



Torphins Community Council

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Minutes of Special Meeting Thursday 17 th February 2022 at 7:30 pm Learney Hall, Torphins		
Item No.	Description	Owner
1.	<p>Present: Eric Day (ED); John Lucas (JL); Will Maclean (WM); Andrew Macpherson (AM) (Chair); Malcolm Miller (MM); Liz Moore (LM); Colin Rouse (CR); Stephen Salter (SS)</p> <p>In Attendance: Linda Manning (LM); Phil Marshall (PM); Emma Pattullo (EP); Noeleen Punchard (NP)</p> <p>Not Present: Hamish Booth (HB); Rev Holly Smith (HS)</p>	
2.	<p>Purpose: The special meeting was called to consider the suggested improvements to Learney Hall and resolve a recommendation to be submitted to Aberdeenshire Council. Members of the Community Resilience sub group (TORCH) attended to address the requirements to meet the desire to upgrade the hall to a community refuge.</p>	
3.	<p>Background:</p> <p>1. AM introduced with the explanation that the sale of the old schoolhouse by Aberdeenshire Council in 2021 has resulted in the receipt of capital funds by the Aberdeenshire Council of which 50% will be allocated to the improvement of Learney Hall under an exceptional agreement made many years ago. We wish to refine a list of recommended requirements to be promptly submitted to Aberdeenshire.</p> <p>2. WM explained that Tim Stephen, Service Manager – Facilities and Funding, Live Life Aberdeenshire, had made contact to advise the Council survey of Learney Hall will be conducted after the April meeting of TCC. The Council is accelerating for Learney Hall alone a planned three years infrastructure investment programme. The programme, which inevitably is competitive between facilities, will cover things that need doing by Council while the schoolhouse proceeds will finance incremental work.</p> <p>3. TORCH members advised they are keen to ensure Learney Hall is equipped as a community refuge. This will require an adequate generator linked into the hall power system; improved toilets, showers and kitchen facilities, telephone line and superfast broadband and wifi; and an enlarged secure storage space for emergency supplies.</p> <p>4. A consultation with hall user groups has provided a good range of recommendations, which has been summarised and augmented by CR per below.</p>	<p>AM</p> <p>WM</p> <p>TORCH</p> <p>CR</p>

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7.	<p>Requirements:</p> <p>1. Preparing hall for use as a safe refuge: The prime issue identified to achieve this objective is to enable essential hall functions to be powered by an external generator in case of loss of grid power. In order to achieve this a survey of the existing systems will be required. Note: Stephen has already identified that the hall currently has a three-phase supply. Iain will have a further look at the system requirements. Questions to be addressed: What is the condition of existing wiring? Will hall refurbishment have to include a rewire? Does the hall need to have a three-phase supply? What is the maximum power demand on the hall supply? Consider heating, lighting, kitchen equipment; cleaning equipment and tools; Christmas lights; entertainment equipment (stage lights, music amplification etc.). Does any specific item of hall equipment require a three-phase supply, e.g. heating system? If so can this be converted to operate on a single phase? Can the hall electrical system be modified to facilitate heating, lighting and kitchen equipment to operate on a single phase, which would enable use of a single-phase generator for emergency use? Can hall lighting be upgraded to LED to reduce power demand? Will this item be funded separately by AC to fulfil its responsibility for providing a safe refuge in the village? The hall will, in any case, need to be fitted with the necessary changeover switch to facilitate use of an external generator to supply hall functions. This item also concerns both TCC and the RG.</p> <p>2. General refurbishment: Prior to investing in hall refurbishment and enhancement it is necessary to ensure the fabric of the building is sound. Any requirements identified here should be attended to by AC prior to or in conjunction with identified project items. Potential maintenance items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General hall cleaning and decoration, hole filling and painting. • Address current fly problem. • Pointing to be renewed on south wall. • Make safe balcony and stairs to tower. <p>Project items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toilet refurbishment and provision of disabled and baby changing facility including shower. • Kitchen refurbishment and upgrade including installed and freestanding equipment. • Connection to broadband. • Sand and renew floor coating in both halls. • Refurbish music preparation room behind stage for use by smaller groups. (Scouts) • Make garden area useable as community space including external power socket and lighting.(Scouts) • Provide area in the garden to site 20ft container for scout's equipment storage. • Installation of solar panels, thermal and pv. • Provide and install a pull down projector screen in hall. (Scouts) • Consider possible use of hall keeper's accommodation. • Tidy up of under stage storage and storage facility for RG equipment. 	CR

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8.	<p>Actions:</p> <p>1. TORCH will prepare a grant application to SSEN Community Resilience Fund to include a 35KW to 40 KW three-phase generator, associated equipment, and community emergency supplies.</p> <p>2. TCC will finalise a prioritised list of hall improvement and refurbishment requirements, including consideration of the community refuge needs, which will be included in an early letter to Tim Stephen of Live Life Aberdeenshire, with copy to Councillor P. Argyle.</p>	<p>NP</p> <p>AM CR WM</p>
9.	<p>Meeting closed at 8:51 pm</p> <p>Thank you to all participants. Minutes adopted 3rd March 2022.</p>	