

Dundonald Community Council

Minute of Meeting

11 11 2021

In Attendance - Community Councillors – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Apologies – [REDACTED]

Community Residents – [REDACTED]

South Ayrshire Councillors – [REDACTED]

Police Scotland – Apologies (Report submitted).

In Attendance – [REDACTED] SAC Planning

Chairperson's Welcome and opening remarks – In the absence of JA (Chair) MJ (Treasurer) chaired the meeting. He opened the meeting by welcoming all present. He stated that there were several items on the agenda. He said that one item in particular may be contentious and he asked for all present to speak clearly and precisely showing respect for each other. He offered a special vote of thanks to Antony McGuinness from South Ayrshire Council. The Chair stated that Mr McGuinness would answer questions from the floor. He asked that those wishing to speak to indicate by raising their hand.

Public Meeting

Planning issues within Dundonald – Cllr Campbell asked that [REDACTED] explain to the meeting how the need for retrospective planning had arisen in respect of the field. [REDACTED] stated that officers of the council had been made aware that there was work going on in the field and it was decided given the number of residents that had asked questions re these works that a site visit should be carried out.

JM stated that he had once been a local councillor and had sat on the planning committee and did not necessarily agree that planning permission was required/necessary. [REDACTED] stated that all works that include raising or moving earth require planning permission. He pointed out there is legislation in place that must be adhered to removing earth. JM stated that he did not think that the height of the earth had not moved significantly.

This point was challenged by RS who stated that the rise in height was exactly 1.4 metres. He went on to say that at the first residents' meeting (those who border the field) with the DCSRHA and the contractors All Grass the residents were informed that the height would be raised by 60cms. The residents asked to view the plans and were informed that there were none available. There was no information on foundations. He asked [REDACTED] why works were allowed to go ahead without planning permission. [REDACTED] informed the meeting that the people in charge of the project are responsible for the submission of plans. He pointed out that a planning application had recently been submitted however, it is deemed to be invalid. The applicant has been informed of this.

BF stated that there is and has never been clear information on site levels.

[REDACTED] stated she was concerned about the existing level and drainage of the field. Emergency assistance had to be called in for residents due to flooding. Sandbags had been

supplied. The water was encroaching very near to people's houses. She said that there are conflicting stories as to whether the drainage is working or not. She also asked as to how the site could be made safe. She asked if there was anyone present that might be able to confirm the up to date situation.

██████████ stated that he would attempt to find out. He stated that with the winter coming there is a big risk of ice forming. He stated that ARA had been out and inspected the culvert which is in working order. At present it would appear that no one is sure as to where the water from the field is going. ██████████ said that he would speak to ██████████ and report back to ██████████.

██████████ reiterated the need for information and action as the water was right up at the back doors of the houses.

██████████ stated that if off site drainage is problematic this would be given due consideration.

BF stated that there was a meeting on 16th June where it was stated that the drainage would work and that plans would be made available. He asked if the sponsor could supply these plans to the residents to ascertain if the drainage has or has not been connected.

Cllr Spurling said he would answer the questions however, SM interjected that surely this was a conflict of interest. Cllr Dettbarn stated that she would withdraw her question and that she would contact the contractor re the drainage questions.

██████████ suggested that ██████████ at SAC be contacted re the conditions set out in the lease, ██████████ undertook to do this.

JM stated that it is crucial that the levels be worked out. He said that it was a good use of the site and that there is support in the village for the park. He stated that he felt that the applicants need to get their act together to find solutions to the problems.

██████████ pointed out that it is noted in the minutes of the CC that a new drainage system was not being installed due to costs ranging from 68 to 120k.

JB asked if SEPA had been asked re a drainage survey. He also asked if the plans submitted had considered parking, toilets etc or if the Historic environment had been considered if not, why not. Football matches will bring increased traffic and where will they park. He stated that he asked to be invited to meetings of the Association but this had not happened.

██████████ stated that all agencies would now be contacted.

RS asked if SEPA would be asked to carry out a hydrology investigation. ██████████ said that SAC would be in contact with them and also ARA would be contacted.

██████████ asked if there was a time limit on the application. ██████████ stated that the lease agreement was in place, it is a tricky situation to navigate as SAC lease the park to the Association however the department will do their best to bring matters to a conclusion.

NB stated that none of the community wanted this to happen the way that it did. She asked at what point do the community gain access to the field. She pointed out that groups such as the Sunday School had been unable to use it as normal. She stated that the field is not just about football, it is a community space that has and should be available for all sorts of activities. She asked how the situation could be moved along reasonably and amicably.

██████████ stated that she understood the existing problems but stated she was part of the Leadership Panel that had agreed to the lease but in no way was she agreeing to what has subsequently taken place. She stated that the SAC may have to look at procedures and risk management will have to be considered.

SM asked if the park is now in a dangerous state. He asked if SAC is responsible for checking its safety. This will be passed to the Asset Management Department.

MS asked given the discussion re monies granted if the DCSRHA are registered with OSCAR, it was pointed out that they are.

BF returned to the meeting of 16th June, he stated that the director of All Grass stated that there was no significant change to the levels. He stated that there had been and was told at the meeting to "calm down and that it would be alright". He stated at that point he was a Trustee of the Association and he felt as he was conned and was disturbed by the reckless attitude. He stated that ██████████ had stated that he BF was a trouble maker.

██████████ pointed out that the CC had not been informed of meetings as had been agreed and that therefore the CC was unaware of all that was going on.

BF raised the issue of the information that the DCSRHA had placed on the notice board stating that the CC and some residents had asked for retrospective planning permission and that this was totally misleading.

██████████ then addressed the meeting re the role of the CC. She made it very clear that the CC had not complained to SAC about the field however had asked questions on behalf of the residents who had contacted them for assistance. She pointed out that this was the role of the CC. The only matter that the CC raised on their own behalf was the safety of children playing in the swing park, which still belongs to SAC. She stated that the CC had never done anything to thwart the DCSRHA and that the CC had been the first organisation to give them a grant of £50.00 to open their bank account. She stated that herself and ██████████ had attended one meeting with the DCSRHA prior to any planned works being discussed and that she had attended one on her own after work had commenced. She informed the meeting at that meeting she asked if there had been any complaints re the works and had been told no. These are the only two meetings that there was CC representation however, had been led to believe that there had been numerous meetings where no invite was issued. She stated that the information on the notice board is untrue and that it called into disrepute the work of the CC in the village. She stated that the CC would demand that this statement was withdrawn and a public apology be sought from the DCSRHA.

AOCB

BF asked if there had been any update on the Wetlands, none at present. He asked should the CC not raise the field on their FB page. It was explained that this was not appropriate.

██████████ raised the car parking issue. She stated that the CC had been informed in their recent communication that this matter had never been raised with them. She informed the meeting that this issue had been raised in 2019 with the Council.

Community Council Meeting

The minute of the previous meeting was proposed by ██████████ and seconded by ██████████. This minute will now be sent to SAC and posted on the CC website.

Secretary Report - MS presented her report to the meeting. All tasks set out in the previous meeting had been actioned. No response had been received from SAC re the FOI request. She read out the report submitted by Police Scotland.

Treasurer Report – was submitted

Elected Members Report – Cllr [REDACTED] moved a vote of thanks to Thompson's for storing the Christmas Lights. The lights will be going up in the village as usual. They are being hung by Centre Grade, MS asked if the councillors could check if the CC has to submit their PLI as this is what normally happens when ARA carried out the task. Cllrs to get back to the secretary.

Cllr [REDACTED] informed the meeting that the flowers for the village for next year are on order.

Cllrs noted that the Community Planning Partnership would be working to ensure that communities will have a greater say in what happens in their locality.

AOCB

It was noted that there had been several complaints of youngsters throwing eggs, knocking od doors and in some cases walking into homes. These matters will be raised with local police.

The state of the pavements was raised. A local resident had fallen from their mobility scooter and had broken their wrist. [REDACTED] stated that the camber next to the new houses was very steep, she has contacted ARA re this.

We were informed that a temporary Service Lead for ARA has been appointed due to the absence of the substantive post holder.

Next Meeting Thursday 9 12 2021 at 7pm Montgomerie Hall

[REDACTED]