



## Hutton Community Fellowship: Meeting by Zoom Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

1. Present. Chris Miles. Sophie Dupre. Neil Parker. Theresa Parker. John Galt.
2. Apologies. Liza Pern.
3. Recording of meeting. CM suggested that it would be a help for the meeting to be recorded and the committee agreed.
4. Minutes of last meeting (26<sup>th</sup> April 2020). These were approved by NP and seconded by JG.
5. Community Consultation. It was agreed to come back to this in Matters Arising.
6. Allocation of Minsca Funds. Concerns have been raised in the community that the discharge from local septic tanks is not as clean as it should be. The Fellowship needed to know if any improvements might be funded through HCF with Minsca funds.

JG was tasked with investigating. He reported to the meeting that Scottish Water is responsible for septic tanks and empties them once a year. However, the outflow is regulated by SEPA who will check up if asked. There are three septic tanks in Boreland. The outlet for one of these is into the Boreland Burn, opposite the school. If all residents are using ecological cleaning products and not flushing down the wrong things, the septic tanks should function well. It is the responsibility of the resident to use the tanks appropriately. Although septic tanks are no longer allowed to discharge into a water course, Scottish Water has an historic license so to do. Has the Fellowship a role here? No. SEPA should contact Scottish Water re any concerns re fouling.

7. Treasurers Report. TP read through her reports. She will send a copy to each of the committee members in time for the A.G.M. The reports will not go on the HCF website until they have been signed off by the independent accountant.

It was noted that funds are growing as few projects are ongoing. TP mentioned that she had been contacted by the Council's Finance Department over a small discrepancy in recorded amounts. She needs to look back at previous years to track this down and make the necessary adjustments.

TP suggested that HCF buy an annual subscription to Zoom as HCF will be using it for meetings for the foreseeable future and it would be most useful in managing, perhaps, a larger group at the A.G.M. The committee agreed to this.

8. Points for Discussion. The Community Consultation by Creetown Initiative. It was agreed that this 70 page document was a disappointment. The Dumfries East Community Benefit Group is leading on this. Peter Hands (Waterbeck) has analysed the consultation responses and this feedback has been given to CI. DECBG noted that the report did not have details of which community had made which points. They were also concerned that the report focused on CI's own interpretation of input, which was not particularly helpful. They were asked to make some corrections and amend the report with a special note of topics areas and with most often mentioned concerns highlighted. CI has done these and returned the report to DECBG. There has not been time to assess this as yet. The short version, a summary for the public, needs to be rewritten. The revised version will be circulated to DECBG Board as soon as possible.  
Action CM

DECBG has had to widen Board membership in light of the offer of Community Ownership in Cross Dykes Wind Farm, due to start production in January 2021. This offer extends to Lockerbie, Canonbie and Eskdalemuir and these communities

will shortly have a member on DECBG board. It was noted that income from this initiative would be of use for the funding needs of things not supported by direct wind farm giving. E.g. projects of an environmental, educational and entrepreneurial nature. Further discussion of this will be included in the A.G.M. in the hope that those residents attending will find it useful. This opportunity must be fully examined. It could be a great help to local community groups in serious difficulty because of Covid-19.

SD asked if local newspapers had covered this matter at all. CM believed not though he has contacted local councillors to apprise them of this development and has agreed to prepare a short presentation on the matter, for their use.

Requests for funds. Emma Boyes has contacted the committee with a query over the funding of Hutton School. Now that Hutton pupils spend time at Applegarth School the pupils there would benefit. The committee agreed to let Emma know that funds have been set aside for the school.

Brief discussion of the need for a paid co-ordinator which is one of the main recommendations emerging from the community consultation.

CM had been inspired by the donation of litre bottles of hand sanitiser to every household, to suggest the HCF did something similar, perhaps for Christmas. TP had the excellent idea of approaching the local businesses that have been supporting the community with home deliveries, to have a say in this. The committee agreed.

9. AGM This is to be by Zoom on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 at 2.00pm. And the next ordinary meeting is to be Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December, also by Zoom, at 2.00pm.