

DUNSHALT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

(Scottish Charity SC003253)

MINUTES OF DUNSHALT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2019

Gordon Morton (Chairperson) Jim McGeorge (Secretary) (Apologies)
Violet Crawford Cllr Donald Lothian
Ian Macaulay
Steve McHardy (Treasurer)
Sue McHardy

The minutes of the meeting of 12 August were approved.

Council matters

- 1 DL was advised that the footpath to Strathmighlo had not been cut and was impassable in places
- 2 Grass in the Park had been cut for the Fete as requested. The gates had not, however, been unlocked.
- 3 Two Community Speedwatch sessions had been carried out over the summer, resulting in 8 and 12 motorists receiving advisory letters. Although the team had deployed on Ladybank Road and Main Street, virtually all those observed exceeding the speed limit were on Main Street. Although large tractors give an impression of speed, they had rarely been found to be exceeding 20mph. Residents in Ladybank Road have reported that the deployment of Pop Up Bob was effective in generally slowing traffic.
- 4 The issue of potholes, mud and general state of Chapel Road round to Ladybank Road was raised. DL to report to Fife Council.
- 5 The issue of salting the road to the school in Auchtemuchty was raised. DL reported the Fife Council were now simply applying policy more rigorously in relation to unadopted roads.
- 6 DL was advised that Dunshalt in Bloom had achieved Gold Award status in 2019

Grants/Community Council

- 1 IM advised that the defibrillator pads had been replaced.
- 2 IM advised that all Fife Council grants for the year had now been received.
- 3 IM had previously circulated correspondence relating to community involvement in the Binn Hill windpower scheme. After discussion IM agreed to represent the Association at the next steering group meeting on 10th September.

Treasurer's report

- 1 SMcH had made changes suggested by members to the draft application to OSCR to change the organisation's legal name. These were approved and SMcH will submit to OSCR.
- 2 Some villagers had queried the terms of eligibility for the Ferguson bequest. JM has written to Fife Council under FOI to ask for a copy of the trust deeds and clarification of the eligibility for application.
- 3 Insurance costs have risen minimally this year, and premiums have been paid.
- 4 Income from the Duck Race was similar to last year (minus cost of ducks), the Ceilidh made a very small profit and the Fete raised £500 (£75 down on last year, most likely due to the weather on the day)

Ongoing matters

- 1 Trial Yoga sessions in the Hall have been successful and the class will now run until the end of September in the first instance
- 2 A Pilates Class is starting in the Hall on 10th September for 6 weeks in the first instance.
- 3 Craft Fair 26th October
- 4 Author's Night 19th November
- 5 Children's Christmas Party 14th December
- 6 VC reported plants growing in the gutters. GM to give VC contact details for contractor.
- 7 Congratulations were extended to the Dunshalt In Bloom team in achieving Beautiful Fife Gold Award status this year. It was agreed that a special event be organised for the village as a whole to show its appreciation.

Fete Review

Following a largely successful Fete Weekend the following items were discussed:

- (1) To take place weekend after schools go back
- (2) Duck Race and Fete to take place on same weekend, with the Ceilidh possibly at another time of year.
- (3) Street parade now requires licence and will now take place in the Park.

- (4) All fete activities and children's races to take place in the main park, with a races section marked and taped off
- (5) Full time commentator with music required to keep everyone informed of ongoing activities
- (6) Ice Cream is a gamble on recouping cost and making profit, but indispensable at a Fete
- (7) Teas should be distinct from the sale of Cake and Candy
- (8) Planning needs to take place in April / May so that all volunteers are aware of their roles well in advance of school holidays.
- (9) Fete Programme published in advance
- (10) Much closer attention must be paid to safety issues and risk assessment. Issues to be reviewed include PAT testing for all electrical equipment used, weatherproof electrical cabling, hot water safety (tea urn) and first aid cover

Hall Heating

Following advice received from Fife Council Energy Management and research via Energy Savings Trust and Viessman Boilers SMcH had produced a draft plan (attached) aimed at significantly reducing the Hall's energy usage and heating bills. After discussion it was agreed that available members would meet with VC on Thursday 12th September at 7.15pm to review the hall programme, new heating system and implementation recommendations.

Date of Next Meeting

Monday 14th October 2019, 7.30pm. The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Hall Heating Recommendations.

- (1) Overall there's nothing to be gained by switching supplier, as we benefit from Fife Council's purchasing power.
- (2) Little requires to be done about electricity. We don't use much and can't avoid standing charges. Nevertheless we should look at replacing fluorescent lights with LED at some point in the future.
- (3) Gas (principally heating, as we use little by way of hot water) requires immediate action to reduce usage and therefore bills.

In the past year we used **31,000KwH**.

The **average** usage for an average household is 12,000KwH. (9000KwH space heating, 3000KwH hot water and cooking)

The **high** usage for an average household is 18,000KwH. (13,500KwH space heating, 4,500KwH hot water and cooking)

Fife Council Energy Management advises:

*“Regarding your high energy bills for the village hall, the recent addition of double glazing, loft insulation and highest efficiency boiler with recommended controls, should have helped. **However the controls will only assist if they are set up properly with the lowest manageable temperatures timed to match the occupancy of the hall. Checking the controls are set up correctly therefore would be the first thing to do”.***

This, coupled with other information from the Energy Savings Trust and Viessman Boilers, suggests that:

- (1) Main Hall Programmer to be set up to mirror weekly hall programme as closely as possible. Some research will require to be undertaken to understand how long before the hall is used the heating needs to be switched on in order to reach the desired temperature.
- (2) Main Hall TRVs to be fully open, allowing programmer to set Hall temperature at 21 degrees. This is similar to the usual domestic setup with the thermostat / programmer in hall or corridor but with no TRV fitted on that radiator.
- (3) Committee Room TRV set to achieve a maximum of 21 degrees
- (4) Toilet TRVs to be set to achieve a maximum of 18 degrees. These are used only occasionally but only need to be 'not cold'.
- (5) Entrance hallway TRV to be set to achieve maximum of 15 degrees. With the main hall door opening and closing when the hall is used there is little point in having heat simply flooding out the door.
- (6) Usage to be monitored on a monthly basis to check if the above measures are having the desired effect.