

DUNEATON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING TUESDAY 5th February 2019

ROBERTON VILLAGE HALL

Present

Malcolm Muir, Anne Jefferies, Clare Symonds, Cllr Eric Holford, Irene Riddell, Stuart Baillie, Gordon Wilson, Robin Craig.

Apologies – Katie Stuart-Cox, John Mclatchie, Cllr Ian McAllan.

Police Scotland

PC David Wessencraft and PC Mark Richardson were in attendance to give council members an update on the recent crimes in the DCC area. These crimes included house breakings in Wiston and Lamington, theft of fuel in Wiston and the theft of a vehicle in Crawfordjohn. One person has been arrested in relation to these crimes.

There has been much speculation on social media about a possible connection between these reported crimes and the arrival of a group of travelling people to a site in Abington. Neither Police Scotland or DCC condone such allegations and both parties stressed that care should be taken not to automatically assume any connection between the travelling community and the rise in recent crimes.

CS commented that reports of local crimes on social media had caused an increase in fear amongst Wiston residents. PC Richardson responded by saying that social media was beneficial in that residents would be more aware of what is going on in their area and therefore any suspicious activities could be passed to police.

PC Wessencraft advised that audible alarms in properties may be of no use in rural situations as the location may make it impossible for anyone to hear the alarm. Alarm systems that were “monitored” by an alarm company/police may make the property more unattractive to potential theft. PC Wessencraft also stressed that community vigilance is vitally important in detecting crime.

IR asked if Police Scotland had any involvement in speed control on the A702 in Lamington. PC Wessencrafit said that it was the responsibility of Amey Highways and Transport Scotland.

Middle Muir Wind Farm

Banks Renewables have just completed construction of Middle Muir and their representative Jeannie Kielty was in attendance to give an overview of the benefits of their C2R employment initiative.

Middle Muir has 15 turbines capable of producing 51 megawatts per year. Banks Renewables have set up a fund that will provide £255,000 per year. Half of this fund will be administered by South Lanarkshire Council Renewables Fund and the other half by South Lanarkshire Works For You which is a “learning and works” initiative. This fund is available for all ages to gain training that will help unemployed individuals get back into work. Businesses can also apply to the fund to pay for apprenticeships.

It was asked if it would be possible to alter the setup of the fund to give more control of the fund to the local community councils. Jeannie will investigate this with South Lanarkshire Council.

Community survey

Taylor Nisbet have now completed the survey of the DCC community and Amanda Taylor from Taylor Nisbet was in attendance to explain the draft copy of the survey findings. The survey findings were discussed at length and a final copy of the survey will be produced shortly and will be available for general distribution.

Adoption of previous meeting minutes

AJ proposed

MM seconded

Grants

Gaynor Campbell

Application has been modified to cover the transport costs of the initial trip to Motherwell and now also includes transport for a mystery tour day out.

Approved

Glyn Booton.

Application for £130.00 to run a Music Quiz in Robertson Hall. Approved

Treasurers statement

Balances

SLC Admin account balance: £210.57 (no change)

Date ▼	Description	Amount	Balance
28 Dec	16DEC GRS 00121712 Interest	£0.05	£210.57
11 Dec	000088 Cheque	-£50.00	£210.52
20 Nov	000087 Cheque	-£50.00	£260.52

DCC General account balance: £8149.03 (Abington PiYo cheque cashed)

Date ▼	Description	Amount	Balance
01 Feb	000207 Cheque	-£330.00	£8,149.03
31 Dec	000208 Cheque	-£150.00	£8,479.03
28 Dec	16DEC GRS 00113132 Interest	£1.10	£8,629.03
16 Nov	000205 Cheque	-£200.00	£8,627.93

Activity

- Briefed Biggar CC Treasurer on DCC grant processes

Action points

- 1/ CWFF microgrant applications for Gaynor Campbell (coach transport) and Glyn Booton (Charity Quiz).
- 2/ Have RBS completed the changes requested in November? Malcolm Muir to confirm if added as a signatory.

Grant Monies Remaining

- CWFF: £3348.30 remaining of the £5000 2018-19 grant
- Ventient Energy Glenkerie: £229.35 remaining of the £1000 2018-19 grant

Local Issues

Abington

KS-C emailed and asked for Abington issues to be included.

The travellers in Abington have moved on.

Residents will find out this month if Abington Community Group has won funding to develop the old school house

Abington fire station has a full time station master

Yoga classes have begun, funded by DCC via the microgrant - very successful

The Abington WRI are celebrating 100 years and are having celebrations in the village hall. They wonder if the council will repaint the hall internally given that the WRI have used the hall so much over the years?

Alsations have been seen off the lead again.

One of the dog's bit/nipped Jo Talbot and the police were called. Dog warden really needs to start taking this more seriously.

Dog warden is the only person legally who can instruct the owners to keep the dogs on a lead. They are causing much fear and have done for the past couple of years.

SB reported that he had had no refuse collection from his property.

Lamington

IR asked if the "for sale" signs for Lamington Hall could be removed as it is believed that the sale has been completed. EH to ask SLC.

Irene Riddell wishes to join DCC as a co-opted member. Voting to take place at the March meeting.

Wandel

Amey Highways have agreed to install two signs on the A702 indicating services at Abington.

Roberton

RC reported that Howgate Road was still not being gritted. EH said that a link to the map of the priority gritting routes could be found on his Facebook page.

Wiston

CS asked EH to send her a letter with the priority gritting routes so she could pass it onto a Wiston resident.

Lamington

Road re-surfacing has not been carried out

Grit bins are still required for the road leading to Langholm.

Crawfordjohn

The human bones that were found during the demolition of the school and are currently being stored in SLC premises, will be interred in a ceremony in Crawfordjohn cemetery. SLC education department will provide a commemorative plaque.