

DUNEATON COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 7 December 2021

(Zoom Meeting)

AGENDA

1 Present

- 1.1 Malcolm Muir, Gordon Wilson, Anne Jefferies, Cllr E Holford, Robin Craig, Alison Mitchell, Liz Steele.

Public Attendees - Kay and Glyn Booton

1.2 Apologies

Irene Riddell, Katie Stuart-Cox, Clare Symonds, Cllr McAllan

2 Previous Minute - 2 November 2021

- 2.1 GW advised he had received comments from AJ about the absence of DCC's bank balances in the minute, and the fact that the bank signatories are not completed, corrections he is happy to accept.

3 Treasurer's Report

- 3.1 AJ read through the Treasurer's report.

Balances

SLC Admin account balance: £362.12, no change.

DCC General account balance: £53,211.69, pending multiple grant cheques being cashed

- 3.2 Bank administration is pending signatory changes as we remove John McLatchie from the list of cheque signatories and replace him with GW.

4 Grants

- 4.1 Four grants to be considered:

Crawfordjohn Children's Christmas Party - request for £257.30.

Crawfordjohn Toddler Group - public liability and employers liability insurance - request for £150 .

Coulter Village Library Group - Carol Service - request for £227.

Roberton Christmas Party - £54 available - balance of £104 to be provided from £500 Village Fund.

These were all agreed by the members present.

- 4.2 LS queried balance of REF Covid support £1,000 - LS believes it to be £150.03, AJ shows balance as £143.13. This to be checked.

5 Planning Issues

- 5.1 GW advised of two planning applications for tree removal. MM advised he saw these of benefit to the community.

6 Wind Farm Update

- 6.1 **Grayside** - Still awaiting the environmental assessment report. KB advised she understood that the developer was about to freeze the windfarm design. The Developer has not answered questions about the employment benefits of the wind

farm or the community benefit which we suspect means the community buying into the wind farm. In addition, the access road has not been altered from the original planning proposal. GB advised he thought they were using arbitrary figures for local employment benefits from similar sized schemes.

6.4 **Bodinglee** - no update.

6.5 **Andershaw West** - no further update

6.6 **Kennoxhead** - No update

6.7 **Little Gala** - No update

7 **Community Worker report**

7.1 Funding Update:

7.1.1 Covid Response Funding:

Glenkerie Covid fund = £1,333

REF Covid support £1,000. Full amount has been paid to DCC. Current balance £150.03. I will spend the remaining £150.03 to pay part of the hall hire for the 3 December community events in Crawfordjohn Hall. Submission of the invoice will close the grant.

SLC £900. Full amount paid to DCC. £450 remains. I have requested £29.97 to pay the balance of Hall Hire for the events at Crawfordjohn Hall. Remaining balance £420.03

Healthy Valleys/Scottish Government fund: £5,000. Aj and LS have agreed to split - £2,000 to cover CDW salary and £3,000 to divide equally for projects within our 6 villages. LS to determine how it is allocated - without an application form and only a signature so the funding not to follow the normal grant rules.

Initiated a joint project with Healthy Valleys to deliver 3 morning sessions to include a soup lunch at Crawfordjohn Hall in December. The main aim of the initiative is to encourage people to socialise, particularly those who are still feeling isolated and shy to go out following so many months of being in their homes.

The session at Crawfordjohn Hall this morning was a joy. 20 participants, 2 volunteers and Gale from Healthy Valleys. Wonderful to hear a 'happy buzz' throughout the 2-hour session. Expecting the same number if not more next week.

7.2 New Funding

Started working the new agreed allocation of hours, with 6 hours per week funded by the Healthy Valleys/Scottish Government initiative and 10 hours for DCC. Naturally sometimes there is a slight overlap, but otherwise the system is working well.

I have been in touch with known individuals within each village to advertise the availability of the £500/village fund. A number of projects have been allocated small amounts of funding and other village groups are working on a program of ideas.

Related to my application to 'Inspiring Scotland - Rural Communities Ideas into Action Fund' for a small grant of £3,000 to mimic the Healthy Valleys idea, £500 for all 6 villages. I have had an email to say the outcome for all applications has been delayed by the Scottish Government.

7.3 Promotion of microgrants and funding opportunities:

This month I've published a new funding opportunities post on all our Fb pages.

I've worked with 3 groups including Crawfordjohn children's Christmas party, Crawfordjohn playgroup and Coulter Kirk's Christmas service. All 3 groups have submitted microgrant applications.

7.4 SLC winter pavement clearing initiative.

No response to date from SLC regarding the grit program for Lamington. Irene is now the main contact.

7.5 Clyde Funded Stained Glass schools project

Still at enquiry stage as Jill Kennedy is waiting for a response from SLC education for permission to site the completed panels at Coulter and Lamington primary schools. The project can't proceed without the permission. I issued an outline plan of the stained glass project to the 4 schools in Duneaton and have had an initial conversation with Jill Kennedy, who is interested to run the project for Lamington and Coulter primary schools.

7.6 CDW Village Project Updates: my actions and outcomes

Abington

Received a phone call to say the WRI enjoyed their funded bus trip to Gretna Outlook. 16 ladies took part. A few have hardly been out for nearly 2 years and really enjoyed their day, so in my opinion, money well spent!

I have heard Abington Hall is closed as an area of ceiling has fallen in and the heating isn't working. Perhaps DCC could push to make sure the repairs are completed as promised by the New Year. I could do that on your behalf?
Coulter

Since the last DCC meeting I've attended 2 meetings with the Coulter Community Group. I also had a meeting with Gillian Bell to discuss funding opportunities for a number of projects. Gillian has commendably managed to set up a new bank account, so the group can now look at larger funding bids.

The group are organising 'Carols in the Kirk' on 17th Dec from 6.30pm and Malcolm talked of progress to reinstate the Library Trust, with the aim of refurbishing the building to make it more attractive for use. As I have all the information, I have offered to start the initial stages of the defibrillator project to acquire costs for the funding application.

Crawfordjohn

Crawfordjohn Picnic area

SLC have agreed to renew their maintenance agreement for the site. The group

still waiting for SLC to form an agreement with the owner of the picnic area and the forestry group, who manages the land on her behalf. Val is going to chase SLC.

Sewing Group

Funded by a micro grant, the new sewing group wrote to me to pass on their thanks to DCC for supporting their group. 7 attended their 1st meeting, with 2-3 unknown persons from outside the village. They are all excited and hope the group will sustain long into the future.

Crawfordjohn Toddlers

I've worked throughout the month to help establish a new Toddlers group in Crawfordjohn Hall. Through the HV village funding, I've provided funds to cover 6 weeks hall hire to start on 7th January. The group have inherited a lot of toys, but hope to apply for a microgrant for additional activities once they get established.

Crawfordjohn Hall upgrade project

Stage 2 for application to REF and Clyde for the solar project is underway. The hope is to secure funding for the project to begin March 2022.

Lamington

No new initiatives in Lamington, except for Irene's work related to the grit bins.

Roberton

Roberton Hall

Glyn and his team have worked hard to overcome many hurdles with the hall refurbishment project and are now at REF application stage.

The community are very keen to see the hall reopened so they can progress with event ideas. Through an email following last meeting, I requested help from Eric, as I think have others. Last I heard there are mixed messages from SLLC about bookings and so I suggested individuals keep asking to book specific dates in the hope they get a positive response. The village is particularly keen to have access to the hall for their annual Christmas party, which with the exception of 2020, has happened for the past 60 years.

Wiston

I'm in discussion with a member of the Wiston Hall committee for ideas to spend the £500 allocated to their village.

8 Local News

8.1 There were no local updates

9 AOCB

9.1 No issues raised.

Actions

Clarification needed regarding the consideration of grant applications when the agenda has been finalised.

Grayside questionnaire results to be posted in summary

MM to check with Energy Consent Unit at Scottish Government regarding MoD disturbance levels.

Defibrillator to be progressed.

Upload spreadsheet for tracking key windfarm dates onto website.

Tracking of Banks Group Scoping Report amendments.

June meeting

Promote consultation for second phase of Grayside wind farm.

Monitor access issue for Grayside wind farm

DCC to consider review of website. MM to speak to AJ

Monitor Bodinglee progress

Report back on West Andershaw and Kennoxhead sites

Cllr McA agreed to follow up on issue regarding Crawfordjohn picnic area; garden waste uplifts; non-slip area on A73;

September meeting

Wind farm spreadsheet to be circulated so DCC members can determine which ones they will take responsibility for monitoring.

GW to meet Statkraft regarding Andershaw West extension.

MM to check regarding Little Gala proposal.

MM agreed to draft response to Kingsbeck Estates.

EH to check regarding road repairs near B7055.

October meeting

GW to contact SLC regarding John McLatchie's membership

MM to forward Kinsbeck letter.

MM to write to Grayside developer regarding lack of consultation.

AM to contact Banks re Bodinglee status.

MM to access D&G letter to First Minister and circulate. GW/AM to get list of Community Council contact addresses.

November meeting

EH to contact Benny Martin regarding Robertson hall opening
