

FURNACE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF ZOOM MEETING OF 26th November

PRESENT: Lynda Syed (Chair), Councillor Sandy Taylor, Mark Boston, Phil Whale, Ruth Tott, Sharon MacInnes, Ann & Ronnie Dodd,

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Andy Henderson, Lynda Henderson, Martin Wilson

FEEDBACK FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

PC Speedy, the lifesized anti-speeding plastic PC, is now in operation. The council thanks Mark Boston for putting him out in the mornings and taking him in early evening. Mark will be moving him from time-to-time around the village. He notices a slowing down of traffic.

Also thanks RT for getting minutes up on Everything Furnace FB page, the notice board and provision now made for them to go up on the newly designed website going live next week.

Councillor Sandy Taylor followed up on feedback regarding bin in the layby. Originally told BEAR owned the bin but A&B serviced it. After much digging on the communities behalf Sandy now finds out this is not the case. A larger bin is out of the question, as is a more frequent service – although the person able to make the final decision on this is on holiday. The question is whether having a bin there acts as a litter magnet or would people not attempt to use an already overflowing bin and take their litter home with them if no bin provided.

Both MB and LS concerned at the general state of litter on all roads around Argyll and the general state of the roads themselves.

ST suggested that the council puts pressure on A&B to deal with these basic infrasture requirements ahead of bigger projects and the time to do this would be through the budget consultation process. ST to alert the council when this is due so we can act.

Including the children at this years memorial service was a huge success. The council will be sending through a note of thanks. The council also thanks Wilf Stout and Emma Hawthorn Irons for organising the service.

TRESURERS REPORT

Balance of £3103.57 in the Community Council Account. This includes:

£536.27 grant money remaining from Foundation Scotland to spend on the community during Covid 19.

£92.40 was spend on PC Speedy.

POLICE ISSUES

RT to chase up getting regular police reports as we are not getting these despite several assurances that we should and would be. Police presence is desirable and requested by the council.

ROADS

Condition of the roads going in to winter is appalling. The pot holes on Queen Elizabeth and Quarry Road are particularly bad. RT reminded council members to use the A&B road fault hot line to keep reporting these potholes. ST said that the council has an obligation to get them repaired within 48 hours. But if we do not keep raising it directly with them nothing will get done. The hotline is on the revamped website and will go up on Everything Furnace FB site too.

Talks between A&B and Breeden on going regarding contribution towards road repairs and hopes to be able to report back with positive outcome next meeting. Ronnie Dodds bought up an example of where a village took out a civil action in a similar case.

FURNACE HEALTH CENTRE

The council thanks both SM and LS for attending the Zoom meeting, along with a couple of other villages, with doctors regarding the surgery. It remains in limbo with both NHS Highlands and Lochgilphead Surgery discussing tenants rights and responsibilities. This leaves Furnace without a surgery which is creating problems for many without cars, particularly when we cannot car share during the pandemic.

LS hopes that the matter will be resolved in early 2021.

On the plus side the council thanks the speedy and efficient flu vaccination programme saying it bodes well for Covid vaccination rolling out next year.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Website going live end of this month.

A large number of scams are going round at the moment. A resident has been told there is a charge for blocking numbers. LS to investigate.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Next SSEN meeting on 2nd December on Microsoft Team. Please let LS know if you can go in her place.

RT officially resigned as Secretary following verbal resignation last year. Agreed to take minutes at least until new secretary is appointed.

NEXT Zoom MEETING - THURSDAY 28th January. This is a public meeting. If you want to get involved or just Zoom in to see what's being discussed please contact ccinfur@gmail.com A zoom invite will be emailed to you within 24 hours of the meeting.

In the meantime the council wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a big good bye to 2020!