

Torphins Community Council

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Meeting Minutes Thursday 7th March 2024 at 7:30 pm

Item No.	Description	Owner
1.	Present: Peter Argyle (PA) (Chair); Andrew Brazier (AB); Eric Day (ED); Iain Firth (IF); Will Maclean (WM); Andrew Macpherson (AM); Liz Moore (LM); Colin Rouse (CR); Stephen Salter (SS) In Attendance: Cllr Sarah Brown (SB); Cllr Anouk Kloppert (AK) (part by Teams);	
	Pam Jamieson (PJ), Venue and Asset Officer (South), Live Life Aberdeenshire; Linda Manning, TORCH Apologies: John Lucas (JL); Cllr. Geva Blackett (GB); Cllr Anouk Kloppert (part)	
2.	Intimation of noted interests: ED and CR expressed an interest in the matter of planning application APP/2023/1374. WM expressed interest in issue 2402 Learney Burn and Bridge, and Torphins - Lumphanan Path planning application	
3.	Confirm adoption of minutes of meeting 1 February 2024 previously by email: Adopted as proposed by December email without changes. Proposed: Iain Firth Seconded: Eric Day	TCC
4.	Police Report: Q1 due April	PS
5.	Finance Report: The balance is £10,817.22 with TCC general funds £391.02, Christmas Lights £530.57, Hardship Fund £720.88 and TORCH £9175.45. The final accounting of Carols Around Christmas Tree showed expenditure on mulled wine, Christmas pies etc. £108.28 and generous donations received from public £247.05.	ED
	Sundries from Christmas Lights fund were £60.92. The Hardship Fund expenditure of £675.61 included tarpaulins for logs £26.99, Pantry £148.62, a £500 donation to Torphins School Inclusion and Equity Fund. TORCH expenditure was £95.00 for moisture control logs for generator container, which is suffering from condensation. Linda Manning visited on behalf of TORCH to discuss the large bank balance being held by TORCH. There have been some proposals to apply funds, however no decisions have been made and there is a recognised need to retain a decent balance for unforeseen	LM
	events, which is what TORCH is all about. After some discussion revolving around the condensation problem in the generator container it was decided TCC could form a small team to work on an insulation and ventilation solution with TORCH, knowing funds are available. ED, JL, and IF were volunteered to assist.	ED/JL/I
6.	Planning Report: APP/2023/1374 – See Open Item Action Log No. 2401.	ED

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7.	New Items Visit of Pam Jamieson, Venue and Asset Officer (South), Live Life Aberdeenshire. Pam was welcomed to the meeting by PA. Pam was visiting at the request of TCC to understand the new operating model for Aberdeenshire Council venues and how the system is working. Learney Hall was not the first to move to the new system, which had been tested elsewhere. The process is that regular hall users are inducted to take responsibility for management of the hall facility when they are using it. There is no hall keeper for such venues, rather a "Dry Leisure Assistant" (halls rather than pool facilities) is assigned to multi task with cleaning etc. across a range of locations. Banchory Town Hall has recently lost its hall keeper through voluntary attrition/redundancy so this facility will move to the same model with no dedicated hall keeper. Lumphanan Hall is being divested by the Council, however, there are plans for a community group to take it over, with LCC supporting the objective. There are absolutely no plans for Learney Hall to close and the position of the local assistant is assured. The large hall facilities in Inverurie and Stonehaven will continue to have dedicated hall keepers. The new model has been introduced as a productivity measure to meet the challenge of shrinking Council budgets. Torphins Park Pavilion is also managed by the team, which is chasing to have repairs completed. A new roof issue was noted by Pam to be followed up. PA asked about the long mooted renovation of Learney Hall and the application for additive improvements with the TCC ring fenced funds from the sale of Torphins School House. Pam advised a new staffing structure is being implemented which she thinks will bring focus to the hall plans. It was decided the new manager be invited to attend TCC early summer to update the group. Thanks were extended to Pam for her helpful visit and she left the meeting. New CC Election Process: The new single election process for community Councils in Aberdeenshire will be held on a sing	PJ PJ
8.	2024. Open Action Log: The Open Action Log is an appendix integral to the minutes of meeting. All items were reviewed and updated as detailed in the log, which is available online with the minutes at www.torphins.net .	тсс
9.	Correspondence: All correspondence received has been distributed by email to all members. Notable items are: Online catch up for Marr Community Councils on 13 th March 2024 at 7:00pm on Teams. Link in email provided.	WM

Item No.	Description	Owner
9.	 Correspondence (Continued): A communication has been copied to TCC by a resident regarding the failure of the speed sign at Wester Beltie, and the protracted correspondence with the Council to get the matter resolved. It has now been escalated so no action required by TCC at this time. 	WM
	 TCC has now received the quotation for insurance renewal directly from Zurich under the new arrangements whereby Aberdeenshire Council does not participate, the process being direct between CC and insurers. The premium quoted, including extras, is £293.73 including IPT. It was agreed WM to circulate the policy schedule to all members for review prior to acceptance, and payment by Treasurer by 1st 	WM TCC ED
40	April 2024.	
10.	 AOCB: SS asked if anyone knows who owns the Bread of Life building. SS was referred to Bread of Life management. 	SS
	LM asked if it is time to update the TCC logo, particularly since we are headed to a new website which could go live with a new logo. Deferred to next meeting	LM
	WM advised the planning application for the Torphins – Lumphanan path was submitted on 1st march 2024. Also the new TPG path is complete at Dam Wood, including bridge over Blacklinn Burn and lay-by at Glassel road. Arrangements are being made for an official opening. TCG mark have the plant of TPG valuettees for their cutaton discussion.	WM
	 TCC members thanked TPG volunteers for their outstanding work. AB raised a concern that beech hedges on south side of Craigour Road are restricting the pavement. Likewise WM mentioned a hedge further east on north side. Cllr SB directed members to the Council website where such matters should be reported. 	АВ
	 Cllr SB reviewed her report covering action items. Also Cllr SB gave notice of the upcoming bus consultation regarding schedule of services and connections to upper Deeside. The pavement parking exemption for the bollard area opposite Scotmid is to be approved and sign posted, meantime we are advised prosecutions are not to be pursued for that area. Aberdeenshire Council budgets are under severe pressure, with service impacts being agreed in the new budget for 2024/25. 	Cllr SB
	PA asked Cllr SB to check on the proposal for physical obstructions to be installed to prevent parking across the dimpled dropped kerbs at Scotmid. A request was also made for the disabled bays to be repainted.	Cllr SB
	 Cllr AK's report covering Aberdeenshire Council matters had been distributed and was briefly reviewed. 	Cllr AK
11.	Next ordinary meeting: Thursday 4 th April 2024, 7:30 pm, Learney Hall Torphins	
12.	Meeting closed at 9:03 pm	
	Adoption of Minutes: These minutes were circulated by email to all TCC members on 8 th March 2024 and adopted by email as an accurate record of the meeting. Adoption will be confirmed at the meeting on 4 th April 2024. Proposed: Liz Moore Seconded: Eric Day	