

## CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### *Minute of meeting held 26 September 2011 in Lagwyne Hall at 7.00pm.*

<b>Present</b>	<b>Elected members</b> Matt Hickman (Chair) Anne Rutherford (Treasurer) Margaret Richmond Sylvia Sinclair Liz Holmes Margaret Phillips	<b>Co-opted members</b> Arnold Duggleby
<b>In attendance</b>	David Whyte (Secretary) Cllr George Prentice (pt) PC Bryan Bruton (pt) PC Hayley Stitt (pt) Sam Booth – Fountain Forestry (pt) Louise Whyte Davie McMillan Gail Challis Darren Challis Tony Challis Lorraine Challis Irene McCreath John Dovaston Alex McRae (pt)	

### **Apologies**

#### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Matt Hickman welcomed all to the meeting. There were no apologies.

#### **2. Declarations of interest**

None.

#### **3. Minute of meeting 27 June 2011**

The minute was approved subject to the following amendment

**7 Matters Arising C49:** Irene McCreath indicated **that the Police had confirmed that as the road is formally classified as unfenced, stock can be loose on it, and also** that the Roads department is considering replacing the gate near the Glenkens Fish Farm with a cattle grid.

**8 Access Roads: It was agreed that the matter would be referred to the next meeting.**

**Proposed:** Margaret Richmond

**Seconded:** Liz Holmes

#### **4. D & G Councillor**

Nothing to report

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#### **5. Police Report**

PC Bruton explained there were still opportunist incidents of fuel, farm equipment and scrap metal being stolen, and asked for vigilance, and particularly reporting registration numbers of suspicious vehicles.

Cllr Prentice asked that speeding of specific company timber products lorries be investigated.

**BB**

Davie McMillan queried the level of links with other police forces with respect to quad bike activity.

## **6. Forestry**

Sam Booth of Fountains Forestry discussed the current scoping process for Craigengillan North Forest and confirmed that Forestry Commission guidance indicated that written consultation was considered adequate, and did not require a public meeting.

Fountains is currently preparing a 20 year felling/management plan for the 296 hectare forest.

The following subjects – similar to those raised with Tilhill – were discussed:

**Timber extraction:** SB indicated that Neil Dyson is now with Fountains. An agreement between existing operators, buyers and D&G council would be included as an appendix to all extraction contracts.

**Communication:** SB agreed to communicate with the Community Council on any relevant issues.

**Public access:** SB indicated that Fountains was required by it's lease to display "Shooting in Progress" signs

**Hydrology:** SB indicated all operations did adhere to forests and water guidelines. Fountains did not do brush bailing or burning. Pesticide use is being reduced – new plantings are pre-dipped with slow release pesticides.

**Archeology:** Having consulted with D&G Council scheduled ancient monuments and unscheduled features would be surrounded by 10 metre buffer zones.

**General biodiversity:** The forest plan includes the following

Commercial species – maximum of 74%

Open space – 16%

Native broad leaves – 6%

Long term retention – 3%

Nature reserve – 1%

SB indicated any queries/questions should be forwarded to him by letter or email.

MH thanked SB for attending the meeting and for his helpful comments.

## **7. Matters Arising**

**Dog Fouling:** Having contacted the Dog Fouling Officer, MH confirmed that the maximum penalty "caught in the act" fine is £40, increasing to £60 if not paid in 28 days.

**Glenkens Trust:** MH agreed to draft a response letter

**MH**

**Footpath to Bridgend:** A more detailed costing still to be obtained from the Roads Department

**MH**

**Questionnaire Summary:** Still to be completed, but the full results summary has been circulated.

**DW**

**Nursery School Consultation:** A response indicating the significance of the quality of education and the benefits of interaction with older children, even if numbers were as low as 2, to be drafted and circulated.

**DW**

**SCVS Training Opportunities for Community Councils:** It was agreed to invite Iain Howie to the next meeting

**DW**

## 8. Community Garden

**Opening Event Feedback:** Agreement of the meeting that the Opening was most successful. Thanks expressed to those involved in its organisation.

Letters/emails to be sent to guests and others who helped on the day. **DW**

A total of 133 people attended the event.

MR expressed thanks on David Richmond's behalf for his presentation gift.

Galloway News had made contact for an article in the current week **DW**

**Future Maintenance & Management:** to be discussed at the October meeting **MR/AR/SS**

**Garden Report:** The main task remaining is completion of the LEADER final claim and report. **DW/AR**

When details of Future Maintenance and Management are established, the Sub Group will stand down.

**Access Roads:** There was a discussion covering the benefits for all interested parties of access v ownership, and it was agreed that any conclusion reflect what is in the best interests of the Community Council. A response to Nigel Martin to be drafted indicating that at this time, no change in ownership is contemplated, and that there should be a written agreement covering parking on the access road. **MR/AR/SS**

## 9. Pub

No progress to report. A community group independent of the Community Council would be needed to progress matters.

## 10. Celebration of Achievement Awards

Congratulations expressed to the First Responders who won in the "Safe & Secure" category, and to the Community Garden Sub Group who came third in the "Environmental Award".

## 11. Day of the Region

Carsphairn is supporting Day of the Region weekend (October 1 & 2) through the Harvest Celebration and Lunch, a First Responders Exhibition and a Harvest Songs of Praise. There are free bus services available for Carsphairn residents to visit the activities in Dalry, New Galloway, Mossdale, Laurieston and Parton.

## 12. Remembrance Wreath

An individual who is serving or who has served in the armed forces to be invited to lay the wreath ideally before the October meeting **MR/AR**

## 13. Planning Applications

No planning applications in the Community Council area in the last month. **SS**

## 14. Correspondence

MH presented a letter from the Carsphairn Primary School's Principal Teacher explaining the extension of the Volunteer Reading Scheme for community members to become "Reading Buddies" at the school. Letter to be posted on the Community Noticeboard. **DW**

## 15. AOB

**Jubilee Seat:** It was proposed that the Jubilee Seat currently in the Bardennoch Hill lay by might be moved to the Community Garden. **MR/SS**

**B729:** MR reported on a meeting with the Roads Department to cover the

improvements being included in the current works. It was confirmed that all items on MR's master list of work required not so far completed would be noted as required in the future.

**MR**

**Pylon line upgrade:** Davie McMillan reported that the revised pylon route was far closer to, and zig zagged the A713, compared with the original. Malcolm Thomson of Scottish Power to be contacted for an update.

**MH**

**The meeting closed at 9.05 pm  
Date of next meeting: Monday 31 October 2011  
At 7.00 pm**

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Date** \_\_\_\_\_