

**CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**Minute of meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 in Lagwyne Hall**

**Present:**

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

**In attendance:**

Karen Hall	Darren Challis (Treasurer)	Martin Temple
Anna Campbell	George Prentice (D&G Councillor)	Steve Cowley
Ruth Williams	George Jeffrey (Vattenfall)	David McMillan
Anne Rutherford	Wendy Fenton (Minutes)	Jean Cowley
		Martin Holden

**1. Welcome and Apologies:**

Simon Holmes

**2. Declarations of Interest**

None

**3. Matters arising from Minutes of previous meeting 24<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

- The Treasurer's report should have stated that the invoice for Christmas tree and lights was for £63 not £23.
- Under item 5 DM asked about the closure of the Dumfries control room not headquarters.
- Item 7: The interim group formed to set up the resilience plan suggested that CCC request that the inspection of the drains is carried out before winter sets in. D&G Council and Scottish Power are instructing a hydrologist to look at the problems.

**Approval of minutes**

Proposed: LH Seconded: TC

**4. Treasurer's Report**

The only transaction was the payment for the Christmas tree and lights, leaving a balance of £3536.61.

The Community Garden account has a balance of £30. Projected costs for the coming year are £1850.

**Action: DC will apply for a CREFL grant to cover this, in time for the next deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> April.**

Proposed: SS Seconded TC

**5. Police Report**

No Police were present

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

GP had nothing to report. AM asked whether a rumour suggesting D&G Council wanted to scrap the 50:50 Community Benefit Fund proposed and take 100% of the funds was true. GP stated this was not the case. GJ thought that they wanted to but could not. The Council cannot make a firm decision until a directive is put in place by the Scottish Government (SG). It is thought that the SG may be recommending scrapping the 50:50 proposal because it would be difficult to enforce.

**7.**

**a) Flooding Feedback from Scottish Power (SP) and SEPA**

AM, AC, MH, AR and Alan Lang met with SP, who stated that the Water of Deugh was the main contribution to the flooding as the water was 1m (30%) higher than any level previously recorded after a flash flood at the top of the catchment drained to the river. The rain then stopped and the water cleared. The dam was not a contributory factor. Water is always let out prior to the flood, causing increased river levels earlier, but over a longer period and reducing the overall flood height.

A question was raised about whether tree felling was a contributory factor but this was not known. Steps to be taken include: Assessing the flood mechanism; How to give advanced warning; Identifying improvements required to alleviate flooding issues. SP are reviewing operations procedures to identify better flood management. The appointed hydrologist report will also identify any action that can be taken.

**b) Garden Wall/ Garden CCT Transfer**

2 quotes for repair of the dyke have been obtained, for £415 and £350. **DM offered to repair it for £200 and will submit a written quote and donate the money to the community.** It was agreed to accept this, with thanks. Proposed TC Seconded AM

It was agreed that it was not worth claiming on insurance and losing no claims for this amount so it would be added to the CREFL grant application.

It was agreed the garden would be transferred to CCT once this matter was settled.

**c) Greystones**

The pub signs have been removed and work is being carried out on the building. It was agreed it is good news that the building will be maintained to prevent it being an eyesore in the village.

**d) Resilience Plan/Carsphairn Emergency Response Group**

It was proposed by TC that £5 be donated to CCT as thanks for KH distributing a letter to villagers asking for volunteers to participate in the group. Seconded LH. Tasks may include preparing a list of contacts useful in an emergency, checking if anyone needs help etc. To date only one person has volunteered – thanks to Alan Lang. **More volunteers are needed – please let TC know if you are willing to help out.**

AR said the lamps were being delivered on Wednesday – **anyone who feels they need a lamp or knows someone who could benefit by having one please let TC know.**

**e) Local Group representatives at CCC meetings**

An email sent out by AM was unclear and he apologised for any misunderstanding. He will liaise with other CCC members to prepare a further letter. AR said that she had an old letter on the same subject and would forward it to AM.

**Action: AM to email the letter to all groups.**

**f) Home Energy Scotland (HES)**

TC spoke to HES about a local resident's problems using this scheme but they would not discuss it due to data protection, so the individual will follow it up.

**g) Opening/Setting up of Hall for CCC meetings**

AM will pick up the key and open up the hall for the meetings.

**h) Consolidation of Insurance for Carsphairn groups**

TC wrote to local groups as it might be that we can save money by combining insurance needs into one policy or separate policies but with the same insurance company. There has been one response so far.

**Action: TC will make enquiries about a joint insurance once replies are received from the groups.**

**8. War Memorial**

The War Memorial may be in need of repair work but TC could not establish who is responsible for such maintenance. GP indicated that D&G Council, while not responsible, tend to carry out such repairs. **M Holden has relevant professional expertise and offered to prepare a report on the state of the memorial. This was gratefully accepted.**

**Action: GP to provide a contact for TC**

**9. CCC, CCT and CREFL meeting with Foundation Scotland**

AM said the meeting was an introductory one about Foundation Scotland and their operation. AR said there was a proposal for a development plan and it was agreed by those present at the meeting that CCT were best placed to take this forward. Cara Gillespie has permission from Foundation Scotland to progress this. A survey to find

locals' views is required to base the plan on. A quote needs to be obtained for this and application made to CREFL for a grant to cover it. CCT have three quotes for helping to set up the plan.

**Action: CCT will be progressing this**

#### **10. Planning applications**

Nothing of note.

#### **11. Correspondence**

TC has been invoiced for the website

TC is data protection registrar (cost is £35) – this has to be renewed annually

Windy Standard 3 scoping report is out for consultation and is available on cd from TC

#### **12. AORB**

- GJ informed the meeting that D&G Council have no objections to the South Kyle Wind Farm Application and a decision will be made by the Scottish Government. E. Ayrshire Council have asked for a 6 month extension.
- DM noted that last year the garden was planted up too late due to a delay in obtaining funds and asked if this would be a problem this year. Funding should be obtained in good time this year. At present there was no one to plant up and water the troughs at the entrances to the village. As last year, £100 would be allocated to this. Proposed TC, Seconded LH. **Anyone willing to do this should let TC know.**
- Discussion on Windy Standard 2 community benefit funding is in progress.
- CCT are awaiting an invoice from the costs in setting up the trust, which CCC agreed to pay. CCC would like confirmation that this will be due.

**The meeting was closed at 20.20**

**Dates of next meetings:**

28<sup>th</sup> April (AGM), 26<sup>th</sup> May