

STEVENSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL.

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on June 7th 2022.

NB. Before the meeting had started, a member of the public was escorted from the premises due to his threatening behaviour and his swearing at the Chair. The police were not involved.

ATTENDEES.

I Winton	Chair
D Campbell	Secretary
J McLung	Elected Member
J Montgomerie	Elected Member
C Inglis	Elected Member
J Frew	CC Advisor
I Hamlin	CC Advisor
G Ferguson	NAC

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION.

The Chair welcomed all attending, and on behalf of the Community Council, expressed sadness on the passing of Shirley Morgan.

APOLOGIES.

Apologies had been received from S Sinclair, D McTiernan, J Sweeney, D McGrory and L Thomasson.

MAY MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

As the CC was not quorate, the May minutes will be ratified at the next Public Meeting.

SECRETARIES REPORT.

D Campbell reported the following;

The CCs new computer was now up and running. Many thanks to Gavin Ferguson of NAC for his considerable help in this matter.

Only routine correspondence had been received.

Elected Member J sweeney Emailed to report that his enquiry to NAC re the condition of the Afton Court site, Streetscene will cut back this area and arrange further cuts, if required. Prior to work commencing later this year.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

D Campbell the following;

No1A/c	Balance £261.94
No2A/c	Balance £4311.19
No3A/c	Balance £1053.67

POLICE REPORT.

No report had been received.

MEDIA TEAM REPORT.

On behalf of the Media Team, D Campbell reported the following;

“Both posts on Facebook regarding the planting have done really well. The one with the ASN pupils was reached and interacted with by 3920 people and the one about the planting at the Cross on Sunday was reached and interacted with by 480 people.

A copy of our June meeting agenda was also posted on Facebook and we will continue to do this in the future.

Lewis and myself are aiming to go into Auchenhavrie Academy and speak to Callum Johnston about new members.

PRESENTATION BY THE FARM ENERGY COMPANY on ARDEER WIND FARM.

This presentation was made jointly by Sarah Lapsley of FEC and Kevin Blackadder of the Berry Group. Sarah Lapsley reported the Following;

The Farm Energy Co is dedicated to supporting the transition to a more sustainable energy market.

The FEC is a privately owned energy company founded in 2011.

The FEC has developed a portfolio of wind, solar and biogas projects totalling ca 500MW.

The FEC works with a stable network of partners worldwide.

FEC is currently installing two 4MW wind turbines and 20MG of solar at the GlaxoSmithkline site in Irvine.

Kevin Blackadder reported the following;

The Berry Group is the largest industrial flexible packaging manufacturer in the UK, supplying over 200 small to national businesses.

Berry Group is the UK leading supplier to over 85% of the farming and horticulture markets in the UK.

Berry Group is committed to the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), which encourages corporate climate action for a low carbon economy.

Berry Group has a set of sustainability initiatives ie. recycled content increase, water efficiency, a decrease in product weight, continuous operational improvement and a commitment to use renewable energy sources

Renewable use fits in with the Berry Group global commitment to sustainability

The Berry Group has been partnering with FEC since 2019 to deliver 70% of their energy needs for the next 20 years.

Both presenters outlined the Benefits of the Project;

Assisting the Berry Group target of sourcing global electricity usage from renewable sources.

Reduced electricity costs over the lifetime of the project.

Reduced reliance on fossil fuels.

Job security for Berry Group employees at their Ardeer site.

12MW of low carbon renewable energy to offset grid importation.

A reduced carbon footprint, approx. 73000 tonnes of CO2 for the duration of the 20 year project. This equates to the direct emissions of 8000 homes per year.

Both presenters then outlined the Environmental and Technical requirements in making this Planning Application;

A commitment to minimise any environmental impact.

NAC requires an Environmental Impact Assessment.

A formal Scoping Request which agrees the level of information will be prepared.

Assessments will be made in the following areas:

Ecological.

Noise impact.

Landscape and visuals.

Cultural Heritage and Archaeological.

Coal mining risk.

An ecological study has been undertaken and has identified that no protected species will be impacted by the project.

A formal Planning Application will be made to NAC by the end of June/early July.

An online consultation with local residents will be conducted and leaflets have already been distributed.

The CC is aware that another meeting with FEC and Berry Group would be required to discuss an acceptable form of Community Payback.

The Chair thanked FEC and the Berry Group for their presentation.

MILL DAM COMPLETION.

The following points were noted;

The area from the new fence down to the burn is now overgrown with weeds.

The new path has weeds along its edges.

Felled trees have still to be removed from the site.

At the time of writing, the open drain has not been fixed.

There is still lots of rubble to be removed from the site, although you can't see it because of the weeds.

CAR PARKING IN STEVENSTON.

The CC carried out an online survey in March 2021. One of the questions asked was what use should be made of the Lonsdale pub gap site, Rankins pub and Afton court gap site.

Most people were in favour of social housing on these sites. However, things have changed and the CC is of the opinion that the Afton Court gap site should be used for parking. The introduction of the one way system now means that Afton Road has become a very busy road and the elderly residents of a new Afton Court would have great difficulty in crossing this road.

COMPLETION OF THE TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION.

The following points were noted;

Concerns are still being raised about the open gutters on the pavements in New St.

Wheelchair users and users of wheeled walking aids are still having problems when wheels get stuck in the gutters. The CC is of the opinion that these gutters should be covered.

There is no signage on New St to advise drivers of the crossing place.

LIBRARY GUTTERS.

Both drains in the car park behind the library have been cleaned out.

The guttering all round the library building needs emptying.

RAILWAY STATION VOLUNTEERS FOR ADOPTION.

The CC will be looking for volunteers (who preferably live near the station) to take on this project.

STREET SCENE. PROJECT INVOLVEMENT and MAINTENANCE.

Street Scene had informed the CC that no bedding plants would be forthcoming this year.

There has been a Facebook post (with photographs) showing bedding plants, provided by NAC, that had been planted in Kilwinning cemetery.

At the time of writing, Street Scene has not started work on the flower bed at the Shell car park.

The CC will ask for a meeting with the Street Scene manager to resolve these issues.

ARDEER PENINSULA SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST.

CC advisor I Hamlin reported on this topic.

The CC would support any initiative that would make this happen.

INSURANCE.

This matter is now closed. NAC has paid their bill.

PLANNING FOR CC ELECTION IN OCTOBER 2022.

The last public meeting of the present CC will take place in September 2022.

The election for a new CC will take place in October 2022.

The CC will liaise with all relevant NAC departments and personnel to ensure that all goes smoothly.

A.O.C.B.

The following points were noted;

Persimmon have started work on their site beside Tesco in Saltcoats.

All Elected Members present detailed the various Committees that they sat on within NAC.

The cost of the Beach Hub at Stevenston is now £500000.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

This will take place at the Ardeer Community Centre at 700pm on Tuesday 6th September 2022.

