

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL – CHAIR’S REPORT 2011 - 2012

Another busy year of Community Council business completed in Carsphairn.

We have held our full Quota of 10 meetings this year, pleasingly a number of them have been increasingly well attended.

We’ve made excellent progress in our relationships with the major business interests operating in our area, particularly forestry companies where we have seen positive developments on the B729 / Lorg extraction route and have involved ourselves with 2 very comprehensive scoping reports.

We have also worked closely with wind farm developers on the Quantans Hill, South Kyle, and Loch Hill projects to secure the right outcome for our community, and have been involved in the setting up of a GlenKens wide community benefits group.

A tremendous effort has been made in the community garden this year with the end result that it is now finished to a very high standard. Particular note should be made of all the behind the scenes work completed including organizing our very well attended opening event, finalizing the funding and insurance, and completing the risk assessments.

In addition we have commented on or been involved in – The Local Development Plan, various planning applications, the successful “Save The Doon” campaign, proposed changes to the Nursery School and grounds maintenance provision, the Day Of The Region, improvements to pavements, maintenance of planters, and been instrumental in the provision of automatic road speeding signs, Christmas tree and lights and laying the memorial wreath.

As if that wasn’t enough, we also have a very professionally built brand new website which will help us greatly as a community in the future, and a newly completed welcome leaflet to engage with new residents and visitors to the area.

Much of this progress has been community lead following the results of the community questionnaire we completed this year, another project involving a lot of time for a lot of people.

All the above considered it strikes me as remarkable and regrettable that the future of the Community Council remains in doubt and a major concern. Our ongoing projects like the footpath to Bridgend and the development of a pub in the community need a Community Council to drive them forward and the community at large needs a Community Council to continue to represent its best interests.

I offer my genuine thanks and that of the Community Council as a whole to all those people involved with our many achievements this year and wish the Community Council every success over the next term of 3 years when I will NOT be in the Chair!

Matt Hickman

30 April 2012