

Drylaw Telford Community Council

23rd March 2022

Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre

7pm

Minutes

Present: Jimmy Galloway, Pam Higgins, Vicky Nicholson, Tony Porter, Roy Douglas, Alex Dale, Dave Pickering, Eileen Brash, Penny Donnelly, Max Mitchell, Jenny Williams

Apologies: Hal Osler, Gavin Barrie, Jennifer Porter, Andy Connelly Nimmo, Jackie Brown

1. Welcome from Jimmy after 2 years from attending a meeting due to the pandemic.
2. Apologies from Hal Osler, Gavin Barrie, Jennifer Porter, Andy Connelly Nimmo, Jackie Brown.
3. No declarations of interest
4. Minutes of last meeting approved
5. Chairman's Report. Glad to be back – did not like utilising Zoom during the pandemic.
6. Treasurer's Report – no spending therefore no changes to minute.
7. Secretary Report – Next Neighbourhood Network Meeting on 16th May via Teams.
8. Councillors Report
 - a. – Overcrowding report – not severe enough to increase priority however assisting the family in liaising with the council. Traffic flow meeting from East to West of the city – we as a Community Council would like to attend this meeting. City Fibre work continues with mixed results. Lots of complaints re the condition that pavements are being left in. There is a dedicated Council Officer who has been fed all the responses so he can communicate these with City Fibre.
 - b. Telford Road from the back entrance to the hospital up to Groathill Road South are having resurfacing work done from 4th April for approximately 20 weeks. Officers have responded regarding poor lighting on Telford Path/Easter Drylaw Place and noted that since the change to LED lights, the reach is not as far as previously and is also being impeded by a tree and hedge. Both tree and hedge are privately owned so the Roads Team will be writing to the owners to request that they are cut back.
 - c. Fly Tipping – Continues in Wester Drylaw and is known to also be a problem in other areas. Is it possible that we organise a Community Council Spring Clean?
9. Drylaw Neighbourhood Centre – Welcome to Roy Douglas – Manager and Alex Dale – Chairman of the Board of Trustees.
 - We would like to know how we can help, why we should help and when we should help?
 - Board of Trustees have informed the Staff that if £70,000 is not found by June – then the Centre will close. Grants have been found to fund projects e.g., garden, keep fit, youth groups etc however staff and building costs are proving difficult as funders suggest that this should be funded by the local authority. £70,000 will fund 1 year running costs (salaries, building costs etc). This is the minimum required, however if we were successful in securing a higher amount, we would love to hire a “handyman” to keep on

top of the general maintenance which is currently being left to the Management and admin staff.

- There is a working group of staff and members of the board of trustees who are looking at a campaign to “Save The Centre”.
DNC – aim for future use – there is a wish list of classes and events that we want to be able to host but unfortunately we cannot plan anything just now due to the uncertainty of the Centre’s future.
 - Currently applying for a £40k per year for 3 years from The Lottery and currently trying to overcome a few barriers to make the application successful.
 - The Centre has had a designated fundraiser for the last 4 years who applies for grants. He has successfully secured grants in excess of £100k in that time however he cannot apply for grants that fund salaries and building costs.
 - As a Community Council, we need a schedule of what is currently in place and what the proposals for the future are (business plan).
 - Community Council Vote on supporting the centre in their plight to secure funding by writing a letter to the Council. Vicky will confirm who we need to write to.
 - Next step for the Board of Trustees is to involve the members of the centre in campaigning for the centre.
10. Website/Costing – agreed that this would be a valuable community resource.
Newtown/Broughton has a very simple and effective website. Costings to be submitted from local web designer and a decision will be made at our next meeting.
 11. Insurance has lapsed – to be reinstated asap before our litter pick.
 12. Fly Tipping Consultation – are we happy for Jimmy to fill this in on our behalf? Yes
 13. Tenant Grant Fund – funds available for those negatively affected by covid. Criteria to be met. Information to be shared on the Facebook page with a link to apply. There is also a self-isolation grant for loss of earnings. Criteria to be met. Will also share on the Facebook page.
 14. National Meter Reading Day – to share on Facebook Page. Please take photos of your meters on 31st March 2022 to avoid energy firms charging for energy at the new rates when they were used at the old rates. Will add to the Facebook page.
 15. Welfare Rights Advice on Facebook – aim to share on Facebook as and when necessary
 16. Census Support – advertise offer of support of completing the census on Facebook. Could we perhaps hold a census support drop in?
 17. Litter Pick – 10th April 12 12 – 3pm – meeting at Red Bridge. Vicky has organised a litter pick on the cycle path from the red bridge to the park. Poster will be advertised on Facebook, in Church and the Neighbourhood Centre. If there is community interest, we hope to make this a regular thing. Richard Townsend (Housing Officer), will supply wheely bin, litter pickers and gloves. Could we as a Community Council provide water, crisps? Yes.
 18. Hustings – is this a good idea? Small introduction from the candidates and what they hope to achieve if elected. Blackhall, Craighleith Community Council normally do one. Pam will email them to find out. Potential to join them?
 19. Any other business? No
 20. Date of next Meeting 27th April 2022