

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
 HELD ON MONDAY 21ST JUNE 2010**

**TO DISCUSS THE RESIDUAL WASTE RECYCLING AND ENERGY RECOVERY
 PLANT PRE PLANNING**

Item				
1	MEMBERS PRESENT & APOLOGIES			
	In attendance		Apologies	
	George Smith (GS) Chair	Robert Freel (RF) (Secretary)	W Mackie (Treasurer)	M Casey (MC)
	Robert Craig (Vice Chair)	M Hannay		
	G Haddow (GH)	Cllr Malloy		
	Cllr Holman	Cllr G Campbell		
	Cllr Filshie	Cllr Carmichael (Larkhall)		
	Cllr Burns (Larkhall) -			
	<p>Public Hall was booked for dancing although CC had booked the hall, meeting switched to Public Institute. Hall opened to the public at 7.15 to allow people to sign in. 150 seats allocated plus an area for 50 standing.</p> <p>Reported that not all people could get into the meeting and that people had been advised by persons unknown that the meeting would be held in Stonehouse Public park. Initially two meeting in the hall were proposed to try and accommodate all parties.</p> <p>Chairman George Smith opened the meeting and introduced those at the top table along with the elected members present. Apologies were also presented as the numbers turning were more than the hall capacity mainly due to leaflets issued by the action group. George also advised the outline of the meeting.</p>			
2	Introductions & Background			
	<p>Chair provided a timeline of when they actually found out about the pre-application process, how one member had attended this meeting at the Shaw lands to gather information. As no meeting had been held in May office bearers had got together to discuss the issues arising. It was agreed that the community should seek a meeting with Scotgen. Subsequent to this, notices had appeared around the village advising of a public meeting at the Shawlands on 02-06-2010. Chair attended this meeting which was a shambles and offered to hold a public meeting in Stonehouse. Scotgen advised they would attend.</p> <p>Community council received a response from Scotgen advising they would meet on Monday 7th June, this meeting venue was arranged for the hospital. Prior to meeting Scotgen at hospital a large number of protesters gathered at hospital and it was agreed that two members of the action group attend the meeting namely Paul McGilvary and Emma Stewart. Minutes of this meeting have been posted in the village notice boards and issued tonight.</p> <p>George asked for a member of the Action group to provide an update on their activities. As Paul and Emma were not currently in the hall Celia Tennant advised that following a meeting of the action group six sub groups were formed.</p>			

	<p>These sub groups would cover the following areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaign • Public Health and Scientific research • Planning and legal research • Waste policy research • Wildlife and Environmental research • Administration and Correspondence <p>A face book site had been set up and many leaflets had been distributed.</p> <p>Robert Freel advised that the community council had taken the following course of action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ascertained that company was only formed in March 2010 and had obtained a certificate of incorporation to find out more about the company directors very little information obtained. • Letters sent to SEPA tom obtain information on the Dumfries Plant • Letter sent to Dumfries & Galloway council to obtain details on the planning process and any breaches of planning as well as community council details. • Email sent to Environment Agency seeking details of all plants in England & Wales to obtain details of breaches etc. • Written to MP M McCann • Written to Karen Gillon <p>Gavin Haddow, a former Process Chemist, informed the people of the potential for pollutants to be discharged to the environment, from this proposed development. A member of the audience interrupted and stated that the amount of ash generated from incineration went to land fill and this should be investigated At this point it was pointed out to the chairman that many people were heading to the park and would he consider moving the meeting to the bandstand at Alexander Hamilton Memorial park (AHMP). Chair asked those present if they would consent to moving to the park . This was agreed and the meeting adjourned to the park.</p>	
3	<p>Meeting in the AHMP</p>	
	<p>Chairman George Smith once again apologised, and commented that we were lucky that it was such a good night. I ntroductions were given once again and George advised that the community council were not here to take any anger vented at Scotgen, the community council were all voluntary and were trying to gain and address all the issues arising as well as deal with other issues in the village. The background details were again provided and Paul McGilvray provided an action group report .</p> <p>Paul advised that we were currently at pre-planning stage, and that once full application was submitted that it was likely that the application would go to a full committee meeting.</p> <p>Chair advised that the elected members did not wish to state their position on this matter at present as it could prevent them from voting at a full planning committee meeting.</p> <p>Paul advised that some questions had been answered by Scotgen and others had</p>	

	not, the plant would be regulated by SEPA and that Scotgen had advised there were 45 breaches of operating licence conditions at the Dumfries plant.	
4	Objections at preplanning stage and Planning Process	Action
	<p>Objections could be made to ScotGen at this stage and individuals were encouraged to do so. If doings so the two areas to quote are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Green Belt 2. Additional Traffic <p>Down side of objecting is that individuals would be on ScotGens register for providing information.</p> <p>If and when a full application is made objections should be individually made. There is a possibility this application could be called in by the Scottish parliament or if rejected by South Lanarkshire council the applicant could appeal to the Scottish parliament.</p> <p>George smith advised that the reply from Karen Gillen provided a link to planning policy and zero waste. George advised that individuals should be writing to the 7 MSPs who represent our area and urge their support. He reminded all that an election was due next year..</p> <p>George smith advised that individuals should contact their own community councils and seek their support in objecting to the plant.</p> <p>Paul McGilvray advised on the latest Scotgen Newsletter, that 28 days would be allowed for objections to the Environmental Impact Assessment when it was published and that responses to this should be made near the closing date.</p> <p>George smith opened meeting up to Questions</p>	
5	Questions & Answers	Action
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Question: A question on the total number of lorry movements was asked. Answer: Lorry movements had been advised as around an extra 75-77 per day excluding Hamilton of Dovesdale lorries. 2. Question : Liz Craigmyle asked if Public health could be used as an objection Answer: Paul McGilvray advised on South Lanarkshire's acceptable considerations and that health was not one. Nor was loss of value, visual appearance, land titles or ownership. Of the acceptable considerations planning guidelines, local plan, contamination, and pollution were amongst the acceptable . George Smith suggested that the NHS and local GPs be contacted as if health was an issue it could have a knock on effect on the health service. <p>John Young advised that the site is in close proximity to Cander Moss, a triple S I and SAC. National planning guidelines should be used and that individuals should not collect petitions as petitions only count as one objection. If individuals are members of organisations they should seek the organisation to submit an objection. Start preparing objections and that marches should be organised and TV stations should be involved.</p> <p>John highlighted that the community council had objected to the Dovesdale plant being sited there around 10-15 years ago and also objected to its operations being</p>	

STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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	<p>extended. This resulted in an EIA being carried out and a number of breaches of the councils own policy highlighted, however permission was still given. Question: What are the next stages, will another public meeting be held Answer: George smith advised that another meeting would be held as soon additional information was available however a suitable venue would have to be sought. Bob Millar offered the church hall which could accommodate up to 500. It was agreed that the community council would look at this. An offer of assistance with national TV coverage was offered. Chair to arrange further Press were currently present and the Carlisle & Lanark Gazette representative advised it would be front page news this week.</p> <p>Observation: A member of the public advised that the ground conditions on the site were not good and shifting sand existed.</p> <p>Question: if passed could this be appealed. Answer: Not known however unlikely unless it was a judicial review .</p> <p>Observation: A member of the public advised on a site a Falkirk that had contamination problems and we should contact Falkirk District Council Agreed that we try and pursue this.</p> <p>Question : Who owns land, Answer: this was unknown at present, but not a consideration for planning</p> <p>Observation: A statement was made that it was rumoured that the land was sold for 12 million pounds.</p> <p>Question: Alec Douglas asked what funding was required for the action group and who is contacted. Answer: Paul McGilvray.</p> <p>Question: What about other issues in the village as some people had come to discuss these. Answer: chairman George smith advised they would try and organise a meeting for next week. Details will be posted in the notice boards.</p>	
6	<p>Next Steps</p>	
	<p>Action group advised that the word needs to spread in the community, and that community groups as well as other councils need to have meetings. Stonehouse community council will continue to seek further information on the process and company and would arrange a further meeting as well as seek support from various sectors. Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.</p> <p>Next Meeting: A date will be arranged and posted locally.</p>	