



**Tarbrax Community Council**

Working in the interests of Tarbrax, Auchengray & Woolfords

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## **APPROVED MINUTES**

**OF**

### **Community Council Meeting**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 8.00pm in Auchengray Church Centre

#### **Present:**

Alistair Marshall (Chair)      Patricia Tucker (Secretary)      Barbara Robertson (Treasurer)  
Margaret Addo      Stephen Midgley      Eric Williamson (Associate Member)  
SLC Councillor Richard Lockhart      John Tucker (TVHA Representative)  
Pat Mavor (WAT IF?)      Six members of the public were in attendance.

**Apologies:** SLC Councillor Catherine McClymont, SLC Councillor Julia Marrs, Ian Aitcheson.

#### **18 Feb 1) Minutes of meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

Following discussion with the Chair, a revised draft of the minutes from the November meeting had been provided in response to comments from one of the TCC members. The changes were relatively minor. This action was then questioned as being against the TCC Constitution.

Discussion followed which became heated as members of the public felt the matter to be irrelevant to the business of the TCC. Two residents left the meeting in protest. P.A.T. will again check against the Constitution and consult with Community Liaison Officer for definitive advice.

The draft minutes were then accepted as being a true record of the meeting.

**Proposed by: Barbara Robertson      Seconded by: Stephen Midgley**

#### **18 Feb 2) Matters arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising other than the item already placed on the Agenda

##### **TVHA representative**

The confusion regarding the TVHA Representative to the TCC was discussed and John Tucker confirmed as the TVHA Representative

#### **18 Feb 3) Secretary's Report**

##### **a) Report on actions from last meeting**

1. Repairs to the C37 at Easterhouse Farm: Further report and request sent to SLC and will be followed up if nothing done within a reasonable timescale
2. Contact details for TCC members have been put on the website following permission from members at last meeting.
3. Meeting with WAT IF? (Agenda, Item 8)
4. Traffic safety measures in Auchengray: followed up (Agenda Item 9)
5. Christmas Lights for Tarbrax: Information received (Agenda Item 10)

##### **b) Correspondence**

A list of correspondence received was provided

##### **c) Documents received for circulation**

List provided – attached to these minutes

##### **d) TCC website**

Little to report, links have been checked and are all working. The website is little used. There were helpful suggestions as to how we could publicise the website which we will try. It is really for the convenience of residents and by its nature is not

an 'exciting' site but does have links to local Council websites, local services and some events.

e) P.A.T. has been working with J.B. from WAT IF? to publicise road closures, gritting routes etc. J.B. suggested we meet with SLC Councillors and the Roads Dept. to discuss the best way to communicate regarding road closures, potholes and gritting routes. This was agreed to be a good idea. *P.A.T. to action*  
Councillor Lockhart gave details of the gritting programme and the difficulties encountered with such a large road network.

**18 Feb 4) Treasurers Report**

The current balance is £572.16

We are awaiting receipt of a form for change of signatories which has been requested from RBS

**18 Feb 5) Roads**

**a) Road repairs and closure notices**

Seven TTRO's had been received and the information circulated where relevant.

**b) Potholes**

Many complaints regarding potholes had been received from a variety of sources and there had also been reported incidents of damage to vehicle suspensions and tyres. Some potholes had been so badly patched that they had deteriorated further and were now in a dangerous state. Councillor Lockhart reported that he had made an official complaint regarding the quality of repairs being carried out. Further reports were received from those present which are to be forwarded to the Roads Department. *Action: P.A.T.*

**18 Feb Item 6) Removal of shale from small bing.**

Information was provided regarding resumption of operations to remove shale from the Wee Bing. The returning lorries will be carrying top soil for the aftercare and restoration of the site in accordance with the planning conditions. The lorries will travel from Tarbrax to the A70 and will not be passing through Polkelly, Auchengray or Woolfords.

A query was raised at this point regarding the operation on the Big Bing and the operator not cleaning the road. It was pointed out that this operation is not subject to the same planning conditions as removal of material from the Wee Bing. The query was noted.

**18 Feb Item 7) Tarbrax Village Hall - Feedback from TVHA representative to TCC**

Notes from TVHA meetings are distributed to all TCC members once approved so everyone is up to date. Following some issues at the November TCC meeting regarding information sought from the TCC regarding the Tarbrax Common Improvement Group, it had since been made clear that the Group was not part of the TCC and it is not appropriate to ask the TCC for such information.

**18 Feb Item 8) Proposed meeting with WAT IF?**

This meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00pm. Attendees will be Pat Mavor and Mandy Meickle and any others from WAT IF?, Alistair Marshall, Barbara Robertson, Margaret Addo and Patricia Tucker from TCC and Councillor Catherine McClymont.

The Agenda will be as agreed at the TCC Meeting of 20<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The venue to be confirmed but probably Woolfords Village Hall.

**18 Feb Item 9) Traffic Safety Measures in Auchengray**

Correspondence between the TCC Secretary and the Roads and Transportation Services of SLC was read out (with copies available). In brief: it is not possible for

TCC to fund Vehicular Activated Traffic Control signage as the location does not conform to SLC's criteria for justification. However, the Council intends to replace the current advisory 20mph signs with 2 flashing part time mandatory signs, hopefully before the end of the financial year – weather permitting.  
This decision was accepted.

**18 Feb Item 10) Christmas lights for Tarbrax**

Councillor McClymont and Councillor Marrs had both looked into this for us and an email received in December was provided for the Committee to discuss. The cost of £518.94 for five refurbished lights with an ongoing annual charge was considered to be rather high. It was also unclear if the lights were to be refitted every year.

It was decided:

To seek clarification on annual / recurring costs	Action P.A.T
Number of lamp posts needing lights to be determined	Action S.J.M.

**18 Feb Item 11) Planning**

Weekly lists from SLC and West Lothian had not revealed any developments or Applications within the TCC area

**a) Applications**

There had been an enquiry from one resident regarding an invalid application at Dippool Farm which needed examination. This was a resubmission of an earlier application: CL/14/0258

The proposed fairly large development at Carnwath was brought to the meeting's attention.

**b) Proposed Sub-group for planning applications**

It was suggested that a small Planning Sub Group to the TCC be set up to examine Planning Applications within our area or impacting upon our area. This group would become 'experts' on the Strategic Planning Policies of South Lanarkshire, would meet as required and report to the TCC. It would not have executive powers. It is believed that a resident with considerable knowledge of the planning process is willing to assist this group on an advisory basis.

It was agreed:

- 1) Such a group was a good idea and should be progressed.
- 2) TCC members to be Alistair Marshall and Stephen Midgley.
- 3) Necessary Policy Documents for perusal (as suggested by SLC Planning Department) to be obtained.
- 4) Map of TCC area to be provided for sub group

*Actions: P.A.T.*

Proposed: Alistair Marshall	Seconded: Stephen Midgley
Draft Terms of reference to be produced for next meeting	Action: P.A.T.

**18 Feb Item 12) Dates of Future Meetings**

Following the AGM in November there were several requests from residents to change the date of the meeting to earlier in the month to facilitate information reaching the Newsletter before its deadline for print. The change would be to the third Monday in every month and would affect the April and October dates in 2018. The changes had been discussed with the Chair and TCC members last year and agreed with SLC with the condition they were ratified at this meeting. A post meeting addendum would then be placed in the minutes of the November 2017 AGM.

It was agreed: To approve the change of April and October 2018 dates to the third Monday in the month

Proposed: Barbara Robertson	Seconded: Stephen Midgley
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**18 Feb Item 13) Items for Newsletter**

A resident had asked if a reminder could be placed in the Newsletter regarding recycling of household waste.

If space allowed, could a mention be made of the TCC website please.

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**Item 14) Any Other Competent Business**

a) Recycling waste at the Tarbrax Village Hall. The Hall pay for waste removal and separate their waste for recycling. However the company then tip all the waste into the same truck. Councillor Lockhart agreed to look into this.

b) Claudia Beamish had circulated information regarding 'The Great Get Together' promoted by the Jo Cox Commission on Loneliness. It was suggested that the TCC could take the lead on holding this event for the Community in co-operation with WAT IF?, the Village Halls, the SWRI's, the School and other Community Groups. The National dates – 22<sup>nd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> June coincide with the Highland Show, but we could still have 'our' day on the Saturday before.

It was agreed:

1) TCC would coordinate a 'Great Get Together' for the community working with all the Community groups.

2) The date to be Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018

3) Information to go into the April Newsletter

Proposed: Alistair Marshall                      Seconded: Barbara Robertson

*Action: P.A.T.*

c) The considerable amount of litter around the area was brought to everyone's attention. It was agreed there was a problem and further thought is to be given to this.

d) The problem of reduced numbers of upland birds was highlighted. This was considered to be due to foxes, badgers and crows destroying the eggs of ground nesting birds.. The problem was noted.

e) There was a reminder to complete and return the WAT IF? Community Action Plan before the 28<sup>th</sup> February.

WAT IF? were congratulated on the success of their recent Open day.

f) We were reminded of the retirement party on the 10<sup>th</sup> March for the Tarbrax Postman – this event is open to all the Community.

g) A reminder that Carnwath Bank is due to close at the end of May

The Meeting closed at 10.00pm

**Date of Next Meeting:                      Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018  
8.00pm at Auchengray Church Centre**

**Future meetings will be on the third Monday of each month (except for July and August) when there is no meeting.**