



## Torphins Community Council

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Meeting Minutes Thursday 5 April 2018 at 7:30 pm Learney Hall, Torphins		
Item No.	Description	Owner
1.	<b>Present:</b> Hamish Booth (HB); Andy Cowie (AC); Eric Day (ED); Campbell Gillies (CG); John Lucas (JL) (Chair); Will Maclean (WM); Liz Moore (EM); Nick Poulton (NP); <b>In Attendance:</b> Cllr. Peter Argyle (PA); Cllr. Paul Gibb (PG) <b>Apologies:</b> Colin Rouse (CR); Cllr. Geva Blackett (GB)	
2.	<b>Intimation of noted interests</b> – None	
3.	<b>Confirm adoption of minutes of meeting 1 March 2018:</b> Proposed: John Lucas    Seconded: Colin Rouse	TCC
4.	<b>Police Report:</b> Police Report received 6 March 2018 and distributed to members. Regarding the Police reporting short life working group we were advised we would be provided with our local contact and the final plans during March. This information on the new process has not been received. Cllr. PA advised the Police are still working on the matter to finalise proposals. (Most recent report now received 7 April and distributed to members)	Police Scotland
5.	<b>Finance Report:</b> Balance April 5 <sup>th</sup> : £3,175.28, including £2,335 ring fenced for TERP. The grant and expenditure for the new notice board have been processed. The annual Community Council grant from Aberdeenshire Council is awaited. (On 6 <sup>th</sup> April we received advice the grant of £542.67 and Data Protection Registration Fee of £35.00 are being processed through finance for payment.)	ED
6.	<b>Planning Matters:</b> <b>6.1. Weekly Lists of Planning Applications:</b> Noted that change of use from Holiday Let to Residential Let has been submitted for Learney Flat, as previously reviewed in communication with the owner. Noted application for new dwelling house at 12b Craigour Avenue has been withdrawn.	ED
7.	<b>New Items:</b> <b>7.1. Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan – Main Issues Report Consultation:</b> The report was discussed and the Secretary was instructed to submit a response on behalf of TCC, which will be made available on TCC website. <b>TCC Logo:</b> JL will submit a proposal at the meeting on 3 <sup>rd</sup> May. <b>Report on Marr Mini Conference Community Empowerment:</b> The mini conference organised by Marr Area Partnership and attended by WM covered the subjects of Community Planning; Participation requests; Community	WM  JL  WM

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7.	Rights to buy; Asset transfers; and Participatory budgeting. Presenters from Scottish Government, Aberdeenshire Council, and other bodies involved in these processes explained the legislation and its operation and answered questions. There were also working groups to increase understanding and share experiences. Key materials from the event will be distributed to all TCC members.	
8.	<p><b>Open Items:</b></p> <p><b>8.1. Old School House:</b> No new information available. Cllr. PA will continue to seek a report on progress.</p> <p><b>8.2. Community Action Plan:</b> LM met with Natasha Pawlukiewicz, Development Officer, Marr Area Partnership who recommended we prepare a completely new plan owing to the age of the previous plan. Funding is limited however MAP support funding and will work with a group of volunteers dedicated to developing the plan. TCC will source the committee from interested local groups and individuals. It was resolved to write to local organisations to come together for the project and engage the group with Natasha. The Newsletter will promote the CAP with the contacts preliminary to working with Natasha.</p> <p><b>8.3. Constitution:</b> Final changes as requested by Area are being updated and will be submitted, with approval by TCC planned to be completed at 7<sup>th</sup> June meeting.</p> <p><b>8.4. Torphins Emergency Response Plan:</b> The Risk Assessment documentation prepared by CR is accepted. The TERP will be finalised and remaining equipment purchased.</p> <p><b>8.5. Newsletter:</b> The Newsletter is nearing completion to be followed by Village Welcome Pack.</p> <p><b>8.6. Notice Board:</b> The notice board is paid and ready for collection from the supplier from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April. ED will contact Alistair Arbuthnott to arrange collection as agreed, with thanks to Addison's for providing the transport. Roads Dept. will remove the old board and fit the new board. The old board will be made available for sale, possibly to the newly re-established Mid Deeside Community Council.</p> <p><b>8.7. Torphins Park:</b> The flooding at the west end of the park following the installation of the new drainage and soak away was first reported by JL on 26<sup>th</sup> February. Despite multiple site visits by Aberdeenshire Council project manager, roads dept. and contractors the matter is not yet resolved. Attention is ongoing. Given the problems at the Anderson's drive in Innermarkie Wynd Cllr. PA offered to contact Roads Dept himself.</p> <p><b>8.8. Roads – extension of 30 mph limit north of village:</b> It is understood the Roads Dept is overloaded with winter road damage work and a gap in staffing. It was agreed NP will write with a gentle request to speed this matter which has been open for many months to years.</p> <p><b>8.9. Overgrown Hedges and Vegetation:</b> LM will provide the list of problem locations to Cllr. PG who will notify Landscape Services Dept. to action with property owners.</p>	<p>Cllr. PA</p> <p>LM</p> <p>JL</p> <p>JL</p> <p>LM</p> <p>ED</p> <p>JL Cllr. PA BH</p> <p>NP</p> <p>LM Cllr. PG</p>
9.	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <p><b>9.1. Letter from Alan and Phyllis Dow regarding former funeral directors business:</b> The letter had been distributed to TCC members. Mr. and Mrs. Dow express a concern that Scotmid, property owner and lessor to the Dows, are hindering the assignment of the lease to another party. There is an opportunity to enable another business to use the premises if a new lease can be agreed. The potential lessor is not known by TCC. It was resolved to contact the Scotmid Property Department to express the desire of TCC that every opportunity should be taken to encourage business development in Torphins, and that as a major interest in the village Scotmid should be cooperative to act positively for the village, in this case to put vacant property into productive use.</p>	WM

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9.	<p><b>9.2. Waste Bin on Learney Avenue:</b> A Facebook message has been received asking about the removal of the waste bin on the Learney Avenue, with the risk of increasing the already serious dog fouling problem. Cllr. PA advised he has already reported the matter to the responsible Aberdeenshire Council party to check if there is any knowledge of what happened to the bin and to have the bin urgently replaced.</p>	JL Cllr. PA
10.	<p><b>AOCB:</b></p> <p><b>10.1. Informal Laybys at Campfield:</b> CG again raised his extreme concern about the near miss incidents being caused by the informal laybys at Campfield Filling Station, which obscure visibility and force traffic to the centre of the road. Cllr. PA advised he would take the matter to the Roads Dept. if TCC wishes. The meeting agreed the matter should be taken to Roads for review and action.</p> <p><b>10.2. Festive Lights etc. Proposed New Regulations:</b> ED advised he has been invited to a meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> April to review the implementation of the proposed new regulations for festive lights, bunting, etc. ED is extremely concerned the effort and costs of implementing the regulations will be excessive, severely impacting the feasibility of Community Councils and Community Associations being able to maintain the provision of festive features. Cllr. PA advised the regulations are a proposal from officials and have not been approved. In fact the Infrastructure Services Committee has requested another report on the matter. The 18<sup>th</sup> April meeting is seeking input in preparation for the new report.</p> <p><b>10.4. Litter Clean Up:</b> JL noted and congratulated the work of the young Thomas Truby to organise litter clean up teams for Aberdeen beach and locally. TCC is very concerned about littering, urging support to the clean up effort, and calling on all members of the community to behave responsibly by never leaving litter.</p> <p><b>10.5. Dog Fouling:</b> There is increasing evidence and complaints that the dog fouling menace is rapidly growing again. It was resolved to re-start the campaign with new posters, spray marking, and encouragement of responsible pick up of waste by all dog owners and walkers.</p> <p><b>10.6. Torphins Paths Group:</b> WM advised the meeting on the positive progress by Torphins Paths Group with the completion of the Technical Feasibility Study by Outdoor Access Trust for Scotland, funded by South Aberdeenshire LEADER, Marr Area Committee Large Project Grants, and Bread of Life. The report and plans will be presented at a public Community Engagement meeting at Mid Deeside Church, Lochnagar Room, on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 7:30 pm, to which all interested parties are welcome.</p> <p><b>10.7. Ballater Business Association Cruise Ready:</b> Cllr. PG advised the construction of the new Nigg Bay Aberdeen Harbour extension will bring large cruise ships to Aberdeen, which will generate massive tour group numbers across Royal Deeside in particular. Ballater Business Association recognises the positive and negative potentials and is preparing itself to manage the response to the tourism growth for the benefit of the local community and business. This is a challenge and opportunity for all communities in the area, including Torphins.</p> <p><b>10.8. Clachnaben Glen Dye Wind Turbine Proposal</b> LM attended a recent meeting of the action group against the development. The planning application is delayed again however a series of dates have been reserved for a meeting to be attended by Councillors and the public depending on the timing of the application. The dates are: 16<sup>th</sup> May, 13<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018. The new turbines planned for Midmill development to replace aged equipment are a major concern as these are massive and demonstrate the reinstatement of aged sites can lead to applications for significant new growth.</p>	CG Cllr. PA  ED  JL  JL  WM  Cllr. PG  LM

