

AIRTH PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD IN AIRTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

AT 7.00PM ON WEDNESDAY 19TH JUNE 2013

COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS PRESENT.

R.SMITH,, A. AMOS, I.PENMAN, J. TIBBLES, P.RODGER, D.GRANT

ALSO PRESENT.

Cllr C Martin. (F.C.) W.Watson, L. Watson , M.Connell, A.Marshall, B.Donnachie, R.Donnachie, C.McLachlan, E.Tinlin.

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from J.Anslow, D .Gilmour, & Lynsey Scott.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of our meeting on 15th May were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.. Proposed by A. Amos. and seconded by J.Tibbles.

POLICE REPORT.

As P.C. Lynsey Scott of Police was unable to attend we did not have a police report to deliver.

MATTERS ARISING.

We agreed to extend an invitation to Major Robertson of the Veterans Association to attend a future meeting.

Our response to the local plan consultation has been circulated to members and submitted to Falkirk Council.

The hole in the road at Dunmore has been repaired.

Chief Inspector Alan Waddell of Police Scotland, Falkirk Area command has agreed to judge the Garden competition this year.

The RSPB are holding an exhibition on the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative in Airth Community Centre tonight (19th June) R.Smith has given Kate Fuller a copy of our history book for her information as agreed at our May meeting.

S.McLure of F.C. planning has indicated that the applicant for the new house at Riverbank in Dunmore has not provided the further information requested and it was likely to be refused.

CORRESPONDENCE.

See the list of correspondence appended.

PLANNING ISSUES.

There has been no notification of the public consultation required by Powercrofters relating to their new proposals for a waste to energy plant at Throsk. We will keep alert on this issue in case it is announced during the summer recess. Some of the residents present had not heard of this proposal, but we gave a brief explanation of it and explained how we had been involved with this in conjunction with Throsk community council since 2010 and had objected strongly to the original application which was eventually refused.

The proposed house at Riverbank in Dunmore has been refused. L. Watson of the D.V.A. asked that we write to the planners confirming our objection to the proposal.

The controversial Biomass project has been passed by the Scottish Government despite refusal by Falkirk Council and many objections from residents. We are told that Grangemouth Community Council who objected to it have resigned en masse in protest.

DART PLANNING APPLICATION.

Dart Energy have appealed to the Scottish Government over the delay by Falkirk Council in determining their application. There will be a public hearing on this issue the details and date of which is still to be announced. There may also be a public enquiry given the interest and local concerns over this application .

Some of the residents present had attended the meeting with Dr Marianne Lloyd Smith, the Australian toxicology expert and critic of coal bed methane extraction, in Falkirk and were extremely concerned about the detrimental effects the process could have on our health and environment. They were openly critical of our community council for not attending this meeting as several other community councils were present. We explained that we had been dealing with this issue for some years and had had meetings with F.O.E., Dart Energy, and S.E.P.A. discussing it and most of us had already seen the film produced by Dr Lloyd Smith, some of us more than once.. Also that we had submitted our response to the planning application detailing all the reasons for objections we have obtained from residents as well as detailing any statements by residents in support of the application.

The results of investigations carried out by AMEC on behalf of Falkirk Council are still to be finalised and submitted.

We will keep residents informed of the details of the proposed public hearing and enquiry as we receive it.

Cllr Martin left the meeting at 20.00hrs as he had a presentation to attend elsewhere.

GARDEN COMPETITION

If C.I.Waddell is unable to judge the gardens this year, we will approach Graham from Dunmore Perennials and ask him.

Willie Watson asked what the prizes were and offered to donate the £50 this year, an offer which we gratefully accepted. The gardens will be judged during the week leading up to Airth Games and the winner will be announced at the games.

FUND RAISING AT AIRTH GAMES FOR THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FUND.

We will have a stall at Airth Games to sell history books at £3.00 each and hold a raffle to raise funds. A meeting will be held before this to agree the format and see who is able to help.

LETHAM CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

Ian Penman said that a fun day and BBQ has been arranged in Letham for 6th July. He was due to attend a meeting the following day regarding the Mural depicting the village's mining heritage and a Plaque to commemorate those villagers who lost their lives in The two World Wars and in Letham pit.

TREASURERS REPORT

Jo Tibbles indicated that we currently had around £2029 in our account and she would be preparing our accounts for submission for auditing'

COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

R.Smith pointed out that this was the year for electing new community councils in Falkirk district and he had requested information from Brian Pirie. However this is not yet available. Normally nominations are made in September for an October election and if there are more than 6 nominations, a postal ballot will be held by Falkirk Council. Given the interest in our activities and the criticism we have received from some quarters, we may expect to see a few nominations from others this year. This will be most welcome as some of our long standing members have indicated that they will not be standing for re-election. When information becomes available we will publicise details on the notice board and in the press.

A.O.C.B.

We noted that Walter Douglas was still in hospital and would be keen to have visitors.

It was noted that the Airth Health centre and Community Room is underused and we will write to the health board to press for more clinics and activities to be held there.

Lilian Watson told us about some activities planned by the D.V.A. this summer and asked us to publicise them. These include tea and a brass band playing between 2 and 4 pm at the Parsonage on the 29th June, a whisky tasting in the bowling club on 4th August and a dance and hog roast at the parsonage on the 7th September. Tickets for these events can be obtained from D.V.A. committee members.

The convenor thanked everyone for attending closed the meeting.

Date of next meeting 18th September 2013.

AIRTH PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

LIST OF CORRESPONDENCE FROM 13TH MAY TO 18TH JUNE 2013.

01/05/2013 Letter from F.C. confirming renewal of our public liability insurance from 15/04/2013 until 14/04/2014.

13/05/2013 Letter from F.C. regarding the consultation on the Falkirk Local Development Plan.

19/05/2013 `E` mail from David Jarvis of Shierlaw Gardens with a copy of his response to the local plan consultation.

20/05/2013 `E` mail from Cllr. Stephen Bird confirming that no applications for change of use at The Parsonage, Dunmore have been received by F.C.

20/05/2013 `E` mail from Cllr. Stephen Bird regarding the pothole in the road at Dunmore village.

20/05/2013 `E` mail from Cllr. Stephen Bird regarding Young Placemakers Appeal by Planning Aid, Scotland.

21/05/2013 `E` mail from Kate Studd of the R.S.P.B. regarding projects and consultations relating to the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative.

23/05/2013 `E` mail from Allison Leonard of the R.S.P.B. regarding a potential site visit by us to their reserve and tidal exchange project at Powfoulis.

23/05/2013 `E` mail from the Scottish Government regarding public consultation events about the National Planning Framework to be held in Dundee and Edinburgh.

23/05/2013 `E` mail from Robert Bogan of the Dunmore Village Association regarding the proposed house near Riverbank Cottage in Dunmore.

27/05/2013 Copy of an `e` mail from Yvonne Weir of Larbert, Stenhousemuir and Torwood community council to Cllr. Martin regarding a draft agreement between affected community councils and Dart Energy which had been sent to them for perusal.

27/05/2013 Copy of an `e` mail from Cllr. Craig Martin to Yvonne Weir explaining why the draft agreement had been sent to her.

27/05/2013 Copy of an `e` mail from A.Amos to Robert Bogan of the D.V.A. correcting two items in their newsletter which referred to the Community Council.

28/05/2013 `E` mail from Cllr. Stephen Bird with a poster regarding the Bi-annual test of the Grangemouth Community warning system.

31/05/2013 `E` mail via Shona Barton from the Scottish Government with links to gain information on forthcoming changes to planning legislation.

05/06/2013 `E` mail from F.C. confirming receipt of our response to the Local Development Plan consultation.

05/06/2013 Copy of an `e` mail from Cllr. Craig Martin to Yvonne Weir regarding the proposed draft agreement between Dart Energy and Airth and Larbert community councils.

05/06/2013 Invitation by R.S.P.B. to attend public events regarding the Inner Forth Landscape Initiative. The one in Airth is scheduled for 19th June and will clash with our June meeting.

06/06/2013 `E` mail from Kate Fuller of the R.S.P.B. apologising for clashing with our meeting and thanking us for the copies of the History Book.

10/06/2013 `E` mail from Lesley Sweeney F.C. Outdoor Access Ranger regarding the spraying of Japanese Knotweed which R.Smith reported growing next to the A905 at South Alloa.

11/06/2013 `E` mail from Robert Bogan of The D.V.A. informing us that a poll of residents in Dunmore showed that the majority of them were opposed to the proposal to build a new house on land adjacent to Riverbank Cottage in Dunmore.

12/06/2013 Copy of an `e` mail from Cllr. Stephen Bird to the D.V.A. and A.P.C.C. confirming that B.T. have no plans to decommission the telephone boxes at Dunmore and South Alloa.

12/06/2013 Letter from F.C. regarding the appeal by Dart Energy for non determination of their planning application to extract coal bed methane gas from various sites around the Letham Moss area.

15/06/2013 `E` mail from our treasurer Jo Tibbles with a copy of our balance sheet in preparation for compiling our accounts.

18/06/2013 `E` mail from Cllr. Craig Martin regarding ditch clearance at Letham.

18/06/2013 `E` mail from Stephen McLure, F.C. planning dept. regarding the decision by F.C. to refuse the planning application for a new house at Dunmore.