

Carlops Community Council AGM
Minutes of Carlops Community Council AGM
Thursday 27th May 2021, 8.00pm
By video link due to Covid-19 restrictions

Present:

Committee Members: Marty Lee (Chair), Guy Walters (Treasurer), Hannah Walters (Secretary), Jim Eccleston

Community: Peter and Anna Woolverton, Peter and Wendy Raine, Becky Gibby, Jean Ritchie-Arulanantham, Kieron Smith, James Spears

In attendance: Eric Small (Councillor)

Apologies: Heather Anderson (Councillor), Mary Clare McMillan, Kate and Les Morss

Matter arising from meeting of 25th March 2021:

Matters arising all covered in Standing Items

AGM Matters:

Minutes of 2020 AGM were accepted, Proposed ML, Seconded PR

Report from Chair:

ML reported that it had been an interesting year. After the initial activity setting up community support group, JE took the lead in co-ordinating assistance and keeping an eye on folk. As external processes were put in place and neighbours looked out for each other there was less requirement for intervention. Carlops was fortunate in not having a major crisis, so support needs were minimal. CCC received an emergency fund, much of which is still ringfenced in the account. ML hoped that with lifting Lockdown there would be an enthusiasm in the community to get out and assist in undertaking one of the various projects which have had to be on hold.

Report from Treasurer:

GW reported that in 2020/21 CCC had an opening balance of £491.28 and a closing balance of 1112.88. This was unusually high due to the SBC Covid Response Grant of £1000. Remaining income came from SBC annual grant (£540) and reimbursement of 2019/20 meeting room hire (£60)

Payments had been made for tree felling (£300), Christmas tree and fireworks (£290), also Scotways subscription (£16) and snow shovels (35.90) – leaving £449.38

The Covid response grant was used to fund communication and support – Village Newsletter (£90), Zoom subscription (£115.10) and Christmas boxes (£131.40) – leaving £663.50.

Surplus for year £621.60 – Covid grant funds do not affect our 2 x annual grant limit on funds held.

Tim Wilcock remains as Auditor

Accounts were accepted: Proposed by HW, Seconded by JE

Election of Committee members and officers:

- MC is standing down – the committee thanked her for all her work with CCC
- Kate Morss has offered to join – Proposed by ML, Seconded by GW

ML noted that this left one vacant seat.

Standing Items:

- **Secretary's report:**

There have been no planning applications and a couple of opportunities for funding, but none that looked relevant at the moment. All other correspondence relates to items covered below.

- **Treasurer's Report:**

Balance as above, no change from March meeting.

- **Police Report:**

No incidents local to Carlops. ML noted that thefts of quad bikes from locked farm premises is an ongoing problem and that vigilance is required.

- **Roads:**

- There has been much discussion with community and Philippa Gilhooley (SBC) regarding the placement of Vehicle Activated Signs on the Green and at Car Park. CCC has been assured that they can be moved at a later date and will not prevent further discussion regarding speed management. Signs will show vehicle speed in red/green.
- Situation is complicated by responsibility being split between SBC (20mph roll out in village) Traffic Scotland (Trunk road) and north end signage starting in Midlothian. Traffic Scotland/Bear had already put infrastructure in place last year (unknown to CCC) for a VAS at south end – was to have shown 30, now awaiting decision on whether 20 will become permanent. This future VAS prevents placement of SBC VAS any closer to south end of village. HW noted that upcoming Local Place Plans should make future collaboration with multiple agencies easier.
- There are 2 surveys regarding the 20mph trial – the CC survey was completed during meeting. HW to circulate link to public survey after meeting <https://scotborders.citizenspace.com/assets-and-infrastructure/20mphpublic/>
- JS noted that the poor positioning of speed surveys results in lower than representative averages which could affect decision to retain 20mph. JS suggested we should ask to be re-monitored in different locations for comparison after the trial. CCC agreed that if SBC are unwilling CCC could pay for this (approx. £300) when the time was right.
- GW discussed the need for buffer zones as 60 – 20 is a sharp decrease – JS noted that drivers currently use the north end (boundary to Allan Ramsay) and south end (boundary to The Latch) as the buffer zone, and don't regard them as within speed limit. The extreme danger this poses to residents, especially at south end where crossing to reach a pavement is unavoidable, was highlighted.

- **Projects:**

- Memorial Well: No action as yet, JS will speak to Christina
- Carlin's Loup car park works: Awaiting SBC response to Heather Anderson
- Bottle bank: GW to speak to Jason re: jet washing
- Rock Field path repairs: Community work party to be raised.
- Rutherford development: No news – WLCC has also not heard anything (ES)
- Phone Box: Initial application is in, will hear if successful on/after August 4th. May have to submit proposal, so more ideas for future use welcomed – ES suggested 'Points of interest' leaflets for visitors/walkers
- Rock Field: Visually significant position in village and very poor ground conditions make future development highly unlikely. Gerda has agreed orchard planting and placement of bee hives at the bottom end with WL orchard group. ML to forward Following the Public Pound info and application form to GW to allow CCC to contribute to grass cutting costs.

AOB:

- Slipperfield quarry: no action as yet due to conflicting reports of degree of disturbance
- Local access: ML has spoken to John Aitken and Jill Noble.

Jenny Barrie's Cove - Gate in new fence can be used for access, replacing the small map was not felt to be necessary.

Scroggy Brae – JN is looking into alternative routes as original access is no longer practical or suitable due to poaching of ground by horses.

- Insurance for village events: CCC insurance, provided by SBC, already covers the annual Litter Pick. It was agreed we should add the Sports day and Hogmanay. HW to follow up.

Date and Time of Next AGM: 26th May 2022

Date and Time of Next Meeting: 29th July 2021