

Dundonald Community Council

Minute of Meeting

14 10 2021

In attendance

Community Councillors – [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Community Residents – [REDACTED]

South Ayrshire Councillors – [REDACTED]

Police Scotland – Apologies

1. Chairperson's Welcome and opening remarks – JA (Chair) opened the meeting by welcoming all present. He stated that this was the first meeting of the Community Council open to the public since February 2020. He stated that a number of issues had arisen over this time and the Community Council had kept abreast of them and had been active as much as possible. He noted that several issues had arisen over the summer months and that these were still active.

2. Police Report – no Officer was available however, a written report had been submitted by Sgt Lisa Thomson. The report was present by the secretary. No questions arose from the report.

3. Secretary Report - MS presented her report to the meeting. The report encapsulated the work carried out over the period of lockdown up to being able to hold an open meeting. A copy of the report is attached – Appendix 1.

4. Treasurer Report - Unfortunately the Treasurer was unable to attend however a written report was submitted. The report was presented to the meeting by the Secretary. A copy is attached – Appendix 2.

5. Elected Members Report – Councillors [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] noted that a lot had happened since the initial lockdown however, there were issues still to be addressed. Both stated that issues raised by residents and the Community Council had kept them busy over the summer months. Cllr [REDACTED] had submitted a paper to the meeting re planning and with her permission this was distributed to all present. She confirmed that an officer of the Council would attend the next meeting in order to provide assurance to all that all planning and retrospective planning applications are dealt with in accordance to planning regulations.

ACTION -The Secretary to inform Cllr of date and time of next CC meeting.

A number of questions were then put to the elected members. A resident asked who within SAC had been tasked with responding to the Community.

The Cllrs noted that the response to the Community Council from SAC re the issue of the playing field raised by both residents and the Community Council was not very helpful in fostering public confidence Cllr [REDACTED] informed the meeting that she has raised questions about this communication.

A resident asked a question re the granting of the lease to the DCSRHA in 2018. Cllr [REDACTED] stated that the matter of the lease and the refurbishment of the playing field had been presented to Leadership Panel in 2018. She said that she had agreed with the proposal presented at that time however, what has actually happened bears no resemblance to what was presented in 2018. She said that there was no mention of the field being raised to the level it has been.

The question of drainage was raised by a member of the community who asked if SEPA had been contacted re drainage. It was confirmed by Cllr [REDACTED] that the information presented in 2018 made little reference to the work on the drainage that has actually been carried out. The resident stated that since the installation of a new drainage system he was experiencing water in his back garden where none had collected before. It was also noted that that soil round the edge of the field also has water gathering.

The meeting was informed that the playing field area is actually included in the Archaeological Watch Brief. If this is the case OASIS should have been informed prior to any work taking place.

A resident asked if the retrospective planning application re the playing field works had been submitted in the time frame set out by SAC. It was explained to the meeting that the DCSRHA had been informed by SAC that retrospective planning application had to be submitted after the site had been visited by Council Officers. This planning application has been submitted. Members of the Community asked that the Community Council display on Social Media the link to the application once available. It was made clear that the link will be posted for information but the Community Council would make no comment on Social Media.

ACTION – The Community Council to post link to Planning Application once available.

A member of the community the informed the meeting that an FOI request had been made to SAC re their funding given to the association for the playing field. SAC are listed as being a funding agency among others on the display board at the playing field. In the information supplied by SAC that they had funded the project to the sum of £31,000. It is unclear at present as to what department awarded the funding and from what budget this money came from. It was requested that an FOI was requested to ascertain answers to these questions.

ACTION – An FOI to be submitted requesting information on this matter.

Concerns were raised with the Councillors re the safety of children playing in the playpark due to the embankment also concern re the drains that are on the field. It was stated by a resident that the plastic covers on these drains can easily be removed exposing a drain of considerable depth, if uncovered children and adults could be placed at risk of accident.

A resident raised with the Councillors concern that an elected member was also a trustee of the association. Should this be seen as a conflict of interest as SAC are a funder of a project that had no public consultation.

The issue over the Wetlands was then raised with the elected members. It was stated that to the best of their knowledge there were 2/3 sites to be considered however, no decision would be taken without public consultation. It was also stated that the work that would need to be carried out was nowhere near completion. The secretary shared the number of emails objecting to the use of the Wetlands received by the Community Council. There were also numerous objection posted on the CC social media site. Again flooding in the areas was

raised. A member of the community stated that she had been informed that the proposal had been dropped.

A member of the community raised the availability of placements at Marr College for pupils from Dundonald given the amount of house building taking place in the village. It was pointed out at present that this is not a problem however nursery and primary placements are at a premium. The elected members pointed out that as part of permission to build developers must make a contribution towards education and this money could be used in variety of ways for educational purposes.

AOCB – Traffic plans for the village and the chicane were raised. The secretary stated that she has written to the Ayrshire Roads Alliance re this and will chase this up. A resident asked that the Community Council enquire about the installation of a Zebra Crossing on Dry bridge Road to allow for children to cross the road safely on their way to school.

ACTION – The secretary to contact ARA re these issues.

An issue re the land owned by SAC in Fullerton Ave (site of the demolished library) was raised. Currently there are pallets of concrete roundels being stored there. Also the pavement in the area is in poor condition and the grass is disgusting as dogs foul there. There is no signage or dog waste bins. Cllr ██████ said she would look into this.

The Community Garden – The CC hope to tidy up this area for the winter and have work done in the Spring.

The Community Councillors voted unanimously to have a company strim the area and seek quotes for paving etc for the spring

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Appendix 1

Dundonald Community Council

Secretary Report

October 2021

The Community Council has not had a public meeting since February 2020 however, we have managed to meet together on a couple of occasions with regard to issues that have been raised.

Over the last 20 months I have attempted to keep all Community Councillors up to date by email and phone. Any decisions taken are recorded in emails.

During lockdown the Community Council kept the Facebook page up to date. We were involved in keeping in touch with residents of the Nursing Home and the Supported Housing Unit by encouraging villagers to write to them. Alongside the Church and other members of the community we were involved in the Bags of Light for all primary aged children of the village last Christmas.

We managed to have the floral displays both summers. Particular thanks to those Community Councillors and members of the public who watered the displays especially Scott O'Brien who gave up loads of time to watering the baskets for all to enjoy.

Unfortunately, since the last open meeting three Community Councillors resigned. Our thanks to Pauline, Bill and Stephen.

There is now a Food Bank and a community café in the Montgomerie Hall on a Monday. This project has been led by the Parish Church and members of the Community Council have volunteered if required.

Members of the Community Council attended the forum held two weeks ago re Place Planning and made significant contribution to the discussion. We await the report.

Our link officers Marie Welsh and Karen Monaghan have both retired from SAC and we await notification of our new link.

No doubt there will be discussion during the meeting on several issues that have arisen recently in the village. I have information to hand on these issues.

I have received no notification re Community Council elections or implementation on new scheme.

Margaret Sloan

Appendix 2

Treasurer Report – 14/10/21

Report - Last Financial Year 1st April 2020-31st 2021 March

<u>Opening Balance</u>	- £5,109.86
Income	- £561.31
Expenditure	- £296.00
<u>Closing Balance</u>	- £5,375.17

Accounts Audit 20th May 2021 ...many thanks to MD member of the community for volunteering to carrying out the formal audit this was very much appreciated. Would like to put to fellow Community Councillors that we give MD a token of thanks as we would normally have to pay for this service.

2021/22 - Grant submission to SAC on 8th August 2021 – late due to COVID 19

Delayed response due to change of personnel, chased again w/c 11/10/21.

M Jones