**RESTON AND AUCHENCROW COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

*Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 20th February 2023.*

**MEMBERS PRESENT**: Logan Inglis (**L.I**.) Jan Stringer **(J.S.)** Rob Robertson **(R R)** Mel Gilmore **(M.G.)** Kerry Simmonds **(K.S.)** Hugh Veitch **(H.V.)** Michaela McIntyre **(M.M.)**co-opted members & Cllr Hamilton. 3 members of the public.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**:  Cllr’s, Orr & Anderson.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting.** These were approved.
3. **Matters ARISING:** No matter arising that is not covered in the agenda items.
4. **BAVS ART PROJECT.** Representatives from Allanbank Arts gave a presentationto members present.

*Allanbank Arts funded by BAVS are working with the Reston Community to create some wonderful artwork to celebrate the opening of the station and the aspirations of the Reston Community. We would love you to be part of it. We will be working with the primary school in March and will be out and about in Reston in April and May. We would love to hear from community members young and old! We want to know about Reston past and present.*

*What do you remember about the old station?*

*What do you like about the new one?*

*How has life changed in Reston in the last 50 years!*

*Allanbank Arts are looking to attend the next Reston Café, to connect with the visitors are source information.*

1. **POLICE REPORT:** No report received for January/February.
2. **Correspondence. L.I.** items previously circulated by email. ‘SBC Scrutiny Committee’: email received requesting input to the Scrutiny committee’. ‘Scottish Borders Walking Festival’ 2024 to 2026- invitation to hold walking festival.
3. **HOUNDWOOD CREMATORIUM:** Email had been sent to the owners of the ‘Houndwood’ Crematorium, asking ‘When it is likely to re-open’? no response had been received at time of meeting.
4. **Regular reports.**
5. **Chair. K.S.** gave an update on the village hall, with plans to remove the stage and create a better storage area. Gin tasting was successful with a good turnout as seen on Facebook pictures. Social events, with planned events proposed this year. ‘The kings Coronation’, with a weekend of events in the planning stage. Discussion ensued about the proposed funding made available by SBC for the Celebration of the Coronation, with the proposed funds coming from the Scottish Government Covid Recovery fund.
6. **Treasurer’s report, L.I.** The present financial statement was displayed for all members. Still awaiting the insurance renewal costs. Three changes highlighted since the last meeting.
7. **A1 Trunk Road. L.I.** read out letter received from John Lamont MP, with a repetitive statement from ‘Transport Scotland’. Email received from **Cllr Anderson** who had received a response, “There will be a private meeting at two junctions on the A1 Reston being one of them. Police will be bringing sensitive information which is why it is to be private”.
8. **LITTER PICK. L.I.** working in conjunction with ’Sea the Change’- proposed litter pick in and around Reston to be held on **Sunday 26th March from 11am until 1pm.**
9. **Planning. L.I.** whilst there havebeen no new applications. ‘Old Coach House’ a new planning application had been submitted and approved, the previous application had been withdrawn and a new location to the ancillary building had been approved.- No notification on this planning application had been received from SBC planning department.
10. **Wish List update.** **R.R.** updated the meeting. There is no meeting to follow, as no new applications have been received. Still waiting on applications from Reston and Auchencrow community council for Maintenance £1200.00, Auchencrow community gala/ coronation committee £1000.00. Reston and Auchencrow community larder for additional insulated storage. £4,000? The application from Reston School has been withdrawn. The community Larder has now received the Vegetable display stand costing £206.32.

**RR** in discussions with CJTS regards slabbing area outside community larder.

**L.I.** organising village hall Carpark surfacing.

Auchencrow Village sign now installed.

No progress on organising a notice board for the village playground.

Accounts attached, were read out and attached.

1. **RESTON STATION. L.I.** update all on meeting held with RAGES Chairman Barrie Forrest and the station manager for Reston. Questions raised below.

**1. Landscaping-** Landscaping – Our Station Maintenance Team is responsible for maintaining the station – What I have been advised is that we wouldn’t put grass on the slopes on either side of staircase as we wouldn’t be able to cut it.  It is supposed to be “meadow” planting and have a wild look, but it could be it wasn’t done properly and that’s why it’s got lots of weeds.  We will not be putting grass in though.  The large area between car park and main road is Network Rail’s land for future expansion of car park and we are not responsible for maintaining it as its not in our lease.  This is getting raised with Network Rail as they may want to send the contractor back to look at it re the planting dying etc.

**2. Toilets** – I’ve been told flat out No for this one I’m afraid.  Apparently ScotRail have already had a full on debate/discussion with Network Rail regarding toilets and it’s not going to happen.

**3. Timetable/Poster Frame** – A form that would need to be filled out and can be forwarded on to the relevant persons for consideration.

**4. Time Capsule** – I’ve raised this again with ScotRail/Network Rail – are still keen for it to happen.

1. **Cllr’s report: Cllr Anderson.** - Speeding in villages, Auchencrow will have Dragon’s teeth in the new financial year. Other extras are possible, and I am following up on this.

**Cllr Hamilton.** enlightened all that ‘Pingo’ bus travel was to continue for another year. It was hoped that the bus service would connect railway station to railway station, as presently they don’t.

1. **A.O.B**. **M.M.** mentioned school crossing, **R.R.** mentioned previous meetings, correspondence with SBC roads safety engineer on this matter. Cllr Hamilton to contact the local Police officers to investigate speeding issues near to the school.

‘**Crystal rig’** flyer received to occupants of both villages. **L.I.** commented on the content of the flyer. For a proposed Solar Array of 50,000 solar panels. citing ‘Community Benefit’ of £13,750 per annum. This equates to less than £1,000 per MW of generating capacity. The government target is for £5,000 per MW of generated power, thus the £13,750 should be £137,500 per annum community benefit. **L.I.** to respond on behalf of the C C to remind Fred Olsen Renewables of the government figure.

**J.S.-** mentioned the lack of toilets in Reston, and visitors asking to use the local shops personal toilet. It was mentioned the village hall toilet facilities are available when open during Larder times, for ‘Berwickshire Swap Warm Clothes’. However, neither are compensated for the extra cleaning of the facilities. Cllr Hamilton to follow up if SBC has still got a recompense scheme.

1. **Questions from the public:** None

The Chair thanked all for their attendance, the meeting was closed at 20:50

**Next meeting- March 20th 7:30pm**

**Reston Village Hall**

Signed …………………………………………………… Date ……………………………………………

Another inconclusive meeting?