

WANLOCKHEAD VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2017 AT WANLOCKHEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE.

PRESENT : Lynda Findlay (Chair), Anne Arrigoni (Treasurer), Willie Findlay, Marilyn Pickburn, Harry Pickburn, Isobel Gibb, Alanna Rogerson, Paul Cope, Audrey Ridley, Ian Marden, Neil Tollick, Peter Scott, Steven Morrison, Charlotte Paul, Alison Cope, Mac Blewer, Gerrard Godfrey, Anjo Abelaira, Lincoln Richford.

APOLOGIES: Androulla Richford

Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Prop Anne and seconded by Lynda.

MATTERS ARISING:

It was discussed that Jim Dempster was supposed to attend the meeting but was not there.

Bowling Clubhouse and Green:

Lynda read letters from her to Buccleuch dated 24/3/17 recommending that the sale be suspended whilst we gather more information. The reply from Buccleuch dates 28/3/17 stated that "a title transferring ownership of the bowling club, pavilion and associated land has already been presented to Registers of Scotland and cannot be suspended".

Isobel has checked the Dumfries & Galloway Archive records for 1931, 32, 34 & 40 and confirmed that the bowling hall committee owned the ground.

It was discussed that there may have been a possible mix up re the Fraser Memorial Institute bowling hall.

Isobel mentioned that if there had been an error in the register of the land due to practises in the past we may have cause to object.

Isobel will refer to SASINE records for more information re 1880s - 1910.

Isobel suggested we wait to see what the titles throw up before taking any further action.

There was a general feeling voiced by Lincoln & Alanna that there has been a blatant disregard for the village and we should consider legal action.

It was discussed that we pay £25.00 per year for the rental of the bowling green and surrounding area.

It was discussed that we would seek advice regarding drafting a letter in legal jargon etc and send to Buccleuch's and the Museum's legal representatives.

Alanna suggested that Village Council members apply to be on the Board of Trustees for the Museum as a matter of good practise in the future.

Androulla sent a message via Lincoln that we should speak to Buccleuch as a matter of urgency regarding the other pockets of land that are up for discussion and stress we would like to purchase them under the same terms as the Museum got the bowling green for £1.00 per plot. This suggestion was met with much approval and Alanna suggested that we have a clause that there will be no publicity regarding this as part of the deal.

Lynda read a letter she wrote to John Evans regarding the Bowling Green asking what is being stored, and that the VC who is currently the insured, takes no responsibility for damage to goods not belonging to the village. Lynda confirmed that she had not received a response.

CORRESPONDENCE other than bowling green:

Lynda read a letter she had written to 20/20 Renewables regarding the offence caused by the presence of security at previous consultations. The reply from 20/20 was that they hadn't hired security and had no knowledge of this.

Isobel asked if everyone had got letters regarding the upcoming consultation and Audrey stated she hadn't.

Dallies Dyke: Mark Simpson stated in a letter in response to questions regarding Dallies Dyke that he would pass the information on to the Estate and they would check if repairs to the dyke fell under their remit.

Job estimate for repairs to the shed roof, stones at the bottom of the garden wall and gate was produced and confirmed the work had been completed to an exceptional standard.

#### FINANCE:

Treasurer's Report

Wanlockhead Village Council 3rd April 2017

Wind farm account

Opening balance. £2490.45

Expenditure:

Cheque no. 100079 Leadhills/

Wanlockhead Pre-school group. 200.00

Cheque no. 100080 Lowther Heritage

Map printing. 250.00

Total expenditure. 450.00

No income

Closing balance. £2040.00

Village Council account 3rd April 2017

Opening Balance. £1390.93

Expenditure

Cheque no. 100036 Zurich

(Liability insurance) £ 264.63

No income

Closing balance. £1126.30

Clyde wind farm Fund:

Harry spoke about the panel meeting he attended on 12/3/17.

The World Gold Panning Championships are to be held in Moffat in August and they will be sending lots of people up to the village in coaches to spend time in the village, visit the mine, go on tours etc. It was decided by Lynda and Harry that a £2000 donation from the Wanlockhead pot should be donated to the organising committee towards the costs of running this event.

£200 was donated to the Queensberry initiative to cover extra-curricular transport costs for the 3 children attending Sanquhar Academy.

Vicky Reed has a pending application for funding regarding an archery school. She has now spoken to the Community Centre committee regarding this and her application will be reviewed again once her membership fees have been paid to the CC committee.

Margaret Wilson has applied for a grant to fund the senior citizens summer outing. As there were a considerable number of senior citizens in attendance at the meeting they didn't vote on this issue and the application was approved by those in attendance who wouldn't directly benefit from the grant.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Audrey mentioned the public rubbish bins overflowing mostly with dog poo bags in certain areas of the village. It was discussed that arrangements in the past were that Thomas Wilson had keys to the bins and was given the task of emptying them. Lynda discussed this matter with the bin men. Audrey said the information the village council was given 2 years ago was that the museum should be doing this in return for their cardboard waste being uplifted. This stopped when Robert was no longer a member of the Museum Trust.

Audrey suggested a treasure hunt car boot sale to raise some funds and said she would be happy to organise it if everyone participated.

Proposed Wind farms: Harryburn Leadhills & NLEI Wanlockhead:

Gerard Godfrey, from Leadhills Community Council, informed the meeting that the wind farm planning application for Harryburn was imminent and they were having a public meeting on Monday 10th April. They have been lobbying SNP's, The Southern Upland Partnership and other organisations and have had indications of support from these agencies. He said they had a pro forma letter ready and were actively trying to counter any propaganda. It was discussed that the two villages support each other as much as possible and form strong community continuity re both planning applications.

WEBSITE:

Meghan has indicated that she no longer has the time to assist with the VC website. Charlotte said that if Meghan could show her and Nicola what needs to be done they could perhaps take over this role.

Peter said that a notice was put up in the phone box on the 19/8/16 stating that if there were no responses re objections then the phone box would be tuned off after 42 days. The upshot is the phone box will be gone soon. It was discussed perhaps housing the defibrillator machine in it or using it as a notice board. We may be able to buy it and make use of it in other ways?

As there is internet and a phone in the village hall now and most people are able to make emergency calls from mobiles the phone box has fallen out of use by both villagers and visitors.

First aid courses were discussed briefly and Charlotte mentioned that Val Stanborough may be able to provide these for the cost of the books. These will be discussed again when the new budget is cleared.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 15/5/17