

SWINTON & LADYKIRK COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 4th January
2023 at 7.00pm in the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Swinton

PRESENT:

Iain Woolley (IW) (Chair), Bill Purvis(BP), John Cochrane (JC), Kenneth Morton(KM), Tim Morris (TM) ,

Michael Lawrence (ML), Fiona Wilson (FW), Councillor Donald Moffat, and two members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Councillor Mark Rowley

Minutes taken by: Fiona Wilson

Next meeting: 1st March 2023

Welcome: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting on the 2nd November 2022 were read and agreed.

Proposed: KM **Seconded:** TM

Matters Arising:

- The car parked on the pavement at Carters Wynd no longer an issue, but it was agreed to keep a watching brief.
- Ash tree with overhanging branch has moved in wind and at the moment no longer a danger

Treasurer's Report:

ML still waiting for RBS to allow him access to account. Balance from previous statement is £681.39. SP account has credit balance of £58. Monthly standing order is £17.00

Police Report: None received at this time. Councillor Moffat outlined local crime issues- hare coursing, thefts from sheds and quad bike races with associated damage and threats to farmers. ML has installed security cameras at the Wheatsheaf which may help with speeding on that section of Main Street.

Planning Applications: None

Christmas Lights on the Green:

- To be taken down on Friday 10am before Finlay Mitchell collects trees from Green and Wheatsheaf.

- It was agreed to plan a better post Covid switch-on for 2023 with mulled wine and mince pies as before. ML will apply for a licence to cover any alcohol issues.
- It was agreed to ask the Duns Men's Shed to supply three poles to swag the lights on, in the gap between the mature trees. CC to make a donation and supply timber.

Update on Hudson Ladykirk Development (Everley Meadow):

- FW reminded the meeting that the developer contribution towards play must be pursued and allocated to Swinton.
- We need to chase up the planners regarding the agreed allocation at the planning meeting of 28 June 2021, of a plot of land within the development for Community Amenity Use. It is really important that this site is safeguarded for village use quickly as the developer can withdraw the offer after ten years from the start of construction. Councillor Moffat told the meeting that this happened with a similar plot allocated to social housing in Coldstream. The Secretary will write, once we confirm how this was to be facilitated.
- The group looking at all the possibilities for a Village Community Hub is about to circulate a questionnaire asking what villagers would want from a community hub and to identify what skills and resources we have in the village to take these forward. It was agreed that there should be representation from this group on the CC and vice versa and this should be a ongoing agenda item.

Community Grant Procedures:

- The Secretary (BP) reminded the meeting that we need to have a costed project to apply for any grants, It was agreed that all would look around the village for small projects coming in under £500, to take forward to the next funding round in April. There is a Paths Maintenance Grant that is paid in retrospect. This contract needs to be put out to tender.
- There was discussion on the ownership of Carters Wynd, which is un-adopted and becomes treacherous in winter. JC undertook to identify owner.
- Councillor Moffat told the meeting that other villages which have gone through the "Placemaking" process have identified a portfolio of projects that enhance their communities.

Updates from Regional Councillors:

- Councillor Moffat is in contact with Jamie Swinton regarding the collapsing wall in the copse at the east end of the village.
- After complaints about speeding through the village, he is hoping to get a "Pop-up Bob" for the village. If villagers take numbers of speeding vehicles and times of speeding, he can ask Police for speed checks and for motorists to be contacted.

Correspondence as previously circulated

A.O.C.B.:

- It was suggested by a member of the public that a French boules pitch could be created on the east end of the Green opposite the Wheatsheaf. It was agreed that this would be a great social addition to the village. FW to contact Neil Pringle at Neighbourhood Services.
- FW to contact Neil Pringle regarding the removal of the stump and replacement of the tree on the south east corner of the Green
- Finlay Mitchell to be contacted re the replacement of the Platinum Jubilee tree.
- Complaints re the road surface of the Green. Councillor Greenwell to be contacted as he is now that Portfolio holder.
- Several salt bins are missing from around the village and salt/grit mix compacted and unusable in remaining ones. Can they be replaced/refilled
- A member of the public asked about the upcoming legislation on pavement parking. Councillor Moffat stated that police are generally advised to use judgement and are unlikely to start ticketing pavement parked cars in the village unless they are obstructive.

All business concluded, the meeting closed at 9pm.

Next meeting Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7pm in the Wheatsheaf.