

DFHC (SCO42692)

20/12/24 Business Meeting.

Present: L Ferguson (Chair), L Baines (Secretary), W Roberts (Treasurer), J Wilson, J Millar, L Telford, J Currie, D Crew, I Cranston

Apologies: D Rollo (Vice Chair)

Item 1. EGM - discussion around advice from the solicitors going forward with land issues. It was recognised that it was important and necessary to inform the whole village of the Councils plans. The Council agreed unanimously to produce an information leaflet which would be distributed to each household in the village prior to the EGM as preparation for this.

J Millar, I Cranston, J Currie, L Baines will collectively produce a document for approval from the Council for distribution.

Item 2. D Ploughman (Community Council) has received a lease proposal re Scottish Power and the development of charging points in Fisherman's Carpark which would generate a Wayleavers arrangement for the land occupied.

Item 3. There have been complaints about maintenance issues with the hedges that bound the properties in Minto Gardens; it was agreed that the individuals who currently lease the allotment plots should be asked to attend to this as part of their agreement.

L Telford will help with the maintenance around plot 1.

It was acknowledged that clarification around boundaries/land ownership was central to the issues for clarity of responsibility going forward.

Item 4. Dene Sub Committee - it was unanimously agreed that the Sub Committee have managed their project effectively and their list of achievements were: clearing/harvesting the timber; planting completed for the first phase of redevelopment; planting/reinstatement of boundary hedging on the Dene Road; the fundraising achieved for future developments through tree sponsorship; the planned reinstatement of steps; and funding received from Rotary which covered the cost of the trees. Concerns had been expressed by the Sub Committee to the Chair regarding previous Minutes. The Council agreed a positive way forward is necessary to harmonise relationships. It was agreed to help produce Terms of Reference (TOR) with the Sub Committee in order that both groups are clear about the scope and remit required by each other. The Sub Committee had drawn up a TOR which would be amalgamated into a final version.

TOR - J Millar will undertake this.

Item 5. Boxing Day Hunt - would be asked for a donation.

Item 6. A reminder to publicly thank individuals/groups (via village Facebook page) when any events are held.

Item 7. OSCR - W Roberts advised that D Biggar has been helpful with the accounts and he would approach her with assistance with documentation that needs to be updated to the Charity Regulator.

Item 8. The Council had received an email which intimated there might be legal challenges to the Council's desire to deal with the land issues. SCO registered means that the Trustees would be personally liable, and were the threat to ensue, there was unanimous agreement from the Council that the recourse would be to dissolve DFHC.

In recognition of the vulnerability of Trustees, the change to SCIO would give greater protection and enable the Council to apply for more funding from a variety of sources.

L Ferguson will meet (in the new year) with F Stewart & V Oswald to discuss work they have already undertaken with this focus.

The Constitution will also need to be reviewed/revised in line with this, a working party will be formed for this task.