

Furnace Community Council Meeting

Thursday 27th October 2022

Present: M Wilson (Chair), R Tott, S Macinnes, M Boston, P Whale, Councillor J Brown, M. Macintyre

Apologies for Absence: L Mackellar, K Mackellar, P. Hogbin

Minutes of previous meeting

Approved: MW, MB

Matters Arising

As many of the follow up points relate to items already on the agenda it was agreed to cover them under the appropriate heading.

Treasurers Report

The balance held in the account stands at £1,294.88 of which £273.28 has been set aside to help fund the opening of the hall commencing Wed 9th November under the Furnace “Heat & Greet” initiative. Volunteers & members of the SCIO will run the event on a weekly basis and £1k of additional funding support has been secured by Rev D. Wallace to help cover its operating costs.

Police Report/vandalism

No police report issued by Police Scotland this month.

MW advised attendees that there had been no significant incidences in, or around the village. Further afield however there had been some burglaries involving the theft of plant & tools.

Following CC chasing; the council have advised that the bus shelter repairs have now been further delayed due to adverse weather impacting their sub-contractors work schedule. The council’s sub-contractor will be in the area from 14th November and so the repairs to the bus shelter should be effected soon after this date.

CCTV cameras - MB confirmed that 3 quotes had now been sought from suitable CCTV camera suppliers and that members of the SCIO would soon be in receipt of these and able to evaluate each offer. MW asked whether council funding support might be available to help finance the procurement of CCTV equipment for community buildings and JB agreed to look in to this.

Roads

After further chasing, Bear Scotland have now started the embankment repair works at Furnace bends. The CC have asked that they undertake an embankment tidy up exercise before they remove the temporary lights due to the significant amount of rubbish that has accumulated since these lights were put in place. Bear have responded stating that in

Scotland it is the local authority's responsibility to clear rubbish & detritus from the roadside verge but they have agreed to liaise with the council by sharing our concerns.

MW advised that Bear Scotland have been stopping traffic for periods in excess of 10 minutes whilst unloading materials at Furnace bends and this has led to inconvenience and has caused significant traffic tailbacks at times. They have been reminded that they are not following the correct procedure as any road closures for scheduled works in excess of 10 minutes duration require the posting of road closure notices in advance to inform & advise road users.

A83 signage improvement works – MB provided an update received from Bear Scotland where they confirm that manufacture of new signs is now in the hands of their sub-contractor and as a result they cannot yet give a date for when this work will be undertaken. Bear Scotland to advise when they have received materials and have an installation date.

Environmental

Nothing new reported.

Grants

No information of any new applications received. Lynda Syed to advise if she has already submitted an application covering award of the next £1k of wind farm micro-grant money – ref; CC minutes 25th Aug.

Wind Farm

Next panel meeting scheduled for 21st November at 4.30pm. RT (CC panel member) cannot attend due to work commitments. MW expressed an interest in attending on behalf of the CC if this would be allowable/of assistance – RT will contact Tom Black (Community Funds Manager) to check.

No further information presented to CC members on whether a Leacainn Walk application for financial assistance for remedial works has been submitted.

JB mentioned that other sources of funding may be available for qualifying 'walks' and agreed to look into this.

Information/Correspondence

Nothing received. Agreed that a new CC email address should be set-up without further delay.

Any Other Business

Members of the new CC will meet with A&B Council representative for officiating /swearing in next week.

DONM

Date of next Meeting: Thursday 24th November @ 7.30pm (immediately following SCIO meeting)

