

FURNACE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF MEETING OF 29th November 2019

PRESENT: L Syed (Chair), S MacInnes, R Tott, Dougie Smylie, Martin Wilson (Police Scotland), Ann Dodd, Ronnie Dodd, Hazel Gray, Mark Boston, Margaret MacIntyre.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Councillor D Philand, P Whale, V Whale

NOTES FROM LAST MEETING: Sharon to have a word about the school checking regularly on the signs located by the dog bag dispensers.

Sandy Taylor has written to Bear regarding the 40mph signs. These are being replaced with variants and countdown signs. Bear have approached the council regarding Gaelic wording for Cumlodden for the signs.

TRESURERS REPORT

- There is currently £727.70 in the Community Council Account including £250 Windfarm grant.

POLICE REPORT

- Police Scotland have launched survey backed by Social Media promotion.
- Concern raised by the committee over the recent overnight closers of Lochgilphead and Campbeltown stations now closed from 6pm to 7am. The closure was initiated to keep more police out 'policing' rather than being behind a desk. A phone line is still in operation.
- Recent road check carried out from layby just outside Furnace. No incidents of speeding reported.
- Still problems with road sign visibility by the bridge. Despite the chair going in person to Kilmory nobody has responded.

ROADS

The pavement outside the hall is in a very bad state of repair. Large potholes forming. The deterioration has escalated due to heavier use of the carpark. Some are leaving car all day to get the coach to Glasgow rather than using the parking spaces by the recycled bins.

It was noted that the council are responsible for 2m from pavement.

The more frequent lorries from the quarry are adding to the road problems.

It was agreed that we should look to resurface outside the hall and the shop. Removing the large boulders that divide the two. There may be access to funds via grant available from Balfour Beatty. Martin will get a contact. They are looking for 'community projects that create impact' This would allow to create designated disabled parking bay as well as mark out the spaces.

It was noted that the amount of mud on the A83 is causing spray and adding to problems.

We still have not been able to establish who owns land between 8 and 10 on Queen Elizabeth. It is very overgrown. Cllr Sandy Taylor has been chasing to no avail.

The Community Council congratulates Hamish MacInnes on taking up the manager role at the quarry from January.

The council are going to invite Scottish Woodlands and SSEN.

FURNACE SURGERY

The changes introduced last year were supposed to mean that we had a surgery in Furnace on Monday and Thursdays. However many have reported this is not the case. When phoning for an appointment we are only given Inveraray as an option.

The phrase 'demand lead' is being used by the practice. This implies that if the Furnace practice is not used then there is no demand. The council urge the community to insist that they are seen in Furnace. Perhaps a campaign to get the message out is needed.

COMMUNICATION

It was agreed that various planning emails and other general council communication will be sent through directly to Lynda.

MICRO GRANTS

Martin to forward email regarding grant given to cadets so that renewed grant money can come through.

Furnace Bowling Club have requested grant for new carpet. This has been agreed.

Furnace Craft Day (April 26th 2020) has asked for funding to cover cost of 3 hopper posters at £60 each so that they can produce information panels to run alongside various craft tables. A formal request will be put through in December for next tranche of funding.

- **NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 23 JANUARY**