



Torphins Community Council

Serving the Electoral Districts of Torphins, Campfield and Tornaveen
<http://www.torphins.net> & <https://www.facebook.com/TorphinsCommunity>

Meeting Minutes Thursday 5 th January 2023 at 7:30 pm Learney Hall, Torphins		
Item No.	Description	Owner
1.	<p>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)</p> <p>Apologies: Cllr. Geva Blackett (GB); Cllr Sarah Brown (SB); Cllr Anouk Kloppert (AK); John Lucas (JL);</p>	
2.	Intimation of noted interests: None	
3.	<p>Confirm adoption of minutes of meeting 1st December 2022 previously by email: Adopted without changes. Proposed: Iain Firth Seconded: John Lucas</p>	TCC
4.	Police Report: Still no report for meeting, but Qrt to December received 09/01/2023	PS
5.	<p>Finance Report: The bank balance is £19,736.91, being TCC funds £1099.26; Hardship Fund £2,165.00; and TORCH funds £16,472.65. TCC spent £396.00 printing the Winter Newsletter, and £132.88 on mulled wine and mince pies for Carols Around the Christmas Tree. Donations on the evening were excellent and much appreciated at £311.20 to bank. TORCH received income of £750 from Bread of Life and £2,000 from Marr Area Committee, while spending £395 on printing TORCH brochures and £11.92 postage.</p>	ED
6.	<p>Planning Report: There are no new planning submissions. The objections by Historic Scotland and Aberdeenshire to West Lodge extension are noted, the building being listed.</p>	ED
7.	<p>New Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Torphins Area Winter Road Gritting and Treatment: All members reported extreme concern regarding the serious lack of road and pavement treatment throughout the Torphins area during the spell of snow and ice from early/mid December to early January. There was disappointment that no Councillors were present to hear the feedback and to respond, particularly given there had been considerable Email and web communication on the matter to Councillors and Roads from 9th December onwards. Other Community Councils are known to share the concern. The level of treatment ranged from minimal to non-existent, with many streets and pavements that have always been treated, including last winter, seeing virtually no attention. Plus grit/salt bins in Torphins were all empty and only on 6th January mostly filled. Is the service change the result of new policies just implemented, or failure to implement policy, or both? TCC resolved the Secretary should write to Janelle Clark, Area Manager, requesting the matter be main subject at the next Community Ward Forum and that a responsible senior Roads Officer should be present to hear feedback, explain the Council's position and intention, and to answer questions.</p> 	ED

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7.	<p>New Items (Continued):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collapse of Beltie Burn retaining wall at Kincardine Road bridge, Torphins: SS has reported the collapse of the retaining wall at Kincardine Road bridge in the south of the village (Roads report enquiry number 720700). The wall, which retains the bank of the burn near the edge of a roadway, has collapsed. The area has clearly been subject to construction works in the past when the road was realigned to a new bridge. The matter needs prompt attention before further damage results to the banking and potentially the access road, and to maintain integrity to flood resistance. 	SS, Aberdeen-shire Council
8.	<p>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.</p>	TCC
9.	<p>Correspondence: All correspondence received has been distributed by email. The following matters were highlighted in the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former TCC member Gordon Smith has expressed interest in joining TCC. There are no vacant positions at this time however Secretary has confirmed upcoming elections and AGM in spring. • Reminder again from Piers Blaxter encouraging feedback to online consultations open until 9th January 2023 on the LDP process until. • Request from TORCH to implement insurance for the new generator has been responded to and the equipment added to TCC policy based on temporary storage location at Station Garage. No charge from now to 31 March 2023, with future annual charge around £45. • A resident of Campfield wrote TCC on 23rd November regarding bus services. Secretary responded at the time and later the resident responded with suggestions. Email to be circulated to TCC for action (apology for Sec. oversight). • There has been ongoing correspondence on the A2B Dial-a-Bus service with Marion Mackay, Principal Officer (DRT, Fares & Ticketing), Passenger Transport Unit, regarding the need for good publicity about the service. Feedback from the community indicates the service is highly valued by the few users, but that many community members are not aware of the service or do not know it is free. We are pleased to see the Lumphanan-Torphins-Banchory service now publicised in the press and with new posters at bus stops. TCC included a full-page article in the Winter Newsletter with the sub-message “use it or lose it”. 	WM
10.	<p>AOCB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AM and some residents questioned why village halls were assigned to Live Life Aberdeenshire when given the hall role in community resilience and community organisations a better responsible party may be Health and Social Care. PA explained the change had been made a few years ago to bring public venues under one organisation reporting to Communities Committee of Aberdeenshire. • AM expressed thanks to Aberdeenshire Council for the admirable initiative to provide free female sanitary products to the community. • Decision to invite Piers Blaxter to meeting of TCC on 2 February 2023 reiterated and request to be sent. • WM advised the meeting that the new 1.5km path at Easter Beltie by Torphins Paths Group has been constructed and entry safety barriers are being installed prior to promotion of the path to the public. The car park by B. McIntosh at the “three bridges” entry point is complete. The proposals for connections back to Torphins and forward to Glassel are well advanced but will require funding. 	AM AM WM WM

Item No.	Description	Owner
12.	Next ordinary meeting: Thursday 2 nd February 2023, 7:30 pm Learney Hall Torphins	
13.	Meeting closed at 08:45 pm	
	Adoption of Minutes: These minutes were circulated by email to all TCC members on 8 th January 2023 and adopted by email as an accurate record of the meeting. Adoption will be confirmed at the meeting on 2 nd February 2023. Proposed: Eric Day Seconded: Iain Firth	