

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held 26th March 2012 in Lagwyne Hall at 7.00pm.

Present	Elected members	Co-opted members
	Matt Hickman (Chair) Margaret Richmond Sylvia Sinclair Liz Holmes [minutes]	Tony Challis

In attendance	Cllr George Prentice (pt) Davie McMillan Darren Challis Irene McCreath [pt] Margaret Phillips Jo Hutchinson [Vattenfall] George Jeffrey [Vattenfall] Stephen Jack [Scott Pow] Malcolm Thompson [“]
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1. Welcome and apologies

Matt Hickman welcomed all to the meeting.
Apologies from DW.

2. Minutes Secretary for this meeting

Liz Holmes took the minutes for this meeting

3 Declarations of interest

None.

4. Minute of meeting 27 February 2012

The minute was approved subject to the following amendments:

14 Electricity Pylon Upgrade – 1st sentence: change ‘planned’ to ‘suggested; change ‘garden’ to ‘land’.

Proposed: MH

Seconded: TC

5 Co-option of voting member

Margaret Phillips: number on the Register of Electors: O5E 1107

Proposed: MH

Seconded: SS

6 D & G Councillor

Cllr Prentice had nothing to report.

MH reported that Councillor Peter Duncan’s emails had been bouncing back. PD is a councillor till 2nd May 2012

7 Police Report

PC David Steel deputised for PC Bryan Bruton who is off sick.

He reported that only 13 calls had been made in the area since January 2012.

8 Vattenfall

Jo Hutchinson, Senior Communications Advisor, and George Jeffrey, Development Manager, gave a brief introduction to Vattenfall – a Swedish state owned utility company, and an outline of their proposal regarding the South Kyle windfarm: 40 to 50 turbines centred on the area around Brownhills.

The proposed windfarm is roughly 2/3 in East Ayrshire and 1/3 in Dumfries & Galloway. Vattenfall is currently engaged in the initial consultation phase and hope to be back around June with further information. They have been measuring noise levels and will be doing this for another week.

The proposed operational date is 2015. Dalmellington largely opposes the proposal. Two publications were left for councillors to read and both will be available in Carrick's for the public to take away: 'Vattenfall Communities Issue 3' newsletter and 'South Kyle Wind Farm proposal – Community consultation'. Contact details for Jo Hutchinson are in the latter publication.

Vattenfall mentioned DGC's protocol that they keep all the windfarm community benefit income and communities are required to apply for it, resulting in a general outcry against this from those communities affected and local businesses. There is a strong feeling that any windfarm community benefit money should stay in the community.

9 Pylons

Stephen Jack and Malcolm Thompson of Scottishpower's Power Systems explained that ScottishPower has commissioned Lovejoy's to consult with all landowners potentially affected by the possible route to be taken by the new pylons required as a result of the power to be generated by the Blackcraig and Magree windfarms.

A public exhibition was held in the hall in April 2009 to investigate the preferred route, to assess the environmental impact and to gather feedback.

They have identified issues with both Whitecrook and Bardennoch owners and although Whitecrook was originally omitted from any consultation, ongoing discussions with both are now taking place. If the originally proposed route is to be diverted, another section 37 application must be made to DGC. Landscape, visual and environmental issues must be considered and ScotPower will try and mitigate adverse factors with regard to the route. No formal decision has yet been taken.

TC asked if financial compensation would be forthcoming as a result of the route adversely affecting landowners property – the answer was in the affirmative.

They will email MH maps of previous, proposed and preferred routes and will attend future meetings if requested.

10 Pub

CCC's funding application to the Lottery's 'Investing in Ideas' scheme for £9,000 to fund a feasibility study for potential uses of the pub building was rejected owing to planning and management concerns. DW has the exact wording from III explaining their refusal.

SS has been trying to contact the executor of the pub building to ensure he is happy with these proceedings but as yet no contact has been made. SS will try again.

Andrew Ward of Creetown Initiative has provided a list of other potential funders and MH suggested that these and various options be discussed at a pub steering group meeting next week and to report back to CCC at the next meeting.

SS

11 Salutation

Amanda Green of DGC's strategic housing services advised that there had been no contact from the property owner regarding the rent penalty notice. MH also contacted Building Control to report the dangerous state of the roof. They have visited the premises, agreed that the slates falling off the roof are a hazard to passers by and have issued a notice to the owner to make good the damage.

12 Windfarms

TC reported that he, SS and MR attended the E-on Quantans Hill Community Benefits meeting which went ahead despite the absence of Suzanne Kidger (the Dumfries & Galloway appointee 'to manage developer contributions from both existing and emerging agreements in accordance with its policy on windfarm community benefits') It appears that the DGC policy is to take 100% of the community benefit, use 50% on a number of D&G region wide projects such as business and skills, cultural and tourism and allow affected communities to apply to DGC for funding from the community 50% for their projects. It was unfortunate that Suzanne was not there to clarify. There are however other possibilities such as equity stake holding. There are a number of companies who can advise on this and TC will follow up.

TC

TC also said he would register an interest in attending a meeting of Community Councils being proposed by DGC to gain a further understanding of their windfarm policy.

TC

13 Community Garden

Future ownership – SS to send out with a covering note a letter she has composed to Carsphairn and other legally constituted groups such as Carrick's, CREFL and the Hall Committee asking if they would hold the garden in trust for the community. [The hall is both owned by and held in trust for the community.]

SS

MR has spoken to Jean Adams, chair of Twynholm CC to ask the situation regarding ownership and management of their garden. The land the garden sits on was gifted to Twynholm CC to be turned into a garden.

Twynholm Action Group, led by David Duncan manage their garden. MR unsure whether TAG is charitable or not but will email queries about ownership etc to Jean Adams who will submit them to David Duncan at an appropriate time as he is currently ill.

MR

Leader Final Claim – Leader responded to the Final Claim and Final Report on March 15. There were a number of requests to clarify invoices and supply additional information. All of these were dealt with at a meeting on March 22 attended by DR, AR and DW.

An email response was sent on March 22, and a hard copy response will be sent in the week of March 26, when an acceptable (to LEADER) receipt is received from one supplier (Kevin Johnston).

CCC should have the funds from the final claim (c £3,900) before the April meeting.

14 Future Secretary

TC not certain of CCC's financial position and how the administration grant is used. The balance of close to £4,000 from Leader should be coming soon and might be used to pay for a secretary. TC to ask D&G Community Liaison if they can provide secretary and what the cost would be. As regards correspondence TC will contact DW to ask all who send electronic communications to readdress them to the new CCC mailbox which will be accessible to CCC members. Hardcopy will be sent to TC's home address and he will scan it and put it in the CC mailbox. TC will forward details of the mailbox and password to CCC elected members. MR asked if electronic correspondence could be forwarded to personal e-mail addresses as now. TC replied that this would take additional work and asked that the proposed solution be trialled for 6 months.

TC

AR to be notified to get accounts audited in time for the AGM.

AR

15 Website

AR requires to be re-imbursed for the first 6 months fees for the new website - £35.93. A new provider One on One is now being used, renewal was on 17 February after 30 days free trial. The monthly costs are £4.99 + Vat.

MH proposed re-imbursing AR

Seconded by MP.

MR will liase with Jean Gibbon regarding TC setting up the webmail facility on the website. MR would like to display a poster asking people to feed in events to be

MR

posted on the website to be displayed in the shop window and CCC noticeboard.
Carrick's to be asked to help add events.
JG to be asked to create a link to facebook and twitter on the website.

16 Welcome Leaflet

The steering group met to discuss the leaflet. AR is updating it. Around 6 copies at a time will be produced targetted at newcomers to the Carsphairn area. A copy will be brought to the next meeting.

17 Footpath to Bridgend

John Peacock has been contacted. MH to get a quote by the next meeting. **MH**

18 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

MR mentioned that there was a Diamond Jubilee pack. TC suggested MR precis **MR** anything useful and post it on the website for CCC to see.
SS is taking a pack to the school.

19 Planning Applications

Nothing of note

20 Correspondence

Nothing of note

21 AOB

It was suggested moving the millenium bench but unsure where to place it.
MR will try and get the Land Registry certificate for the garden by applying on **MR** line.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm
Date of next meeting [AGM]: Monday 30 April 2012
At 7.00 pm

Chairman _____

Date _____