

Annual General Meeting

Monday 21st November 2016

8:00 pm

Tarbrax Hall

Approved Minutes

At the start of the meeting the Chair thanked the Hall Committee for allowing the A.G.M. to be held at the advertised time of 8.00 p.m. in this instance. Although the Yoga Club was due to continue until this time they had kindly agreed to stop 15 minutes earlier to allow some set up time for the A.G.M.

1 Present

Ian Aitchison, Margaret Addo, Barbara Robertson, Stephen Midgley; approximately ten other members of the public, including representatives of the Hall Committee and the WAT IF? (Woolfords, Auchengray and Tarbrax Improvement Foundation) group.

2 Apologies

Alistair Marshall, Cllr Vivienne Shaw, Cllr Ed Archer.

3 Formation of the TCC

The elected members of the T.C.C., having temporarily stood down as per usual at our last meeting, were asked if they wished to continue to serve for the next year of the current tenure.

4 Election of Office Bearers

The temporary Chair welcomed the members of the T.C.C. and the following office bearers were subsequently elected unanimously as follows:-

Chair

Ian Aitchison

Proposer: Stephen Midgley

Seconder: Margaret Addo

Secretary

Stephen Midgley

Proposer: Margaret Addo

Seconder: Barbara Robertson

Treasurer

Alistair Marshall

Proposer: Stephen Midgley

Seconder: Margaret Addo

The Chair, Treasurer and Secretary will be the authorised signatories for the Tarbrax Community Council account: - Any 2 from 3 will be required as usual.

5 Adoption of Constitution

The current constitution was discussed and there being no proposed changes, it was

then accepted unanimously by the Community Council
Proposer: Margaret Addo Second: Stephen Midgley

6 Adoption of Minutes of Previous AGM 2015

Proposer: Stephen Midgley Second: Barbara Robertson

7 Chair's Report

The chair presented a brief summary of some of the events since the last AGM, with special regard to the proposed development of a solar to hydrogen development at Dippool Farm for which an appeal was being made to the Scottish Government.

He also stated that there had been an unfortunate incident of abuse by one or two of our residents towards the S.L.C. Contractors who are currently working on phase 2 of the Common. It was reported that some bad language was used towards the Contractors and that this was unacceptable as S.L.C. has a zero tolerance policy towards workplace abuse and the Community Council is in agreement with such policy.

8 Treasurers Report

A written report, provided by Treasurer, Alistair Marshall, was presented by the Chair. The Treasurer informed us that all debts have been paid timeously during the past year and that the annual sum of £35.00 pounds due to the I.C.O. had been sent off that morning.

The current balance of our account is £538.77 and all transactions were up to date on our computer.

S.L.C. will continue to audit our accounts as usual.

9 Community Council Forum

Margaret Addo gave us a five-minute update about the recent meeting in Lanark about this proposed forum. It had been unanimously agreed by all Community Councils present that we all had something to gain by the pooling of problems and issues in the Clydesdale District and we were all looking forward to these forums.

10 Education and Governance Review

Stephen Midgley gave us a short summary of this new Scottish government review and survey on the education of our children, and passed out copies of the contact details for those interested in sending back their views on the subject. A brief note will be put into the newsletter for any interested residents who wish to be involved in the process.

11 Hall Letting

It was pointed out by the Hall Committee that the Yoga Club had booked the Hall on Mondays from 8.00 p.m. in good faith and although we were in the habit of having our meetings on this evening no formal arrangement had been in place and no advance bookings had been made.

After a short discussion the Chair agreed to present a list to the Hall Committee similar to that presented to S.L.C. for the coming year, providing a date and time suitable to both the Community Council and the Hall after the previously requested informal meeting between the Executives of both parties had been held. The Hall Chair reminded us that we should have this meeting to book our slot whilst space is available.

12 Abusive Behaviour

This discussion carried on from the mention of the subject on the Chair's annual report. He suggested that all the groups in the area work together with the residents to eradicate such behaviour from the district.

Previously, the Hall Chair had privately asked if any of his people had been involved in the harassment of the Contractors and although the Community Council Chair was reluctant to give out any names he had been asked to be informed of the name of any person on the Hall Committee who was involved. This had been done. The member of the Hall Committee who had been named (not publicly) spoke up at the meeting and insisted that she had not used bad language in her contact with the Contractors but that another lady was the one who had been offensive.

The Hall Chair added that he had spoken to the Contractor and that he had indeed confirmed that it was not his member who had used offensive language but another individual. The Chair was asked by the lady involved to be given an apology and the Chair complied with her request and gave her a public apology.

The Community Council secretary stated that the harassment of the Contractors, whether with bad language or not, was an example of the type of behaviour we were trying to eradicate and that he had made an apology to the Contractors on behalf of the Community Council and residents. He also stated that it was important not to get the reputation of being an abusive community!

A proposal had also been made recently for members of the Community Council and the WAT IF? group to meet informally, to discuss respective areas of activity and to try to agree on mutual co-operation and on the avoidance of future disagreements or harassment of individuals. It was agreed by most of those present that this would be a useful step, and that the Chairs of the two groups would be in contact to agree on the date of a meeting.

13 Any Other Business

The Hall Chair stated that he wanted to have a discussion about the Common, in particular with the apparent drainage problem. There followed a very robust discussion about the drainage problems and various other issues concerning the Common, with several of those present berating Margaret Addo at the same time over the top of the Chair to such an extent that our Secretary had to intervene eventually by pointing out that this was an example of the type of bullying that we were attempting to remove from our area. He also stated that if anyone had to be bullied then he would be happy to be the recipient to avoid Margaret Addo being the only target.

Margaret stated that she was aware of the drainage problems and said that they would be attended to a.s.a.p. when funds permitted. The Chair moved on to the next item of business.

14 Next Meeting

The date of the next business meeting will be advised in the newsletter after we sort out a date and time suitable to both the Hall and the Community Council.

8. Close of Meeting

Meeting closed at 9:15 p.m.