

# Duneaton Community Council

(Coulter, Lamington, Wiston, Robertson, Abington & Crawfordjohn)

## Meeting Minutes 5<sup>th</sup> April 2016

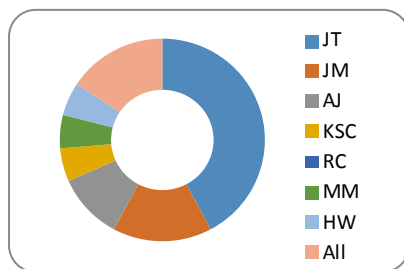
### Present:

(JM) Mr John McLatchie (Chair)  
 (JT) Mrs J Talbot (Secretary)  
 (AJ) Ms A Jefferies (Treasurer)  
 (HW) Ms H Watt  
 (KSC) Mrs Katie Stuart-Cox  
 (MM) Malcolm Muir  
 (HS) Cllr Hamish Stewart

### Apologies:

(RC) Mr Ryan Cox

### Actions



Description	Owner	Due Date
Request status update from Openreach for DCC area	JT	Response received from Openreach and commitment to provide a response by 15 <sup>th</sup> April
Biggar High School to see whether any S5/6 pupils from within DCC area would like to participate as Junior Associate Members of DCC	JT	Chased on 4 <sup>th</sup> Apr
Draw up location and date plan for local surgeries and share with group for approval and volunteers	MM & JM	Completed
Report 702 Culter road full of pot holes @ John Deer and the road through Wiston & Rigside caused by heavy lorries	KSC	Info for next meeting
Email SLC re street lights in Robertson on main road not working – also report Abington bulbs not all eco – (this is rolled out in other areas of SLC, cats eyes required entering Abington village as no street lighting	JT	Commitment to respond by 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr with full response
To feedback if council are not responding within their policy framework of two days	JT	Agreement to include Hamish in all follow up emails and to use email as the primary communication
Get bullets from Geogre re Andershaw WF letter to understand what specifically he is looking for our support with and circulate to the group	JM	
Read through all Micro Grant applications and provide feedback via the person who the application has been sent in through	All	
Scan in and email round the application forms which have come to us in paper copy	AJ	
Circulate email to Wiston, Abington, Lamington & Coulter PS letting them know about the micro grant scheme so that they may benefit from it	JT	
Go onto new DCC website and provide feedback along with providing content suggestion to JM	All	
Email Welcome Break Abington to highlight litter problem and ask for resolution	JT	
Send printer invoice to AJ	JM	

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Get estimates from local tradesmen to fix the 2 benches on Moor Road, Robertson	HW
Speak with John McCosh to discuss water level purchasing for Coulter as a warning system for flooding	MM
Email Abington, Wiston, Lamington & Coulter PS regarding the HMQ commemorative medal purchase	JT
Share ideas around what we can use the general fund for in the local community	All
Lead for Flowers/tubs/baskets for each village	KSC
Lead for Good Citizen Award	AJ
Investigate and feedback with SLC on the Orange fence which has been left in Robertson burn (next to play park) – speak to Robert Lawson	MM
Publicise Abington PS open day on FB Page	JT

### Welcome & Confirmation of previous minutes

JM opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and asked for confirmation of minutes. AJ recommended and JM seconded – minutes confirmed

JM provided an overview of the agenda topics for the evening and noted who was present and who had sent their apologies. We had a quorum so the meeting progressed.

HW asked JT where her paper copy of the previous minutes were. JT responded that JT did not take the previous minutes and was therefore not responsible for getting HW's personal paper copy to her and she needed to discuss with the person who did take the minutes.

### Item 1 – Micro Grant Scheme & Applications

Agreement reached that all applications should be circulated via email to all the community council members in advance of the meeting so that a productive discussion can take place

We have 5 applications so far:

- 3 sent in via HW, which no one has had the chance to review as they are held in physical copy
- 1 sent in via KSC, which was received today (5<sup>th</sup> Apr)
- 1 sent in via JM, which has been emailed round already

HW lodged her objection to using email to circulate the applications and has insisted that all applications are printed and sent in physical copy to her. Applications which HW has received need to be scanned or uploaded via picture and emailed round. It was explained to HW that she could do this via taking a picture and emailing (which she has done on occasion before) however, she has declined saying that 'we've always done things this way' (meaning on paper) and she has no intention of changing, even if it means a more effective way of communicating.

It was explained to HW that using paper copies slows down progress and is incredibly inconvenient for someone to continually do on her behalf. HW was offered a printer at this point.

It was noted that the CWFF group, which HW and JM sit on operate an 'email round' system in which all applications are emailed to the group for comments & decision and in this group HW does not insist on receiving paper copies

The discussion was left with an unanswered point 'why is HW insisting on paper for this micro grant scheme when she does not insist on paper copies for the other group she sits on' – this was not answered

HW has declined the offer of a printer and has said she expects someone else to carry out this action

No applications were discussed at this point and all deferred to May's meeting for approval/declined and all DCC members committed to reading and providing feedback (via the person the application has come through)

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Concern raised that some groups could potentially request funding via the micro grant scheme plus another scheme for the same purpose. All agreed that those in receipt of application forms would formally ask whether the applicant has applied to another grant scheme in tandem

Agreement that we should highlight the micro grant scheme to local primary schools so that they may benefit from it

### Item 2 – Coalburn Letter

JM has received a letter regarding the Andershaw WF from a concerned Coalburn resident who has pointed out that although the WF company are providing the correct amount of funding to SLC that the additional community benefit does not seem to be materialising. This resident has asked for our support.

Agreement that we need to understand what support is specifically sought and DCC members will provide that support if it's in line with our constitution (i.e. in the best interests of the local residents that we are here to represent)

### Item 3 – Email Responses

JM brought up the concern that despite having agreed that email is our method of communication as it leads to sharing information faster and therefore quicker progress, that there is not a sufficient response rate within the group.

All agreed to acknowledge receipt of John's mails and respond quickly, even if it was just a 'nil response' reply

### Item 4 – DCC Website Content

JM asked whether people had looked at the new DCC website however with the exception of a couple of people, no one had.

JM has asked each person to go and look on the website – all agreed

JM has asked each person to circulate their recommended content – all agreed (AJ has already responded)

### Item 4 – Treasurer Update

#### Balances

SLC Admin account balance: £494.99 after antivirus cheque of £28 paid out 8-Mar-16.

DCC General account balance: £4726.69 after CWFF micro grant paid in 12-Feb-16.

#### Activity

Invoice received from GANDL for £100 for April Events Newsletter A4 advert.

RBS Digital Banking forms submitted, DOB issue cleared up, pending codes being issued by RBS.

AJ confirmed to group that Online Banking is now taking place – all thanked AJ for her perseverance in this area as it's been frustrating to set up

### Item 5 – Local News & AOB

HW raised an issue that the Welcome Break at Abington Services is causing a significant litter issue in the surrounding roads and fields – email to be sent to WB for update on their litter picking activity

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HW raised that there are 2 benches on Moor Road, Roberton which require some repairing. As it will be over £100 two estimates are required by AJ, HW will arrange and get someone to fix the problem using the DCC non SLC funding to do so. Unanimous agreement and HW to get estimated to email round the group for agreement so that HW does not need to wait till next meeting for agreement to go ahead

AJ pointed out that she has a new email address – all to take note of this: [missannejefferies@gmail.com](mailto:missannejefferies@gmail.com)

AJ pointed out that secretary and treasurer are eligible for honorarium £50 nominal fee. Each has elected to take it, use it as required to cover outlays incurred in their DCC role and will put any spare into the general fund. AJ handed cheques out for this to AJ and JT

MM raised the flooding issue at Coulter and recognised that after some investigation into water levels, it may not add much value to the community in progressing to purchase these. MM to speak to John McCosh to discuss

JT showed the group a HM queen Elizabeth II 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday commemorative medal for schools & councils. Local PS to be emailed giving them the option to purchase these

Discussion around what we use our general fund for. General agreement that we should be using this money and in tandem, fundraising to ensure we are generating income as well as spending it on worthwhile causes

All to produce ideas around what we could do with this funding

Ideas already discussed:

- Supporting the local schools with transport (example around Biggar HS not participating in events as the transport is costly)
- Good citizen award for each village
- Flower beds/baskets/tubs
- Covering hall costs for aerobics/clubs etc to reduce the financial risk for those running classes as they start up and build up regular attendees

Agreement to progress 1) Good Citizen and AJ taking the lead on this 2) Flower beds/baskets/tubs and KSC taking the lead on this

All other ideas to continue coming and we'll keep a log for regular review

Agreed that a minimum float of £500 should be maintained after a discussion in which JT recommended £250 and JM recommended £1000

Local issues with roads etc were discussed and those highlighted below will be shared with SLC for review and feedback

- North side of telephone kiosk in Lamington has a large pothole
- Past the Lamington PS there are more large potholes
- Litter at WB Abington – already referenced
- Temporary Orange fence in Roberton park has been put into the burn by (suspected) SLC workers rather than being taken away – MM to pick up on this

HS confirmed that there are no village halls within the DCC area which are on the hall closure list

KSC highlighted that the Abington PS is having an open day in a couple of weeks – we will help publicise this on the FB page for local residents

Good news shared by HS that the Crawfordjohn community are getting their £150k investment from SLC in the shape of a new garden area where the school building used to be – plans and designs shared with group and it all looks really positive

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JM suggested that we complete an 'Action Rota' as it looks like too much of the actions are falling on the same people each month – General agreement

JT confirmed that the DCC would be getting a cheque for £2500 shortly from the Infinis Glenkerie Wind Farm Fund after all required paperwork had been provided. Village scope/any grant restrictions are not known at this time, pending information coming from Glenkerie. AJ thanked JT for her perseverance as there has been a lot of work required behind the scenes to get it to this stage