

## CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### *Minute of meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> August 2013 in Lagwyne Hall at 7.00 pm.*

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Elected members</b> Andrew Metcalf (Chair) Liz Holmes (Vice Chair) Tony Challis (C. Secretary) Sylvia Sinclair Matt Hickman	<b>Associate members</b> Simon Holmes
<b>In attendance:</b>	Darren Challis (Treasurer) Irene McCreath Karen Hall George Prentice (D&G Councillor) (part) George Jeffrey (Vattenfall Wind Power) Wendy Fenton (Minutes)	PC Ian Dunn (part) Jean Cowley Steve Cowley David McMillan Martin Temple

#### **1. Welcome and Apologies:**

There were no apologies

#### **2. Appointment of minute secretary**

Wendy Fenton was proposed as the minutes secretary

Proposed: LH; Seconded SH

A fee of £50 per meeting was agreed

Proposed: LH; Seconded AM

#### **3. Declarations of interest**

None

#### **4. Minutes of previous meeting - 24<sup>th</sup> June**

The minutes were approved

Proposed: MH

Seconded TC

#### **5. Matters arising**

None

#### **6. Treasurer's Report**

Outgoings: £604.01 (Community Garden Insurance), £267.50 (garden maintenance).

DC confirmed that the money for the garden (CREFL grant) is ring-fenced.

The grant of £1860 was part used last year, leaving a surplus for this year, which CREFL have agreed can be carried forward.

With all payments made there will be a deficit of £518. The increase in insurance due to public liability is the most costly item.

**Action: DC will clarify the grant regarding CREFL/Leader for the next meeting.**

## **7. Police Report**

No incidents to report. A potential firearms incident, which was a false alarm, proved that the system in place works well. Police will be sending out extra late night/early morning patrols to assess normal traffic at these times to help in monitoring potential rural thefts. The text message alert scheme, which informs relevant parties of any incident, can be joined by filling out a form.

**Action: ID to email text message forms to TC for distribution**

Reminder for all: The non-emergency number is 101.

## **8. D&G Councillor's report**

Superfast broadband will be rolled out to 95% of D&G by 2015-16. The 5% outlying properties will also receive it by this date but by a different method.

The proposed mechanism for the Regional Socio-Economic fund (centralised distribution of funds from windfarms) was rejected at the last Council meeting but alternative options will be discussed at an October meeting. The proposal is for area committees and a central panel. The percentage directed through this will be 50% of funds.

It is likely that the council could bid into it for region-wide projects such as improved transport, perhaps to serve areas that commercial companies do not. The general feeling of the meeting was that improved transport, whilst not affecting many current residents, would help retain and attract young people without their own transport. A query was raised over the reliability of the early 7.30 bus to connect with the college bus.

The opinion was expressed that the community would prefer to retain 100% of the funds and that the council favoured 50:50 split may yet be challenged. GP did not know if money generated in each area would be ring-fenced and indicated that Stewartry had 21% of D&G windfarms at present and only 5 of the total 49 host communities.

**Action: GP to enquire about 7.30 bus**

## **9. Community Development Plan**

A copy of the Dalmellington Community Action Plan was passed around and it was agreed that a similar, though more basic, plan would be required for Carsphairn in order to attract any funding. With no available funds to prepare such a plan it was agreed that Foundation Scotland would be approached to help, as they do not charge communities.

**Action: LH to follow up**

## **10. Response to Longburn Section 36 Application**

Only one response has been received by the CC so far. Having been given an extension till November, it is felt the CC have a duty to provide a considered response, representative of the community. Discussion of how to achieve that resulted in a decision to hold an open exhibition towards the end of September. As there are an increasing number of proposed

windfarms it was agreed to include one map of the proposed Longburn windfarm and another showing all proposed windfarms in the area and their stage of development. Survey sheets to be completed by those attending will include both tick boxes and space to express opinions for both Longburn and the overall proposals in the pipeline. DC suggested including a box for how residents wished to be contacted in the future. Notices for exhibition to be placed at Lagwyne Hall and emailed to known recipients to spread by word of mouth. Feedback would be given by LH at the next meeting.

**Action: LH to arrange exhibition and prepare materials with help from MH.**

KH suggested a doorstep/phone survey was preferable and it was agreed this would be carried out (organised by KH, AM) if attendance at the meeting was poor. GJ reminded all that documents for proposed windfarms are held at the local libraries.

It was unclear who the council should respond to – in the past it was always D&G Council, who passed on comments to the Scottish Government for large windfarms, but TC has been give a Scottish Government contact to respond to for Longburn.

**Action: TC to send GP the e-mail from the Scottish Government asking for comment**

#### **11. Progress of Welcome Leaflet**

Deferred to next meeting to allow input from new shop tenants.

#### **12. Pub progress**

To be renamed Greystones/CCT

Application for charitable status for the new trust - Carsphairn Community Trust (CCT) has been submitted to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) (27.7.13), which takes up to 90 days (includes CCT constitution). This will then allow the purchase of the building. MH noted that the current owners should be kept informed of progress.

CREFL has agreed in principle to cover the costs purchasing Greystones.

**Action: KH to email copy of CCT Constitution to TC when available.**

#### **13. Garden Trust**

Rather than CVSL taking the Garden in trust as agreed at last meeting, it has been confirmed by advice from D&G Council that it can be sold. At present belonging to the community council, the aim is now for it to be signed over to CCT for £1 once charitable status is achieved. If it is still with the community council next year, funds will need to be applied for through CREFL for maintenance and development. David Richmond is happy to continue as project leader.

**Action: DC will arrange a new CREFL grant application to cover the garden insurance/maintenance if required.**

Proposed: SS

Seconded: MH

Letter from Garden Steering Group attached.

#### **14. Shop developments**

The new tenants move into the house on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Currently the shop is undergoing refurbishment and the shop will open as soon as possible after 1<sup>st</sup> September. The post office will remain in Lagwyne Hall.

#### **15. Post Office**

This appears to be working well and an open coffee morning takes place in the hall at the same time, which is well attended. It was suggested that the windfarm exhibition could coincide with this.

#### **16. Heartstart**

This is taking place on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October from 7-9pm. Numbers attending are sufficient but more are welcome – apply to TC.

**Action: TC to remind all by email nearer the date.**

#### **17. Resilience Plan**

This is an emergency plan designed to cope during events such as power cuts, to ensure vulnerable members of community are taken care of. There is a document template included in the package. It will be completed when resources are available.

#### **18. Broadband in Lagwyne Hall**

TC has emailed the secretary of the hall committee and they will respond after their September meeting. It will cost £50/month so if it were to go ahead funding would need to be sought from D&G Council or CREFL.

#### **19. Planning applications**

It was felt that the youth hostel signpost should be removed.

**Action: AM to contact roads dept.**

#### **20. Correspondence**

The Correspondence list has been circulated by TC

- CREFL offered the CC chair to become a member of their committee, AM has accepted.
- New waste service changes will be introduced to Stewartry in 2014 – residents will receive a number of bins for recycled goods and refuse collection will be fortnightly.
- TC will complete and submit the application papers for the discretionary grant (for payment of council members' expenses, stationery, travel costs etc. The CC need to agree mileage costs eg. Fuel used.
- A letter of resignation was received from Maggie Philips.

**Action: AM will write letter of thanks and speak to Maggie**

A new signatory is therefore needed – SS agreed

Proposed: TC, Seconded: MH

#### **21. AOB**

- GJ informed the meeting that the South Kyle Windfarm Planning application (50 turbines) has been submitted to the Scottish Government. Documents are on display in the local libraries and will be forwarded to the

CC. A decision is expected in April 2014. If successful, construction would commence 2016.

- The poppy wreath has been sent to Margaret Richmond who has requested that it be sent to a different address in future and she asked who will lay it.

**Action: Agree to pay for wreath**

Proposed TC, Seconded: MH

**Action: AM to lay wreath & accept delivery in future – TC to write letter**

Proposed SS, Seconded: TC

- TC was unsure about how to action some correspondence – it was agreed that any that might be controversial would be noted but not disclosed – members of public could then request to see it if they wished.
- LH noted potholes were not being filled – she will inform DGC's roads dept. on behalf of CCC.
- LH asked if CC were happy to write a letter of support for percussion workshops for school children

**Action: AM to write letter of support.**

- SS had a request for Natural Power staff to give short presentation to the CC September meeting on Windy Standard 2. It was agreed to schedule this after the police report.
- SC asked if the CC can ask the Core Paths officer to carry out a 12 month footfall survey of the Bridgend and Leadmines paths to help secure funding.

**Action: AM to contact Core Paths officer**

**Action: LH to email contact details to AM**

## **22. Dates of next meetings**

**30<sup>th</sup> September, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 25<sup>th</sup> November**

The meeting was closed at 9.30pm

**Garden Steering Group Report for Community Council  
meeting 26/08/13**

- The garden steering group continues to keep an eye on the maintenance of the Community Garden. The original planting is becoming well established, with very few failures. Gradually, some additions will be needed as gaps become obvious.
- The arrangement with Jackie Locke seems to be working well (mainly grass cutting and weeding) and she is happy to continue.
- We are not aware of any major garden maintenance problems at the moment. Advice is being sought on the treatment of the oak garden furniture and on tree pruning.

As signatory to the CREFL grant application for assistance with the Community Garden maintenance and insurance costs, I received the attached (16/5/13) letter from the CREFL secretary. My subsequent response (3/6/13) and its acknowledgement are also attached.

Written confirmation (23/8/13) has been received that carrying forward the balance of the grant is acceptable to CREFL. The directors now request that the relevant invoices for this year be submitted in due course.

David F Richmond