

**THE ROYAL FOUR TOWNS COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Meeting held on Thursday May 26th 2016 at 7.30pm**  
**In the kitchen of the RFT Hall**  
**DRAFT**

**Those Present**

Stuart Campbell, Graham Anderson, Freda Seddon, George Erskine, David McEwan, James Marshall.

New Community PC David Irons with PC Adams.

**Action  
By**

**Apologies**

Stuart Bowe. Cllr.Peter Diggle.

**1. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Accepted as correct: proposed by DMc, seconded by SC and signed by the Chairman.

**2. Matters Arising**

Bus stance: DGC will monitor the situation to see if a 'no parking' area is justified.

**3. Police Report**

Community PC Ian Brownrigg has moved on to a post in Dumfries and is replaced by PC Irons, who introduced himself. RFT CC looks forward with liaising with him and wishes to pass thanks to PC Brownrigg for his work over the last 6 years.

Incidents of note in Hightae: two males were arrested for the theft of a motor vehicle from the High Road and a youth was reported for the theft of a bicycle.

Suspicious persons/vehicles: members of the public are asked to continue reporting suspicious persons/vehicles in this area. There have been reports of persons trying to sell power washers, generators etc. Report sightings on 101.

Initiatives: unwanted airguns can be surrendered until 12<sup>th</sup> June and new legislation comes into force on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016. Licence applications will be available on the Police website until 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016.

Farm Watch is in operation and Smart Water is still available.

B7020: JM mentioned that a car had gone off the road at Parkend Bridge, an accident possibly caused by the loose gravel on the recently dressed road. Another car went off the road at Castle Loch. Cllr. ST will report the excess gravel to the roads dept.

**ST**

**4. Treasurers Report**

The accounts books are currently with the accountant prior to the AGM.

Balance on 14/04 2016: £7107.15

Payments made to RFT Show and Gala £500.00

Golden Years            £500.00

WRI                            £200.00

Current Balance:            £5597.15

The application from Hightae Primary School will go to the ANCBC (Harestanes Community Fund).

**FS**

A letter of thanks from Golden Years for their grant of £500 and a receipt from A&E Fedn of CCs for the £10 subscription were passed to GA.

**5. Local Councillor's Report**

Potholes: these are being dealt with and surface dressing has been carried out on the B7020. Work on the Rashiebriggs area depends on future funding and DGC have noted that the River Annan floods and overtops the bridge at Rashiebriggs, damaging the road. CCs are to keep reporting potholes to DGC.

Display board in Heck: DGC doesn't think they own any land in Heck to site the display board, but will carry out further checks.

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**6. Correspondence**

**Emails sent:**

Windfarm grants update, 15/04/2016 (from FS).  
Weekly road works reports.  
Missing boy, 29/04/2016 from Brian Smith (found ok)  
Recycling Centres – new hours, 09/05/2016.

**Emails Received:**

Sheila Hutchison, CC Liaison Officer, retiring, 13/05/2016.  
Discretionary Grant Application form (forwarded to GA 17/05/2016)

**Action  
By**

**Correspondence received**

Dissolution of CCs, 19/04/2016: several CCs have not adopted the new constitution (RFT CC has) and consequently have been dissolved.

Area Committee Meeting: 27/04/2016.

Certificate of Registration: for Data Protection.

**7. Reports from Other meetings**

ANCBC AGM 17/05/2016: SC and FS attended. Amendments to Articles of Association were approved at the meeting. These clarify some points from the original articles.

**8. Planning Applications**

None relevant.

**9. Broadband Update**

Complaint Case C1294096: update from Gail McGregor to the effect that BT can confirm that a new fibre cabinet will be installed on School Road and thereafter most residents should receive faster Broadband.

**10. Wind Farm Grants**

Minsca: Annual Plan sent to Laurie McNabb, including the £180.00 paid to Andrew Case for website hosting. The current DGC officer, McNabb Laurie is moving to a new post and a new officer has not yet been appointed.

SC suggested that CCs consider how to spend future windfarm grant money. Ideas to be presented at the AGM. FS will email conditions for ANCBC grants.

**FS**

**11. Access/Footpaths**

Hightae Meadow: the footpath needs strimming and GA and SC offered to do this.

Ashrood/Acorn Villa FP: SC reported that a tractor is using the lower part of the path which was never the intention. Only the top part, to the second gate, should be used for access to the field. The top part needs some stones to level up the ground and ST suggested DGC could provide road planings etc.

**GA,  
SC**

**12. Community Empowerment**

The secretary of Lochmaben CC suggested that this is a future item for an A&E Federation meeting. ST explained that Ward Workers will work with community groups to empower residents, in a co-ordinating role. It was agreed that it should be on the agenda of an A&E Federation meeting. FS will inform Lochmaben CC.

**FS**

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**13. Welcome Pack**

10 packs have been delivered and are warmly received. An updated version has been sent to DMC for the website.

**Action**  
**By**

**14. AOCB**

Surface dressing on B7020: there was concern that the surface had been too heavily gritted and 2 accidents had occurred as a possible result of this. Cllr.ST will report this to DGC.

Date of AGM: several community councillors will be away for the date given for the AGM, so this is to be re-arranged. 30<sup>th</sup> June was suggested and FS will check that the RFT Hall will be available.

**ST**

**FS**

**Date of Next Meeting**  
**AGM**

To be Followed by an Ordinary meeting  
**Thursday June 30th 2016 7.30pm**  
**In the Kitchen of the RFT Hall**