

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minute of meeting held on 25th Aug 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:

Steve Cowley	Irene McCreath (Kirk Session rep.)	PC John Brown (part)
Jean Cowley	George Jeffrey (Vattenfall)	Darren Challis (Treasurer)
David McMillan	Karen Hall (Heritage Group rep.)	Anna Campbell
Ruth Williams	Jeanette Thompson (Element Power)	Wendy Fenton (Minutes)
Alan Lang	Tertia Houston (“ “)	

1. Welcome and Apologies:

No Apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of meeting 30th June 2014

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

Proposed: LH Seconded: TC

4. Treasurer's Report

The CC transactions since 30th June were £37.80 for an advert in the Glenkens Gazette (garden contractor), leaving a balance of £2,777.88.

The Community Garden transactions were a payment of £235.19 for garden insurance, leaving a balance of £1,634.81.

5. Police Report

PC Brown replaced PC Drysdale who is on holiday. He said to be wary of trailer thefts, though it was not specific to the area, and to keep a look out for suspicious vehicles and bogus workmen. IM had reported to 101 men with lurchers in a field of sheep near Corsock one evening.

6. D&G Councillor's Report

No Councillors were present.

7. Jeanette Thompson, Consultant for Element Power – Windy Rig Wind Farm

Jeanette and Tertia Houston gave a presentation on the proposal for another wind farm in the Windy Standard area, about 7km north of Carsphairn, on Moorbrock Estate. The proposal is for 25 turbines with a tip height of 125m, producing 2-3MW each. Public exhibitions will be held on October and January/February. Infrastructure would be shared with existing windfarms. Reasons for choosing this site were outlined. The grid connection proposed is via New Cumnock or Harehill, with a small sub station on site. Planning application is scheduled for March 2015. A number of questions were posed about the proposal, including cumulative issues and the company's history and track record: They operate renewables in other countries but none in Scotland as yet but are developing 20 Shilling Hill at Sanquhar and plan to operate this one themselves. They want to establish a community liaison group for all communities in the area of the proposal and intend to give 100% of the community benefit monies to the local communities, not D&G Council. They are keen to look at wider projects involving all the communities in the area rather than on individual community basis. Concern was voiced over this and it was felt that, as CREFL works well for Carsphairn, it would be better for it to receive monies then join in with larger projects where appropriate.

Action JT to resend link and hard copy of Scoping Report to TC

Action: JT to email the Element Power agreement with 20 Shilling Hill community to TC

Action: JT to email pdf of presentation to TC.

8. Matters Arising from Minutes of Meeting 30th June 2014

a) A713 Road Closure

The closure had been disruptive, particularly the first weekend. Finlay Carson (FC) had communicated with the councils promptly and hopefully any future works will be better planned as a consequence.

b) Transfer of Garden to CCT

This is progressing, slowly. Hewats were advising CCC, and SS had a number of questions to ask CCT. These were answered satisfactorily in the meeting.

c) Garden Insurance, Gardener, Light Repair System

The insurance has been paid and the policy received.

Martin Temple was the only applicant for the gardener position and has been fully briefed by David Richmond who supports his application. It was agreed he should be appointed. Proposed TC, Seconded SS

Thanks were given to all those who helped weed the garden.

In response to a possible Kirk event David Richmond has prepared a Risk Assessment for barbecues. He has not yet received the quote for the repair of the light system.

Action: TC to check if additional insurance is required for barbecues.

d) War Memorial

FC contacted D&G Council and pointing and paving repair has been carried out. The wreath is ready.

Action: TC to ask Martin Holden about how to restore the lettering.

e) Carsphairn Flood Study

Despite FC asking Kaya to ensure that they spoke to all affected residents some expressed concern that, despite a recent visit by Kaya, some residents who should have been interviewed had not been seen.

Action. TC to ask FC to obtain from Kaya a list of those who have been interviewed and when consultation will be complete.

f) Vigil to commemorate start of WW1

A successful and well attended candlelit walk was held, with residents meeting at the church and walking to the memorial where candles were placed. After some time for reflection the candles were blown out. Thanks were expressed to KH for organising this event.

A one-off insurance payment of £10.60 was paid to cover this event (prop. AM, sec. SH).

g) Letter to School

MH wrote a letter of concern to D&G Council that there will be no change to the educational provision as a result of the Cluster Head retiring but no reply has as yet been received. Mrs Smith is the new Acting Head.

- AC noted that the Glenkens Education Action Group (GEAG), formed in 2001, is still in existence and has a bank account and asked that the school be informed of this.
- IM asked that a copy of the letter be sent to the Carsphairn Primary School PTC

Action: MH to send letter to PTC.

Action: AM to chase up response from D&G Council

9. Community Future Plan

The SCVS survey is being printed and will be posted to all on the electoral roll, with SAE's. Anyone not in receipt of a copy can request one from SCVS. SCVS will hold a presentation at the school to obtain responses from school children. Details are also on the Carsphairn website.

10. Broadband

MH attended a roadshow in Castle Douglas. He learnt that for those with good broadband, the improvement works should improve it further. Those receiving it by satellite however, will need to actively pursue an improved service. The superfast broadband is being installed along the A713 but Carsphairn is still under evaluation.

Action: Anyone with any questions about this please email them to MH (hickmantrail@gmail.com) who will collate and forward them to BT/Openreach.

Action: LH to write letter to O2 about poor mobile reception in this area.

11. New Constitution

D&G Council issued a new constitution to all Community Councils and this needs to be adopted and ratified by 25th January 2015. It appears to be more rigid but changes can be made. An EGM is therefore required and will be held prior to the November meeting.

12. Planning applications

None of any note

13. Correspondence

Those of note include: A letter from SP Networks with a new contact telephone numbers; Papers for the Discretionary grant for 2015 and a request from the Scottish Government for comments on the Windy Rig Scoping Report.

14. AORB

- The Community notice board fell off the wall recently but will be re-installed imminently.
- IM is the new Kirk Session representative for the Community Council meetings.
- GJ informed the meeting of another windfarm proposal at Loch Doon – Glenmount – that went into planning in January 2013 and has received various objections. Dersalloch Wind Farm near Straiton has been consented.
- DC noted that the D&G Local Development Plan has been published and residents have 30 days to raise any queries about any of its contents, if none it will be adopted. <http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=11907> . One point he noted was a waste management site NE of the village.
- A discussion took place on the plethora of wind farm applications with associated grid connection lines.
Action: AM to ask SP Energy Networks and SP Distribution to a community meeting to discuss the issue of grid connection lines for proposed wind farms.
- DM informed the meeting that the current shop tenants were leaving at the end of August. A preferred candidate has been selected but an agreement has not yet been signed.
- TC has inherited a box of CCC paperwork and wondered if it could be stored in Lagwyne Hall after the renovations are complete.
Action: RW agreed to ask the Hall committee if a box of paperwork can be stored in the hall.
- An NHS survey has been in circulation recently in the Stewartry, though apparently reaching limited numbers of residents.
Action: TC to email out the survey for completion by anyone who wishes to. To be returned by 30th September.
- AM noted that Maggie Phillips had been missed off the note of thanks for preparation of the Carsphairn Welcome leaflet so thanks were now extended to her.

The meeting was closed at 21.00

Dates of next meetings: 27th October, 24th November