



Torphins Community Council

Serving the Electoral Districts of Torphins, Glassel and Tornaveen

<http://www.torphins.net>

<https://www.facebook.com/TorphinsCommunity>

Meeting Minutes Thursday 2 nd July 2020 at 7:30 pm Virtual Meeting on Zoom		
Item No.	Description	Owner
1.	<p>Present: Hamish Booth (HB); Eric Day (ED); John Lucas (JL); Will Maclean (WM); Andrew Macpherson (AM) (Chair); Liz Moore (LM); Carol Reid (CRd); Colin Rouse (CR); Rev. Holly Smith (HS) (Start)</p> <p>In Attendance: Cllr. Peter Argyle (PA); Cllr. Paul Gibb (PG); Cath Du Preez; Scott Findlater</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr. G. Blackett (GB)</p> <p>Not Present: Campbell Gilllies (CG)</p>	
2.	<p>Intimation of noted interests:</p> <p>AM advised his interest in the Easter Beltie River Restoration Project as he is a neighbour.</p> <p>WM advised his interest in the Easter Beltie River Restoration Project as Chair of Torphins Paths Group which supports the project in principle and is working to develop a path at the site, however as a member of public objected to lack of clarity on upstream flood risk assessment.</p>	AM WM
3.	<p>Confirm adoption of minutes of meeting 4th June 2020 previously by email:</p> <p>Adoption without changes. Proposed: John Lucas Seconded: Eric Day</p>	TCC
4.	<p>Police Report:</p> <p>Received 7th June 2020 – meeting reviewed key comments and contents noted, particularly warnings to community to look out for increased Phishing and Smishing online threats.</p>	PS
5.	<p>Finance Report:</p> <p>The balance at bank is unchanged at £4940.80, being:</p> <p>TCC free funds £1,136.34 less one o/s cheque £17.98</p> <p>TERP £186.48</p> <p>Festive Lights £2,500.00</p> <p>Hardship Fund £1,100.00</p>	ED
6.	<p>Planning Matters:</p> <p>6.1. Weekly List of Planning Applications: The application for Easter Beltie River Restoration Project has been submitted ref APP/2020/0859. This project is to create meanders and wetlands in the Beltie Burn over 1 km at Easter Beltie, restoring the straightened and embanked burn to nearer it's form before the 18th/19th century agricultural improvements and construction of the railway, with the objective of restoring the ecology of the burn.</p>	ED

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6.	<p>Planning Matters (continued):</p> <p>6.1. Easter Beltie River Restoration Project APP/2020/0859 (continued): ED (planning officer) expressed TCC interest to ensure adequate assessment is evidenced that there is no increased flood risk upstream of the project site, including the Station Garage site, which has been approved for development. Since incidents of flood have been reported in past on Beltie and Learney burns it is important any flood risk is not increased. JL and CR both questioned if upstream to Torphins is adequately addressed in the application, again including the Station Garage site, and CR said TCC should write to request clarity on upstream risk. It is noted the LDP 2021 presently in consultation states regarding the Station Garage site “A flood risk assessment may be required. The Beltie Burn that borders the southern boundary is at “Bad” status due to its poor physical condition. Any development will be required to investigate the restoration and enhancement of the burn.” CRd asked if the project reduces flood risk and was advised the report states only downstream risk is reduced. AM noted that planners prioritise downstream considerations. LM questioned the reason for the project and was advised the Design Statement says to improve the physical and ecological condition of the burn including improvement for salmon. HB stated he thinks the water will be slowed and thus will flood more, although the Beltie had coped at his farm in Storm Frank. He thinks the community should welcome the ecological project and referred to another project on the River Nith in Ayrshire. ED felt unhappy with the reported modelling to give confidence on upstream flood risk, and in particular is concerned that the SEPA recommendation that modelling should include consultation with local people has not taken place. The meeting resolved that the TCC planning officer will submit a comment on the planning application requesting answers to the specific questions and concerns before a decision by TCC to object or support.</p> <p>6.2. Backhill – Moulinearn Woodland Creation Scheme, Scottish Forestry Grant Scheme, Scoping Process. This is not strictly a planning matter however it was decided to consider within the planning discussion. TCC has received an offer to submit comments regarding proposed woodland planting by the owners of Learney Home Farm. TCC has received a representation from a home owner at an adjoining property advising that that recent existing plantings have been omitted from the maps, and that these plantings and the new plantings will encircle the residential property. Accordingly she will object and advises TCC of this concern. Following discussion it was decided the Secretary should write the agent, Luke Venter of McConnachie Land & Forestry Services, recommending that while forest planting is generally supported there should be an adequate belt of open land at adjoining properties to prevent excessive enclosure and restriction of light etc. Furthermore maps of proposals should be up to date with existing land features and infrastructure. The proposal details are on TCC Facebook page since 23 June and are open for comment to ML&FS until 23 July 2020.</p>	<p>ED</p> <p>WM</p>

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	<p>www.torphins.net and www.Facebook.com/torphinscommunity/</p> <p>10.2. Consultation letter on Woodland Creation Scheme covered at 6.2.</p> <p>10.3. AM will circulate final draft of letter to Learney Estate regarding tree felling.</p> <p>10.4. Marr Area Partnership circulated a proposal for a “village larder” scheme to supplement the FoodShare scheme available through Banchory location. TCC submitted questions and remains doubtful of proposal unless community feels there is a need and subject to hearing more from MAP.</p> <p>10.5. The latest Stagecoach service 201 timetable effective 29th June 2020 until further notice was received and has been posted in the village notice board and online at www.torphins.net and www.Facebook.com/torphinscommunity.</p> <p>10.6. Aberdeenshire Council has now advised some summer bedding plants will be available after all. TCC has requested it’s allocation and will take delivery to Eleanor Day for distribution to tub volunteers for planting as appropriate.</p>	<p>WM AM WM WM</p> <p>Eleanor Day</p>
11.	<p>A.O.C.B.</p> <p>11.1. Cath Du Preez was welcomed to the meeting and invited to explain her concern, which had been reported to TCC by email and responded to by providing Aberdeenshire Council reporting details, enabling her to submit the issue to Council. Cath explained her concern about flooding off the road into her garage at Inchley Place, and that there had been periodic issues on the street over many years, although not strongly reported and not resolved. Cllr PA advised Cath to let him know if she does not receive a timely satisfactory response so he can pursue as necessary. Secretary to provide Cllr PA contact email to Cath.</p> <p>11.2. JL advised the hedge at Torphins Health Centre is needing cut again. Secretary to contact Health Centre of NHS Grampian Estates who is responsible.</p> <p>11.3. LM advised hedge at Village Farm House is encroaching excessively on pavement and JL undertook to discuss with owner.</p> <p>11.4. LM questioned the purpose of a letter about plans for Learney Hall extension received through Scott Findlater, which had been mailed to the hall. It was decided this is simply the LDP statutory advice about R1 Reserved land for extension of Learney Hall, which is an historic proposal but still Reserved.</p> <p>11.5. CRd advised she and Scott Findlater have a proposal to install shelves in the old telephone box at Sundayswells. TCC is supportive provided the property is adequately protected in current form and no additional liabilities arise.</p> <p>11.6. AM advised he has applied and been rejected for the Village Betterment grant as it is all committed. AM will now consider applying for the Scottish Government BID fund of up to £5,000. Village benches were suggested and other ideas that may qualify are welcome for consideration for this fund, which will be in heavy demand.</p> <p>11.7. AM plans to attend the next Bus Forum, it being noted the Spring Bus Forums were cancelled due to COVID-19 and no advice has been received regarding any virtual meeting proposals or restart.</p>	Cath Du Preez
12.	<p>Next ordinary meeting Thursday 3rd September 2020 at 7:30 pm on Zoom (August is summer recess unless urgent matters arise) Rev HS to send Zoom invitation</p>	Rev HS
13.	<p>Meeting closed at 9:30 pm</p>	
	<p>Adoption of Minutes: These minutes were circulated by email to all TCC members on 3rd July 2020 and adopted by email as an accurate record of the meeting. Adoption will be confirmed at the meeting on 3rd September 2020. Proposed: Eric Day Seconded: John Lucas</p>	