

UPLAWMOOR COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

24TH SEPTEMBER 2014

UCC Attendees –

David Carslaw (Chairman); Ken Knox; Charles Brindley; Rose Daly; Ross Leggat (arrived late).

Attendance (excluding UCC committee) – 20 approx.

Apologies –

John Black; Gordon Steel; Kath Close.

Previous Minutes -

The chairman asked for a proposer & seconder to approve the Minutes of the previous AGM held on 11 September 2013. Proposed K. Knox; Seconded L. Riddet.. There were no objections and the minutes were accepted and approved.

1. Chairmans Report –

The Chairman provided the following account of UCC's work over the past year:

- 1.1 Vandalism continues to be a problem around the school – At UCC's request both the police and the council's wardens service agreed to increase the frequency of their patrols in this area.
- 1.2 Loch Libo Road – For some time, the lack of adequate road markings on this road has been a problem and UCC have continually requested ERC address this situation.
- 1.3 Diversion of traffic through the village – UCC highlighted safety concerns to ERC's councillors with traffic being diverted from Loch Libo road through the village.
- 1.4 Japanese knotweed – Despite lengthy discussions with councillors at the UCC monthly meetings, UCC have been unable to persuade ERC to tackle or provide any assistance with the knotweed problem within the village.
- 1.5 Wind Turbines – At the request of villagers, UCC have made representations to ERC against a number of proposed wind turbines in the area.
- 1.6 Access through fields – UCC has held discussions with owners of fields in attempt to secure access for the public.
- 1.7 Snow Drops – Organised the planting of snow drops in the Glen.
- 1.8 Clean up Day - Organised the village Clean-up day last April.
- 1.9 Tree felling in the Glen – Complained to ERC in connection with the excessive amount of tree felling carried out by them in the Glen.

- 1.10 Improvement of bus service – Have been in discussions with the ERC to try and improve the service to the village.
- 1.11 Defibrillator project – Supported the new village defibrillator project.
- 1.12 Muir Place benches - Financially supported the purchase of benches at Mure Place
- 1.13 Mctaggart & Mickel / Castburn Burn – UCC have employed an independent Engineer to provide a report to confirm that any additional water flow from the new M & M development will not cause over capacity in the burn.

2. Interim Elections:

- 2.1 The chairman advised that the composition of the current UCC committee consists of 4 elected members & 3 co-opted members leaving the UCC in an unstable and unsatisfactory position. The chairman further advised that in May 2014, L. Dempster in her role as secretary at that time requested ERC organise interim elections for UCC, which they have not yet done. A question from the floor asked the chairman if UCC had made a formal complaint to ERC regarding this unsatisfactory situation. The chairman stated that they had not done this yet but it is something they may now consider doing.

3. Treasurers Report:

The chairman presented the treasurer's report, which is attached to these minutes.

The chairman thanked Owen Evans for his examination of the UCC accounts and proposed he continue in this role. This was seconded by J Milner White and with no other nominations, Owen Evans was reappointed as independent examiner..

In response to Charles Brindley's question, the chairman advised that ERC could and might indeed ask for any money not expended from the admin grant they gave to the UCC to be handed back to them.

With no other questions regarding the accounts, the chairman asked the meeting to accept the Treasurer's Report. This was proposed by Rose Daly & seconded by J Milner White. There were no objections and the accounts were approved.

4. Future UCC monthly meetings:

The chairman read out all future UCC monthly meeting dates for the current session, these being the 3rd Monday in each month excluding December and July. The date for the 2015 AGM will be determined nearer the time.

5. Appointment of Office Bearers;

5.1 Chairman -

At this point the chairman advised that he was stepping down and proposed Gordon Steel as his successor. Gordon was unable to be present but had agreed to accept the nomination. K. Knox seconded the nomination and as there were no other nominations, Gordon Steel was appointed the new chairman of UCC.

5.2 Secretary –

In the absence of the new chairman, David Carslaw asked for nominations for the position of secretary. As there were no nominations for this position, it was agreed to hold this position over until the next UCC meeting.

5.3 Treasurer –

David Carslaw proposed Charles Brindley for the position of treasurer, seconded by Rose Daly. As there were no other nominations, Charles Brindley was appointed the new treasurer of UCC.

6. General Discussion:

6.1 Jackson Carlaw Meeting –

David Riddet asked if any outcome had resulted from the UCC meeting with Jackson Carlaw MSP. David Carslaw advised that no meeting took place, however correspondence with Jackson Carlaw had addressed the situation.

6.2 Wind Turbine (Aircraft Lighting) -

Aileen Jackson advised the meeting that an environmental officer from ERC had visited Harelaw farm and informed the owner that ERC could do nothing about the strobe affect of the light fitted to the top of the nearby wind turbine. Aileen Jackson went on to inform the meeting that in contrast to that environmental officer's advice, guidelines are already in place that state "light shields" should be fitted to lights fitted to wind turbines which are situated in extremely low light pollution areas such as Harelaw farm.

Action: David Carslaw agreed to take this up with the ERC councillors at the next community council meeting.

6.3 Loch Libo Road Lay by -

L. Dempster asked if the UCC would lobby ERC to place a refuse bin at the lay by at the east end of the loch, as a significant amount of rubbish was being discarded there.

6.4 Stray Cows in the Glen –

It was brought to the attention of the meeting that there were high instances of cows straying into the Glen from the neighbouring farm field. It was noted that ERC had put out a tender to erect a new fence along the Glen.

Action: UCC would ask the council for an update on the current status of this tender, when it would be awarded and the work started.

6.6 Access route from M&M development to Castburn Path-

Heather Anderson in response to a question from the floor advised that 2 access routes had been identified on the proposed plans for the new housing development from the development into the Castburn Path.

6.7 Access from New Housing Development to Castburn Path-

New Housing Development (McTaggart & Mickel) – A question from the floor asked if the committee knew what area of land would be left between the new houses and the Castburn Path. The chairman advised that this information could probably be gained from M&M's planning application, which should be available on ERC's planning portal.

7. A.O.C.B

Rose Daly informed the meeting that Uplawmoor Primary School had won through to the final of the Intergenerational Quiz.

There was no further business and David Carslaw closed the meeting.