

Torrance Community Council -

Meeting Thursday 12th February 2009

Torrance Community Centre

Torrance Community Council Meeting

Present: Chic McKain, Martin Sproul, Brian Quin, Hugh Kershaw, Denis Bell, Morven Quin, PC Steve McInnes.

Also present: Two members of the public

Apologies: Rene McGarvie

The Chair advised that the police report would be done first tonight:

Police Report: Main issues are of bogus callers, there have been incidents in Balmore. PC McInnes advised to be on the alert when callers come to your door. They tend to work in pairs, he advised that you should pay attention and if at all suspicious, call the police.

There have also been a number of break in's over the festive period, Torrance , Balmore and Bardowie have all been targeted. However,

PC McInnes also advised that in January there were a number of incidents of 'frostings', where drivers had left their engines running while they defrosted their car windows. Criminals are on the look out for cars worth taking and as there are likely to be more frosty mornings during february and March, to be on the look out.

PC McInnes reminded us that he is at the Health Clinic in Torrance every Wednesday morning and if you have any issues to go along.

Minutes of previous meeting: Proposed by Hugh and seconded by Brian.

Chairman's Report: Chic advised that he has followed up the moving of the Community Notice Board with the Planning Department. However he has been unable to speak to Nigel Hooper, he will continue to follow this up, in writing, if necessary. Chic advised that we will wait and see if we get exemption from the Planning process before we make a decision on where it should be sited.

Chic congratulated Greenspace and our ward Councillors for the vast improvements and work done on the railway walkway between Main Street and Woodmill Park.

Chic said that the Christmas Lights Ceremony was a difficult evening, but a success and enjoyed by all, judging from feedback received. Chic said that the Community Council team were on a steep learning curve that night but we should give ourselves a pat on the back. It was a very well attended night.

Brian added that the Scout's did a great job of serving teas, coffee and hot dog's. Martin said maybe it was too successful.

Denis felt it was very important to learn from the night and that there should have been a review meeting soon after. He advised that there should be a list of issues and that this should be used as a springboard for future events. Chic advised that he has made up a list of good and not so good areas.

Chic felt that the main problem was that there was not a great deal of lead in time, and that we didn't know where we were going until the night. However, everyone pulled together really well and it was a first for us.

Denis added that it was a good night, and was well supported by the Community. Brian said the people wanted it to happen.

Chic went on to say that he would like to communicate with all other user groups to ask for input and involvement with the Community Council. Morven agreed to compose a letter to be sent to all groups asking for at least someone to come along to a Community Council meeting or even to come aboard. He also wants to establish what people want from the Community Council.

Treasurer's Report: Brian advised that there is £1883.55 in the bank. The selling of raffle tickets on the night of the lights ceremony raised £237.38. Chic asked that all expenses from the night are submitted, so we can establish any profit and communicate it to the user groups.

Secretary's Report: Planning applications received were all routine.

Councillor's Report: Not present.

Community Council Newsletter: A draft newsletter has been prepared by Morven. Chic asked that any ideas for inclusion should be submitted to Morven. Chic would like to see the 'what's on in Torrance' section developed.

Denis wondered if there is potential for a bi-monthly flyer.

A deadline of Tuesday 17th february was agreed for items to be included in the newsletter.

Denis proposed that a survey sheet be included with the newsletter distribution, asking what people want and any feedback. Denis agreed to draft up a sheet and organise a drop-off and collection point. Chic suggested that an interim meeting be arranged to finalise newsletter and organise it's distribution.

Proposed Business Plan: Chic advised the group of Denis' business plan for future events. It is extensive with costings over the next 10-11 months. It's a starting point with ideas and an additional committee will be required to deal with this. Denis said that it was an ambitious list and demands far greater general input, and that the involvement of other user groups would be critical.

Chic asked for three people to have a look at the list and to form some kind of running order and to report back to the group at the next meeting.

AOCB: Chic raised concerns about the lack of a hand over from the previous committee. He intends to write to Mrs Fischer and Mrs Fergie (past Chair and Secretary) for contractual and procedural information.

Chic also advised that as Chair he is ultimately responsible for the content displayed

on the notice board. He will be asking for all keys to be returned or locks to the notice board will be changed in the near future.

Denis submitted a letter of resignation from the Community Council, to Chic. He advised that he was too busy and didn't think he could do the TCC justice. Chic said he regretted Denis's decision but respected it.

A village clean up was agreed for 21st or 28th March. Final details to be included in newsletter. Enquiries to be made to East Dunbartonshire Council regarding assistance in terms of taking away rubbish collected and issuing of any relevant equipment on the day. It was hoped that it will be a community effort for the good of the village.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 12th March 2009, 7.30pm. Torrance Community Centre.