

DUNURE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING ON TUESDAY 20TH.MARCH 2012 IN KENNEDY HALL, DUNURE, AT 7.30 pm.

SEDERUNT: Mr. Phil Findlay (Chair); Mr. Roy Storie (Treasurer);
Mr. Adam Montgomerie.

IN ATTENDANCE: Councillor Goldie, Police Constables Malloch and Kirk.

APOLOGIES: Mrs. Jean McGinn, Mrs. Thea Pettigrew, Dorothy Ward.
(Jean McGinn was making good progress following her recent operation:
Thea Pettigrew was in the Netherlands attending the funeral of her mother).

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Proposed by Mr Montgomerie, Seconded by Mr Storie.

POLICE REPORT: There was only one crime to report, namely a theft at an out-lying farm. Surprisingly the constables were unwilling, or unable, to provide names or details about the event.

COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Councillor Goldie explained that since the councillors had gone into electioneering mode routine attendance had been disrupted so she was the sole representative. She had also reported the various road defects that had been drawn to her attention at the previous meeting.

LINK OFFICER'S REPORT: Owing to her absence there was no report.

MATTERS ARISING: The Chairman wanted to know why, if we were represented by four councillors, they did not all attend our meetings, and how, if they did not, could he be expected to vote for them.

Councillor Goldie pointed out that Councillor Galbraith had been present on at least two occasions, but that the reason we tended to see mainly Councillor Low and herself was because the team had to divide up their responsibilities over a number of community councils some of whose evening meetings coincided. She pointed out that the former system where each community council had been represented by a single councillor, in our case by Allan Murray, no longer applied.

We expressed disappointment that none of our requests concerning the state of the local roads had been dealt with.

* We drew her attention to the fact that a loose chippings notice board had been left uncollected since last spring, and repeated our request about the serious state of Station Rd. at the foot of the hill.

Attention was also drawn to the fact that a green wheelie-bin, containing rubbish had been lying on the grass verge at Burton since December

OPEN FORUM

Mr Storie had attended SAC'S Roadshow earlier this month. The Head of the Roads Department had been in post for three years now, and when he took charge the Department was

struggling to make up the backlog of repairs left by the previous Council, as well as having a restricted budget which was only half that of East Ayrshire's. He did point out that the council had given top-ups to that budget in recent months. When asked why the roads were such a low priority he replied that SAC had to choose between roads or keeping a care home open. The small audience raised many of the points which we as a community council had raised with the department representative at our meeting last May, e.g. poor quality of infill and shoddy workmanship by certain staff in filling in the holes. He did admit that this was sometimes the case, and added that speedy temporary infilling was necessary to reduce insurance claims.

He added that the situation was so serious that the inspectors were prioritising those holes which were in direct line with vehicles' wheels.

He also agreed that the policy of using a thin layer of surfacing over the existing roads had been a failure and that this had been discontinued. He admitted that some of the more permanent infilling of potholes were proud of the existing road surface.

Questioned as to why the various utilities were not held responsible for poor quality infilling work when they had finished he repeated what we had been told last May, namely that they were awaiting the appointment of a fifth road inspector. I queried the need for a further inspector: for with just over 11,000 kilometres to assess then each person had only about 2800 kilometres to check in a year. If only 100 days were devoted then this meant about 28 ks in a day, or less if the days were increased. He still felt that an additional inspector was needed.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr Storie said that because the Bank of Scotland were no longer paying interest on our account then, if no transactions took place, no monthly statement would be issued.

The current balance was £389 28 and the Community Centre Account stands at £620.42

CORRESPONDENCE:

Beach Watch leaflet. To pass on to Andy Guthrie.

By –election for community council members. No names had come forward. Committee to continue looking for Members.

Planning Democracy Conference in Edinburgh. No takers.

Learning from the Past – Preparing for the Future. Conference in Dunblane. No takers.

Healthwise. Care Counts. Engagement Events-NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

Civil Contingencies. Felt there was no need for contingency planning.

Glasdon Products.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Request for a contribution to help with the repairs to metal railings outside village hall. (Mr Storie has telephoned County Building for clarification, regarding amount.)

Letter from M. Wilson, 17 Kennedy Drive, handed in by Dorothy Ward requesting that neighbouring trees are so overgrown that she can no longer see across to Arran, and that they are now affecting a telephone cable. I omitted to refer to this letter at the meeting

With apologies, R.Storie

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 17TH. APRIL 2012