

## CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minute of meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014 in Lagwyne Hall

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Elected members</b>	<b>Associate members</b>
	Andrew Metcalf (Chair)	Simon Holmes
	Tony Challis (C. Secretary)	
	Liz Holmes (Vice Chair)	
	Sylvia Sinclair	
	Matt Hickman	

#### **In attendance:**

Karen Hall	Insp. Stewart Davidson	Martin Temple
Anna Campbell	PC. Ian Johnson	Steve Cowley
Ruth Williams	Darren Challis (Treasurer)	David McMillan
Anne Rutherford	George Prentice (D&G Councillor)	David Haining
Charlotte Brown	George Jeffrey (Vattenfall)	Alan Lang
Brenda Carson	Wendy Fenton (Minutes)	David Bell
Carol Middlemiss	Anne Butler	Dave Page

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

PC Ian Dunn

#### **2. Declarations of Interest**

None

#### **3. Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting 25<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

- Item 8 Action for AC should have read 'AC indicated she was happy to show new members of the committee around the local area.'
- Under AOB: AC, not SS, asked whether members from other Carsphairn community groups has been invited to attend these meetings.
- Item 7: SP met with D&G engineers not councillors. (This was issued as an addendum shortly after the draft minutes were circulated.)
- Item 20: It is not Carminnows Estate that has a licence but **Camp** Carminnows.

#### **Approval of minutes**

Proposed: SS Seconded: MH

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

There were no transactions. An invoice has been received from D. Richmond for £23 to cover lights for the Christmas tree. Proposed: AM Seconded LH

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

PC Ian Johnson from Dalbeattie stated there had been 9 calls/enquiries in the past month, one of vandalism to an oil pipe around 13-20<sup>th</sup> Feb. and a house breaking at New Galloway between 17-20<sup>th</sup> Feb. He asked that people remain vigilant with regards to suspicious vehicles, in particular around holiday/vacant homes. The police are happy to provide security advice to anyone who would like to receive it – contact Castle Douglas office.

With regard to the caravan fire at Drumjohn, this incident was not reported to police other than as information from the fire service so there has not been any police involvement.

Insp. Stewart Davidson, who took over from Insp. Claire Walker, then introduced himself: he is based at Castle Douglas where he is available to answer queries.

DM asked about the proposed closure of the Dumfries Divisional headquarters. Insp. Davidson replied that it was an ongoing consultation and could add no further

comment. If this happens, enquiries from this area would be dealt with at Govan/Motherwell. If the community feel strongly about this closure they can object in writing.

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

GP had nothing to report.

#### **7. Flooding Feedback from Scottish Power and SEPA**

TC read out the questions posed and answers received, regarding the recent flooding, to the meeting. Follow-up questions were posed to SEPA and the Local Authority to check if warnings were received. No reply as yet.

A meeting is to take place on 27<sup>th</sup> Feb with SP and CCC and those at the meeting were asked to give any further questions to the council.

The resilience team formed at the last meeting suggested that CCC request that the inspection of the Strand is carried out before winter sets in.

KH suggested the work carried out at the inspection should be clarified to ensure it is appropriate, as well as the timing: One thorough clean a year might be sufficient.

**Action: KH and TC to prepare letter for the Council.**

The Council has instructed a hydrologist to look at the problems.

The Community Council Enquiry Service (CCES) allows the community council to put questions to the council, who must respond within 20 days. This service was used for the flooding questions, some answers not yet received.

Members with houses that have been flooded are unhappy at having to pay council tax on their house and BT line rental whilst the houses are uninhabitable.

**Action: AM to look into with Council and BT**

#### **8. CREFL Grants (information only)**

Grants awarded: £2286 for Shop repairs; up to £700 for Heritage Group exhibition costs; £250 for 1 education grant. The application deadline is to be strictly adhered to in future.

#### **9. Garden Trust**

The damaged dyke has been assessed and needs a rebuild for about a 14m length. Discussion of the transfer of the garden to the CCT was deferred.

**Action: TC to ask David Richmond to obtain 2 quotes for the dyke repair**

#### **10. Greystones/CCT**

SC informed the meeting that an email was received from the current owners of the building at close of business 24<sup>th</sup> February stating that they were withdrawing their offer of selling the building to the Trust, with no reasons given. (The 31<sup>st</sup> October deadline was missed by CCT but the owners had continued to negotiate the sale and the funds were banked in December). SS gave vote of thanks to the Trust committee for their hard work to date.

**Action: AM to enquire about this decision and ask the owners how they propose to prevent the building becoming an eyesore in the village.**

#### **11. Response to Quantans Hill Section 36 Application**

A hard copy of the proposal has been received by TC, along with some CD's. The CC have been given an extension to respond - 24<sup>th</sup> May. Individual responses need to be made by 7<sup>th</sup> March ([representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:representations@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)) but TC will accept individual responses (up to 24<sup>th</sup> May) and attach to community response. They will be treated in confidence if requested. A map of proposed wind farms in the area is still available to view on the CC notice board by the shop.

**Action: LH & SH to prepare a presentation and questionnaire to gather responses from the community, to be held in Lagwyne Hall on a Thursday morning and Friday evening, dates to be announced.**

## 12. Plunkett Foundation

An email was received from this organisation – they provide advice on community funded enterprises. This may be useful in the future.

## 13. Proposed Closure of Dumfries Police Control Room

Discussed under item 5.

## 14. Resilience Plan

AC informed the meeting that the newly formed group had met and formulated a plan and this has been submitted to the CC with recommendations, completing the group's remit. TC gave a vote of thanks for a significant amount of work put in, in such a short time. The recommendations include asking for volunteers to form a response team to take the recommendations forward. The aim is to help ensure elderly/vulnerable members are adequately cared for in an emergency and that people are aware of what they can do to help themselves. A discussion took place on provisions that would be useful, such as a generator – this could be investigated further by the resilience team.

- Stewartry Committee Safety Forum has already provided 20 lamps.
- The Scottish flood forum will talk to anyone needing advice.
- D&G Flood information available online: <http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=8932>
- The council will provide flood advice & recommendations to householders
- SP have assessed halls in D&G but possibly only council owned ones – not Lagwyne.
- A subsidy scheme for flood prevention is available for householders on application to the council – details on the website. Copies also available from TC.

**Members of the community are required to form the Resilience team - please contact TC if you are interested in becoming involved - the more people involved, the less help required per person.**

## 15. Planning applications

Dealt with under previous items

## 16. Correspondence

Most items covered earlier within the meeting

- A leaflet from Home Energy Scotland was emailed round.

**Action: TC to write to Home Energy Scotland on behalf of the CC discussing the difficulty in this area in getting a survey carried out to meet the requirements.**

## 17. AOB

- The Foundation Scotland meeting has yet to be arranged

**Action: AM to look into**

- The hall is often not open when people arrive for this meeting

**Action: AM to look into the opening up and setting up of the hall prior to these meetings**

- **Please let TC know if you would like to attend a short course on how to operate a defibrillator.**

- AC asked why a letter has still not been sent to other groups to attend these meetings. AM apologised.

**Action: AM to send letter to other groups inviting them to these meetings.**

- DC stated that £604 was required to insure the community garden – he suggested that this insurance could be pooled with other groups to cover a range of uses.

- TC noted that anyone involved in the resilience team would be insured for any activities they carried out as part of this.

- The salter for the pavements is kept in a school shed – a volunteer was requested to operate this. Alan Lang volunteered.

**The meeting was closed at 20.10**

**Dates of next meetings:**

**31<sup>st</sup> March, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 26<sup>th</sup> May**