**Contin Community Council Meeting**

**Contin Hall**

**7pm on Tuesday 22 August 2017**

**Minutes**

Present:

Norma Ross (NR), Pam Courcha (PC), Lisa Daines (LD), Sid Fraser (SF), Laurence Gunner (LG), Ian Cockburn, Councillor (IC).

11 members of the public observed the meeting.

Apologies: Charlotte Clough (CC).

1. **Welcome**

NR welcomed everyone.

1. **Expressions of Interest**

No expressions of interest were reported.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

PC proposed the previous minutes and SF seconded. LD reported she had asked the CCT to add the matter of dog fouling to their next newsletter. Other matters arising are on this meeting’s agenda.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

PC reported that there has been no new bank statement in August. The July figure is £17,740 with £13,420 restricted for the vehicle-activated speed reduction signs. We are still awaiting the pledged contribution from the CCT, all other groups have paid. There is also £1000 restricted for SSE microgrants. There are no microgrant applications in the pipeline. That leaves £3233 of unrestricted funds.

1. **Community Police Report**

PC Allyson McGregor submitted her report which NR read out. There has been a significant reduction in speeding offences since May. There have been 2 speeders, 2 other Road traffic offences, 1 drink driver, and 2 minor collisions. Speeding through the village remains the main issue with regular speed checks to continue. PC commented that this was also the main area of concern at the Garve CC meeting she attended recently. SF suggested asking residents how they feel about traffic speed in the village.

1. **Progress with Speed-Activated Road Signs**

NR reported that these should help reduce the speed in the village but unfortunately the date has been put back until the week beginning 2 October due to other emergency work Bear Scotland are required to carry out. NR has replied to Bear Scotland saying that we hope the date is not put back again. **Action NR** to contact Bear before the 2nd October 2017.

1. **Windfarm Update**
2. **Corriemoillie EDF**

This is now operational and available for applications. The panel have been selected, trained and have had a first meeting. The first deadline for applications to the fund is 11 September 2017. The application form is on the CCC and Foundation Scotland websites:

<http://www.community-council.org.uk/contin/>

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/contin/>

This is a good piece of work that the CCC have done since October 2016.

The microgrant form is also on the CCC website and applications can be sent in at any time for consideration at the next CCC meeting, or before if necessary.

1. **Fairburn – SSE**

This fund is circa £27k per year plus a microgrant system using the same CCC form on our website.

1. **Lochluichart – Eneco**

NR reported that there had been, exasperatingly, no progression here. NR had contacted them this afternoon and they were to have a meeting that day and respond shortly. **Action NR** to chase this up. **Action IC** to brief Ian Blackford MP on 23 August following SF’s suggestion of contacting our MP.

1. **Open Morning**

NR ran through the priority list created following consultation with the public in the open mornings of May 2017 and May 2015. Many of the suggestions are agenda points and will be covered in these minutes under each heading. Those not covered separately were:

* Safety gate – this has been ready to be installed for some time. **Action CCC/NR** to apply for a microgrant to expedite this.
* History trail – NR suggested a group could form and apply for funding to produce a trail / map / booklet. PC is interested in a “reminiscence project” to give people a sense of the history of the village. Any members of the public who are interested in helping, please contact PC.
* Pedestrian crossing on the A835 – once the vehicle-activated speed signs are installed, the CCC will start to gather information on other villages on trunk roads with pedestrian crossings to help our case.
* Notice boards in Contin, Tarvie and Jamestown – good ones are expensive, a job for windfarm funding?
* Defibrillator – windfarm funding?
* Electric vehicle charging point - to encourage passing tourists to stop and spend money in the village and use the history trail! **Action LD** to review the cost of this. SF suggested the petrol station would be a good place to install one.
* Cycle path to Contin Woods – this was suggested to run along the main road but off the road slightly to provide a safe route to and from the cycle tracks in the woods.

1. **Five Acre Wood**

NR presented a paper on the Five Acre Wood to Councillors. Essentially, it has recently been discovered that the CCC are the lessees of the wood under a lease with SSE. The lease runs until May 2025. It was **agreed unanimously** after some discussion, and with no objection from members of the public present, to dispose of this asset subject to a condition that Councillors use their best efforts to keep this as woodland and accessible to the public.SSE are working with the CCC on our request to let the lease expire early.

1. **Contin Play Park**

This has not been raised as a matter by members of the public for some time, either at CCC meetings or at the open morning. The current play park is now not flooding. This matter will be taken off the agenda until any member of the public raises it again. IC will contact us if he receives any emails on the matter.

1. **Bus Shelter**

The community feel very strongly that other villages have new purple bus stops and we have not. It has been raised at every CCC meeting and still nothing has happened. The community would like the old (1990s?!) bus stop replaced and also a new one installed at the Contin Woods end of the village. **Action IC** to chase this and push for a date for installation.

1. **War Memorial**

IC reported that the HC are meeting the contractor on 23 August. LG asked that they also cover the holes at the top with mesh or similar to stop the jackdaws nesting in there.

1. **Footbridge to Church**

**Action IC** to find out the standards for footbridges as SSE, who are funding the repair, wish it to be brought up to modern standards. LG mentioned the slippy bank on the Bluebell Walk, NR asked LG to apply for a microgrant to get it fixed. **Action LG.**

1. **Correspondence**

NR reported that she had received the following correspondence:

* a note that the Highland Tattoo is on 8-10 Sept at Fort George.
* an email asking members of the public to take part in a consultation on the role of the Scottish Health Council with a closing date of 20th October. healthcareimprovementscotland.org/

1. **AOCB**

PC reported on her attendance at the Garve Community Council Meeting on 1st August.

A member of the public raised the issue of the flooding on Tor View and at the foot of Tor View by the blocked drains. NR suggested that person also contact Bear to ask for it to be fixed.

A member of the public asked if we had an expenses in and out sheet and how do we budget. PC explained that we produce annual accounts which are audited and there is a report by the Treasurer at each meeting but that our expenditure is quite low so there is no need to plan a budget formally at present. We receive an annual grant from the Highland Council to enable us to pay for lettings, photocopying, insurance etc.

1. **Next Meeting Date**

24 October 2017, 7pm.

1. **Proposed future dates**

5th December 2017

6 February 2018

17 April 2018

12 June 2018 – AGM and ordinary meeting