

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on 30th June 2014 in Lagwyne Hall

Present:	Elected members	Members with Voting Rights
	Andrew Metcalf (Chair)	Simon Holmes
	Tony Challis (C. Secretary)	
	Liz Holmes (Vice Chair)	
	Sylvia Sinclair	
	Matt Hickman	

In Attendance:

Martin Temple	Darren Challis (Treasurer)	Brenda Carson
Steve Cowley	McNabb Laurie (D&G Community Benefits Officer)	Karen Hall
Jean Cowley	Finlay Carson (D&G Councillor)	Anna Campbell
David McMillan	Irene McCreath	George Jeffrey (Vattenfall)
Martin Holden	Alex Macrae	Wendy Fenton (Minutes)

1. Welcome and Apologies:

George Prentice

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of meeting 28th April 2014

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

Proposed: LH Seconded: TC

4. Treasurer's Report

The accounts have been split into two to keep the community gardens accounts separate.

The CC transactions since 28th April included £35 for the Data Protection Act, £200 donation to CCT for the garden dyke repair, £250 to Carsphairn Church (legal costs for CCT work were donated), £65 for Examination of Accounts and £35.93 bi-annual website hosting costs, leaving a balance of £2,815.68.

The Community Garden transactions included income of £2,050 grant from CREFL to cover garden maintenance and a payment of £210 for garden maintenance, leaving a balance of £1,870.

5. Police Report

No police present. TC stated that the email address for PC Dunn did not appear to be working so he had sent the email about the meeting to the general Dumfries address.

Action TC to look into correct email address for PC Dunn

6. D&G Councillor's Report

FC informed the meeting that a review of community council rules had been finalised and would be distributed to all community councils. It will be reviewed on a 6 yearly basis unless required sooner.

The Council's Labour administration were currently carrying on business as before the split with SNP, until they agree an updated agenda.

Grass cutting concerns in churchyards in particular have now been addressed: A fast growing season had compounded the effect of reduced visits for mowing, leading to many complaints, so cutting has been resumed on a regular basis. A £60,000 contingency fund has been used in addressing the situation. The cutting policy will be reviewed next year.

DM asked about a road-works proposal to close the A713 south of Dalmellington by Ayrshire Council between 12th-13th and 19th-20th July, with two weeks of disruption

and there has been no notification to locals. The meeting agreed this was unacceptable for commuters, tourists and emergency traffic.

Action FC to enquire about road closure.

7. Matters Arising from Minutes of Meeting 28th April 2014

a) CREFL grant for Garden

DC said that he assumed CREFL were happy about the ownership transfer as he had received no comments to state otherwise and has received the cheque. AM noted that it had been discussed at the CREFL meeting.

Action DC to inform CREFL when the money is transferred to CCT.

b) Transfer of Garden to CCT

This is progressing, albeit slowly. CCC had been advised to instruct a solicitor to advise them, to ensure the transfer is carried out correctly, which has been done and the solicitor is now going over the relevant documents before reporting back.

c) Local Group Representatives at CCC Meetings

TC has received three responses. KH will represent the Heritage Group, Rachael Seed will represent the Hall Committee. The Kirk Session will respond after their meeting on 1st July.

d) Community Development Plan

SC informed the meeting it was felt more appropriate to call it the Community Future Plan. The group are going ahead with the survey and have instructed SCVS to carry this out. A draft has been received and once finalised it will be posted to everyone in the Community, with SAE's, in the hope of a good response to let them know what the community would like to be included in the Community Future Plan. A meeting will be held for the community once the information has been compiled. GJ suggested a range of scenarios or phases could be considered so work could be tailored to eventual income.

e) Response to Quantans Hill Section 36 Application

LH compiled the questionnaire responses and TC sent this to the Scottish Government.

f) The U143 road (Lamloch to Brockloch) repair

The road has been repaired as part of scheduled works.

8. Meeting with D&G Community Benefits Officer (CBO)

McNabb Laurie introduced himself – he has replaced Peter Roberts. He explained that the Scottish Government have produced a document providing guidance on how Community Benefit monies should be managed. Ultimately it is the developer who decides where the monies go, who manages it and how it is spent. Known as 'Good Practice Principal', it does not endorse the 50:50 split (local community:Region) preferred by D&G Council (it is optional guidance) but does endorse funds of £5,000 per MegaWatt being provided for the community by the developer and the emphasis is on rural regeneration. ML's role is to provide assistance to ensure local communities maximise their income from the developers and he can help guide communities through the processes and in any project development. He is happy to provide guidance to CCT for the Community Future Plan. Scottish Government guidance is that anyone bordering windfarm sites (and within 15km) is eligible for this funding. If there is an agreement with the local community as part of the planning application it is a legal agreement.

9. Garden Insurance

TC advised that following a review of the insurance, a quote has been received for £235.18 for a policy with Royal & Sun Alliance through brokers Keegan & Pennykid, also used by D&G Council for their community council Third Party Liability insurance.

It was proposed by TC and seconded by LH that this be accepted.

Action: DC to raise cheque and send to Keegan & Pennykid.

An email has been received from David Richmond (DR) stating

1. That the garden tool storage facility is no longer available so new storage is needed. **If anyone local to the garden is able to store the small number of tools please contact TC.**
2. Jackie Locke is unable to continue maintaining the community garden although her husband is happy to mow the grass until a replacement gardener is found. The garden maintenance is a paid post (as a contractor, not as an employee) and anyone interested in applying for the post should contact TC.

Action: LH to place advert in Glenkens Gazette

3. The renewable energy light system is not working. David Richmond has offered to contact the installer and provided an estimate for the repairs.

Action: TC to ask DR to provide estimate for repairs.

4. DR will be stepping down as leader of the Steering group soon. **If anyone is interested in taking on this role, please let TC know.**
5. **A team of volunteers are urgently needed to help weed the garden in the interim. Again, please let TC know if you can help. AC suggested that if anyone has a few spare minutes to pull weeds that would be much appreciated.**

10. War Memorial

Martin H was thanked for his comprehensive report to CCC, indicating some urgent work is required, especially to the paving. The paving can possibly be done by D&G Council. Martin can amend his report to enable a quote to be obtained for other work and it may be possible to obtain a grant for this. Further action will be taken following advice from D&G council about the paving

Action: FC will ask Abercromby Roads Dept. to look at the paving repairs required

11. Carsphairn Flood Study

D&G have appointed Kaya consultants to carry out appraisal of the flooding problem. They are meeting affected residents and it is important that they meet all those affected. FC asked what the feeling of the community was about the flooding. KH said affected residents were hurt and upset. Possible causes of the flooding were thought by residents to include SP management (including light staffing over the holiday period), excessive rainfall and forestry drainage. It was queried why Dalry landowners get flood warnings but Carsphairn landowners do not.

Action: FC to speak to council to establish remit of survey and ensure they speak to all affected and neighbouring residents before report is prepared. He will report back to CCC.

12. Vigil to commemorate the start of World War 1

Vigils have been proposed to take place – one at Castle Douglas (Tesco car park) and one in the New Galloway & Kells area. 13 locals died from the Carsphairn Parish and it was agreed it was more appropriate to hold a vigil in Carsphairn.

It was proposed that anyone interested should meet at the Church at 22.45 hrs on 4th August, to then walk to the memorial with lit candles and place these at the memorial, with a few words said. Please bring your own candle.

Action: KH will put a flyer through door in the village and will remove all candles the following day.

13. Planning applications

Windy Standard 80m anemometer mast for a further extension

14. Correspondence

Covered in other items

15. AORB

- DM informed the meeting that the current shop tenants were leaving at the end of August. CVSL will be advertising for a suitable tenant.
- LH noted that Fraser Simpson is retiring as Cluster Head of Kells, Carsphairn and Dalry schools. An acting head has been appointed (Mr. Grey). Concern was voiced about why a new head teacher has not been advertised and whether there was a closure threat. IM said that a school meeting in May was informed that acting head was required to cover the post due to the timescale and as the Dalry Deputy was going on Maternity leave. Further consultation is now expected to take place.

Action: MH to write letter of concern and circulate to CCC for agreement and copy to FC.

- Another windfarm proposal had just been received: Windy Rig, Moorbrock Estate, 75MW. A scoping report should be available soon.
- AC asked if the Community Garden could be used for a barbeque after a United Family Service in September in Carsphairn. DC thought it would be possible provided a risk assessment was carried out. AC would come back after consideration, bearing in mind the time of year.
- Carsphairn has experienced a number of power cuts this year. SC has been told that there is a problem with a transmission pole, which will take about three months to fix. In the meantime power has been re-routed temporarily so we can probably expect more power cuts. It might be worth keeping records of any power cuts for possible compensation claims.
- MT asked if anyone knew about a powerline proposal to connect the proposed Loch Urr wind farm. SS had a map she would send to TC.
- SS bought plants and planted up the village planters. Thanks to SS.
- GJ said that S. Ayrshire Council have objected to the South Kyle windfarm so it would now go to public enquiry, delaying the decision.

The meeting was closed at 21.00

Dates of next meetings: 25th August, 29th September, 27th October