

WATERSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY, 3 MARCH 2020

Present: Chair, J. Herriot; Vice-Chair S. Wilson; Secretary, J. Whyte; Communications, C. Lilly;  
Treasurer, K. Chesney-Bathie; M. Todd.  
Cllrs. S. Murray; J. Jamieson; S. MacDonald.  
Police PC S. Tobin; WPC R. Buchanan.  
Guest, S. McDiarmid.  
Also in attendance:  
C. Willson; T. Willson; T. Donaldson; D. McFadden; J. Quigley; J. Carmichael; M. Rocks.  
Apologies: J. Kennedy, E. Carlin; D. Carmichael.

- (1) Meeting started at 7.30pm. All committee members stood down as this was the AGM.
- (2) POLICE REPORT. Since last month there had been 234 calls in the Harestanes, Hillhead, Twechar, Waterside and Waterside Road areas. Thirty-three incidents for Waterside area (including Waterside Road). Two crimes had been reported: one assault, one breach of the peace; there'd also been some minor vandalism and two road traffic issues. PC Fitzsimmons was pursuing a speeding issue and looking into parking problems; he had been to see problem parking places (including corner of Bankhead Rd) accompanied by J. Kennedy. Ella, the horse, had bolted from her field, so a repair had been carried out on the fence by the wall. There had been some flooding issues. Only one section 52 had been issued for possession of drugs (cannabis) over the month.
- (3) Cllr. MacDonald chaired the meeting for the vote on offices. He thanked office bearers for their hard work. There was no change to the committee apart from Margaret Todd's being voted in.
- (4) S. McDiarmid advised that the Miners Club would close at 6.00pm on Sunday 8 March. The club had lost £15K over five months. It was agreed the closure would be a huge loss to the community and members. With the loss of the club (as well as the playing field) the village would have nowhere for meetings and would have little left. Creditors would have to be paid after buildings were closed. Building would revert to CISWO. A receiver would be appointed.  
D. Westwater of Community Enterprise (CE) had tried to come to an arrangement with CISWO for the community to take over the hall, but they were difficult to pin down and get hold of. The CE feasibility study had shown that £72K was needed for repairs in the current year, with maintenance totalling £500K over five years (improvements not included). CE's presentation had been optimistic we could obtain the necessary £1m funding, but there was now no time.  
Theoretically, CISWO ought to be willing to work with the community to preserve a facility – their website states: 'We also work to secure the future of recreational facilities in former coal mining communities and work with local mining charities to ensure their services continue.' Much information had been provided by the feasibility study about what the community would like. To embark on a community buyout we would need to set up a company limited by guarantee with a viable business plan; a minimum of three trustees would be needed and at least ten members initially, though twenty members would be required in order to comply with regulations on asset transfer and to convert to a Scottish charitable incorporated organisation (SCIO). The Scotland Land Fund might provide funding. Stage one application deadline: 18 March. Public meeting needed. Big undertaking. Interest should be registered under community right to buy. CISWO might

appeal this. Ballot of entire community would be needed. Could consider suggesting a partial buyout. The annex (the original building) could be run separately. Or there's the car park if it is part of the Miners Club property [we have been told it is].

M. Rocks asked if there was any plan to make a historical record of the club – video blog and photos for the EDC archives before closure.

- (5) Public meeting to be held within next two weeks to discuss future of Miners Club and recruit members for company. Provisionally 9 March. C. Lilly to ask D. Wright or D. Westwater along (to talk about options). Ideally publicise story in *Kirkintilloch Herald*, *Evening Times*. Advertise meeting on social media. M Todd offered to represent WCC at a meeting with Martin Cunningham that might clash. Online petition needed (J. Carmichael to write) Venue for public meeting needed – convent? (M. Todd to ask). Failing that, C. Lilly to try St Columba's) D. McFadden to ask CRT about contacting BBC in case story of interest. (They had recently covered failing mining communities). Celebrities to be contacted: Sally Magnusson (S. McDonald); Dorothy Paul, Natalie Robb, Jim Watt (J. Herriot); Theresa Breslin (D. McFadden); Charlie Mulgrew, Lina Martel (?). Advertising (Scott Wilson and J. Carmichael); social media, *Kirkintilloch Herald*, *Glasgow Evening Times* (C. Lilly); contact MP and MSPs (J. Herriot).
- (6) Bat Conservation Trust to be contacted in view of bat maternity roost in club (?).
- (7) Events team are looking for more volunteers for festival on 20 June. Entertainment has been booked, stall holders required. C. Willson volunteered to help on a stall. Events team advertising for students to help – good for their CVs. J. Herriot will help. Others to think about it.
- (8) The Duck Race is set to go ahead on Easter Sunday 12 April.
- (9) Two CRT projects due to be finished by 31 March but extensions sought. Window Wanderland project postponed because of personal circumstances. Village Improvement Project – a team meeting had been held. Email request sent to Jackie Gillespie re plants.
- (10) The meeting with Martin Cunningham regarding boundaries with KCC, Woodilee and LCC would be on either 9 or 11 April. Market Road and Chryston Road were the proposed boundary, meaning Crossdykes would remain with WCC. Everyone at the meeting was happy with this. Once boundaries agreed, constitution could be updated incl. subgroups.
- (11) Karen and a team of Luggiewatch and Community Council members had done a litter pick; one of the areas was Moss Road, taking in the Moss Goat burn between Taig Road and the school path as well as on the other side of Moss Road. Concerns were raised about the litter in the burn, there were six bikes, a scooter, two trampolines, a Dyson, a sink, golf clubs, empty drugs sachets..., and worst of all, soiled nappies in the burn. Community Safety Line's Laura Stewart agreed this was a serious concern and will visit and take this up with residents of the Taig Gdns/Link Housing, who seem to be throwing their rubbish over their fences. She will keep in touch with K. Chesney-Bathie. The water in the burn may be in need of dredging. Possibility of a NO FLY-TIPPING notice and a warning that this is an offence being looked into. J. Herriot thanked those involved in carrying out the litter pick for doing an amazing job.
- (12) A reply to Geraldine Easton and Patricia Profili's communication of early January is still needed. It seemed trees had been cut down there, but D. McFadden had found out that this was the work of ScotRail, which was carrying out repairs to the viaduct.
- (13) As there was no correspondence and no further business, meeting closed at 9.25pm.