION**

**ACTION: Jo** Openreach response as to what is happening for Duneaton CC area in terms of Broadband

**ACTION: Jo** Biggar High School, would any S/6 pupils within DCC area like to participate as Junior Associate Members of the DCC – this has been chased.

**ACTION: Malcolm** Speak to SLC regarding the Orange Fence which has been left next to Roberton Burn play area.

**ACTION DONE: Anne** to clarify Glenkerie Infinis’ financial year – this grants covers the area around Coulter, Lamington, Roberton and Wiston. – They run from when we were successful in obtaining funds, so the current DCC year ends 26th July 2017.

**ACTION: Jo** to continue working with Welcome Break to improve the situation.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 1st November