

Friends of Winterfield

Minutes

Date 15th November 2011
Time 7.30pm
Location Hallhill Healthy Living Centre
Attended by: Gordon Millar, Cllr Paul McLennan, Cllr Jacquie Bell, Denise Wilson, Esther Hughes, Fay Stanton, Graham Metcalfe, Judy Miller
Chair: Gordon Millar
Minutes Esther Hughes

Subject: General Committee Meeting

1. Chairperson's welcome and introductions

Gordon Millar opened the meeting.

2. Apologies

Jane McIntyre, Alistair Mackie, Sue Anderson

3. Adoption of previous minutes

The minutes were approved without amendment.

4. PC Kevin Hughes

It appears that Kevin did not receive our email inviting him to attend our meeting. Esther will invite him to come to a meeting in 2012.

Follow-up	Who's responsible?	When?
Invite Kevin Hughes to another meeting	Esther Hughes	2012

5. Matters Arising

- Esther was given a large bag of Dog Watch material by Jimmy Wilson. Graham asked whether he could have some Dog Watch promotional material for the Tennis Club as he could give it out from there. Judy Miller has some posters that she can give Graham.
- Gordon has no funds but has arranged to get a small business pack from RBS. Friends of Winterfield now have a cheque book and pay-in book. Paul suggested that we ask Dunbar Community Council for some funding: he suggested contacting Stephen Bunyan before their next meeting to ask for help.
- We've so far got nowhere with arranging our charity status. Cllr Jacquie Bell suggested contacting Jacquie Lesley at ELC. Paul will ask Maree Johnston about funding and charity status.

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Follow-up	Who's responsible?	When?
Email Stephen Bunyan of Dunbar Community Council to ask for £500 start-up funding	Esther Hughes	By 18 th November
Contact Maree Johnston about charity status or, failing that, Jacquie Lesley	Cllr Paul McLennan	

6. Park Issues

a) **Flowers and grounds maintenance:**

Denise Wilson: There has been some action on the weeds: the thistles have been sprayed and the area rotavated.

Denise Wilson: There was a water leak on the land that housed the caravan park. It had been going on for some time (months) as the pond that formed was pretty deep. There had been confusion about access to the park and Scottish Water seemed reluctant to come and look at it. They were there today (15th) and it now appears to be fixed. There may be up to three stand-pipes in the park.

Graham Metcalf: It would be useful to have a map of the standpipes for reference as the Tennis Club have been approached several times by plumbers and Scottish Water for information about where to shut the water off to the park. The Tennis Club was affected by the last leak as Scottish Water cut them off whilst fixing the leak at the former caravan park.

b) Caravan Park

Fay Stanton: I'm worried about the size of the proposed toilet block.

Gordon Millar: I feel it's very much a summer facility.

Jacquie Bell: Some people had seen it on the Community Council web site and thought they were going to have another Seaton Sands development.

Esther Hughes: I've not met anyone locally who is in favour of it. It would take away a bit of land that has been used for other purposes in the past.

Graham Metcalf: It's been used by the VW enthusiasts club: it's ideal.

Gordon Millar: I feel that we (FoW) would probably not support a caravan site at this point in time.

Cllr Paul McLennan: A feasibility study is going to be carried out. That's all that's being proposed. Once the results are known then FoW will be consulted for their opinion. It's difficult to say more.

Graham Metcalf: It's a question of scale: if you have static caravans and toilet facilities then they become utilities and that would affect half the park: it's a precedent for development. If you're talking about touring caravans for six weeks then it would not have such a big impact but could help satisfy demand.

Gordon Millar: I have seen touring parks taken over by static caravans and being spoilt. The Traders Association have suggested it and they see the caravan park as an income generator: they've no interest in what it does to the surrounding area beyond that. However the rugby club bar takings showed an increase over the summer from the caravan parks.

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Denise Wilson: That's what I'm worried about with the Golf Club development: I don't want its focus to be as a bar.

Cllr Paul McLennan: The new golf clubhouse has potential to administer any caravan site. Let's see what the feasibility study comes up with. I don't know whether independent companies would be interested.

c) Progress with golf club:

Cllr Paul McLennan: The Tennis and Golf Clubs have agreed to share the new Golf Club building. Both clubs are delighted. Plans are being drawn up with building to take place not this summer but the next. We should have drawings for the next FoW meeting.

Denise Wilson: Will it be a single storey building?

Cllr Paul McLennan: Yes. It should look nice.

Fay Stanton: What about children in the bar?

Cllr Paul McLennan: There will be an area for the Tennis Club kids

Graham Metcalf: I'm not aware of the rest of the Tennis club being told about any of this. It's a great idea but you've told us more than I've heard from the Tennis Club. Are you planning to demolish the Tennis Pavilion? I ask because I think a lot of people are quite attached to it.

Cllr Paul McLennan: The pavilion is not affected by the plans. The Council is funding the cost of the building. It's important for the children. ELC has a tennis development officer – the first in Scotland. We see this development as a real draw for children. I'll speak to Hugh McMasters about how he's working with the members of the Tennis Club. The pitch and putt will be discussed shortly. The starter for the Golf Club will be able to administer this so there will be no additional cost to run it.

Graham Metcalf: Why not put the Golf Club at the Pagoda end of the park?

Denise Wilson: I'd prefer it to be there.

Cllr Paul McLennan: The planners say it has to be on the footprint of the old clubhouse.

d) Pagoda:

Fay Stanton: Is there any news about demolishing the Pagoda and are there legal issues about building a new toilet block on Common Good land?

Cllr Paul McLennan: Jackie Burke is still talking to developers. Jackie is hoping the Council will do up the Pagoda and rent it back to her. Basically, if Jackie Burke has no concrete plans by the end of March then the building will be demolished. Any work on Common Good land would be done on a like-for-like basis: there's already a toilet block on it.

e) Rugby pitch/training:

Cllr Paul McLennan: The rugby pitch at the Public Park is a temporary arrangement because Dunbar Grammar School's pitch is not operative. A third pitch is being built at Hallhill. There has been some vandalism at Winterfield with posts broken.

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7. Committees and 8. Membership

Esther Hughes: No progress has been made in extending our membership or forming working groups.

Cllr Paul McLennan: The launch event for the Dunbar Town House at the Dunbar Christmas Fair on the 27th November could be an opportunity to promote the group and get new members. You should contact Louise Nicholson as she would be able to help with this. She also runs the Heart of Dunbar website.

Esther Hughes: We'll need to put together some promotional material and also arrange some members to help with distribution. I'll get on with it.

Follow-up	Who's responsible?	When?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create promotional leaflets and amend application form.• Arrange stall or permission to distribute them with Louise Nicolson – insurance?• Arrange people to attend the fair and represent Fow	Esther Hughes	By 27 th November

9. Website and communications

Esther Hughes: I've had some luck with the web site and think I've got my head around managing it. I'm still stuck with adding pictures and other documents but Graham has said he can help me.

10. Any other competent business

None

11. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 15th November, Hallhill Healthy Living Centre, at 7.30pm

12. End of Meeting

Gordon Millar closed the meeting and thanked all that attended. Meeting closed 9.30pm EH.