

WANLOCKHED VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2017 AT WANLOCKHEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE.

PRESENT: Lynda Findlay, Chair, Anne Arrigoni, Treasurer, Androulla Richford Secretary, Audrey Ridley, Ian Marden, Isobel Gibb, Harry Pickburn, Marilyn Pickburn, Alanna Rogerson, Paul Cope, Lincoln Richford, Charlotte Paul, Anjo Abelaira, Mac Blewer, Peter Scott, Steven Morrison, Rab Campbell, Susan Pinkus and Martin Pinkus.

No Apologies

Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Prop. Isobel Gibb, seconded Anne Arrigoni.

MATTERS ARISING:

Doctors Surgery: Anne reported that transport to the surgery to be extended for another 3 months. It is a case of use it or lose it.

Community Centre: Lincoln Richford, confirmed that CC committee will be having a meeting on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> March with D&G to ascertain costs of running the CC.

Will report at next meeting.

The Chair asked for an update on the reequipping of the CC. Lincoln confirmed that Sound System has been installed and now awaiting furnishings.

Dallies Dyke: awaiting confirmation from Jim Dempster as to who is responsible for repairs. If he is not able to verify, it was agreed by the committee that the chair write to the head of D&G.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The chair contacted Oliver Mundell. He replied that he would like to speak with her for an update regarding the community's future regarding the Doctor's Surgery situation.

Letter received by VC, from Alan Nisbet, Estate Manager for Queensberry Estate. This letter was addressed to and received by the previous chair, Audrey Ridley.

The content of the letter is to serve notice on the VC that the leases held on land by the VC in the village will expire in August, 2017. In particular, we are informed that the Estate is minded to transfer ownership of the Bowling Green and Clubhouse and car park to the Museum Trust

to advance their educational programme. This is to provide a classroom facility for visiting school parties.

During the discussion there were comments such as:

The Clubhouse belongs to the village...in the last 2 years the VC was prevented from accessing the Clubhouse on the grounds that it is unsafe, although rent and insurance continued to be paid by the VC. The VC had been in negotiations with a number of office staff from the Estate regarding our being able to access the Clubhouse to no avail.

There were plans for a Hub or drop in Centre, as well as a display area for the archives of Lowther Heritage.

There have been other interested parties in the village seeking to obtain land for other uses.

There were questions about the Estate's timing and intent in their actions.

A PR drive by a "benevolent landowner" whose forthcoming wind farm project, if successful, will impede the future of the village for generations to come.

Giftng to Museum Trust, a private entity – how does this benefit the community?

What is the criteria for offering land to some groups and not others?

The chair concluded that a multi-agency meeting be held with Alan Nisbet. She will contact him to organise a date and ask for a copy of the Lease.

#### MICRO GRANTS:

Harry Pickburn informed the meeting he was in receipt of 3 applications for micro grants.

1. From Lowther Heritage for the printing of Historical Maps. Unanimously approved.
2. From Vicky Reed to form an indoor (soft) Archery classes. This is pending subject to further discussion.
3. Emma Connolly – holding Toddle Waddle under 5's Playgroups Annual Easter event to be held at Wanlockhead. 50% of all proceeds will be donated to the Edinburgh Sick Children's Hospital, carried by majority.

#### FINANCE:

Treasurer's Report:

Wanlockhead Village Council 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## Windfarm Account

Opening Balance	£1490.45
No Expenditure	
Income	
Cheque from windfarm re: micro grants	£1000.00
Closing Balance	£2490.45

## Village Council Account 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Opening Balance	£1440.93
Expenditure	
Cheque no. 100035 Donation for R. Wilson to DGRI	£50.00
No income	
Closing Balance	£1390.93

## NLEI PROPOSAL/WIND FARM:

### Update/Discussion:

Shortly before this meeting the Secretary received an email from Buccleuch/2020 addressed to her personally and not to the Village Council. There will be another public exhibition on April 12<sup>th</sup> in Wanlockhead Community Centre from 4 to 7.30 pm.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> there will be one in Sanquhar in the morning and in the afternoon at Crawfordjohn. It was brought to the meeting's attention by Rab Campbell that although Leadhills is a consultee there won't be an exhibition in Leadhills.

It was also discussed that at 2 meetings in Leadhills and in Abington, held by Innogy they employed the services of a security company. There was a discussion as to whether this was ethical and what was expected of the security people in the event of a disruption at the exhibition. The meeting thought it a very strange and offensive idea towards people attending a public consultation.

The NLEI proposal will be sent to planning at the end of April.

We confirmed our existing plan to leaflet the Village and invite people to discuss the Windfarm and the latest Buccleuch plans regarding land in the village.

Date set for Public Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> March, at 7pm

AOB:

The Committee received a quotation for garden maintenance from Neil Tollick. It was unanimously agreed and accepted that he carries out the work.

A discussion followed about further improvements of the gardens, to include getting villagers and children involved. Audrey and Ian offered to donate Stillage Bins for high planting to hopefully thwart the rabbits.

Anne requested if it was possible to store VC archived records in the CC. this was agreed to by members of the CC committee present.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL, 2017