

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on 24th November 2014 in Lagwyne Hall

Present:	Elected Members	
	Andrew Metcalf (Chair)	Matt Hickman
	Tony Challis (C. Secretary)	Alan Lang
	Liz Holmes (Vice Chair)	Sylvia Sinclair
In Attendance:		
Steve Cowley	Irene McCreath (Kirk Session rep.)	Ruth Williams
Jean Cowley	Darren Challis (Treasurer)	Martin Temple
David McMillan	Wendy Fenton (Minutes)	Brenda Carson
Jane Metcalf	Karen Hall	Anna Campbell
David Bell	Steven Jack (Scottish Power)	George Scott (New Galloway CC Chair)
Elizabeth Bell	Brendan Tinney (" ")	
	Finlay Carson (D&G Councillor)	

Before the meeting opened SC announced the winner of the prize draw from the respondents to the Community Survey carried out by SCVS.

1. Welcome and Apologies:

AM Welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies: Simon Holmes

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of meeting 27th October 2014

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

Proposed: MH Seconded: LH

4. Treasurer's Report

The bank account balance at 24th November 2014 was £3,916.29 after payment for repair of the notice board.

5. Police Report

No police present.

6. D&G Councillor's Report

FC had nothing to report.

7. Scottish Power (SP) - Stephen Jack, Brendan Tinney

Questions gathered from the community had been put to SP and most answers had been received and emailed out; remaining replies will be emailed out on receipt.

They were present at this meeting to answer further queries about proposals for power lines proposed/in progress in the area.

A number of questions were put to SP about completion dates of agreed lines, timing for future lines/upgrades, wayleave agreements, compensation for landowners etc. Concern was expressed by many at the meeting about the effect the number of new lines required for current and future windfarms could have on the area. Reassurance was sought that this will be carefully consulted and rationalised in order to minimise what could potentially be considerable disruption to the landscape and landowners in and around Carsphairn. SP assured the meeting that those potentially affected would receive ample consultation and discussion with SP. BT said that, in addition to the currently proposed Loch Urr line route, alternative routes would be proposed.

Any further queries can be sent to **Brendan Tinney** at: **SP Energy Networks**, tel: **0141 614 1629**, mob: **07753 624 975**; e: btinney@scottishpower.com or sent to TC: carsphairncc@gmail.com who will forward them on.

8. Matters Arising

a) Windy Rig Benefit Agreement

TC re-sent the Community Benefit Agreement to CREFL and it had been received.

b) Questions on Windy Rig Proposal

DM and Rachel Seed have compiled a list of relevant questions to take to the Windy Rig meeting on 26th November.

c) Glenkens Community Benefits Committee

LH was in still in discussion with A. Mellor, Dalry CC Chair about the Community Benefits Committee. More information will be available after a meeting on 26th November. A discussion took place on the optimal way to proceed and it was agreed that CREFL was an excellent role model that other community councils could use, ensuring money was ring-fenced for each community, retaining independence and control of funds. It was also agreed that there was a place for a meeting of reps from each community for possible bigger, joint projects in the future. It was agreed that McNabb Laurie, the D&G Community Benefits Officer, could provide useful assistance in progressing this.

Action: SS to ask CREFL to take the lead in contacting M. Laurie view to provide assistance and guidance in establishing links with other Communities.

d) Community Garden Thank you letter

Action: DC to email address to **AM** for letter to thank Jackie & Stuart Locke for their work on the garden.

e) Garden Power

TC asked D. Richmond to continue pursuing a cheaper replacement turbine and let TC know if he requires anything for the Christmas tree lights.

f) Garden transfer

SS still had not had a reply from the solicitor but will keep trying. MH found in the Constitution that assets can be passed to a similar organisation (eg Carsphairn Community Trust, CCT) if the current one (ie. CCC) fails. This could be agreed at an EGM.

Action: TC to make enquiry to D&G council to confirm this is the case.

g) War Memorial

Action: SH will continue to try to source the correct paint to renew the lettering.

Action: AM will also make enquiries the next time he is passing a monumental mason.

h) Windfarm Steering Group Meeting

A meeting will be held provisionally on 15/16th December for an overview of developments over the past year. All are welcome to attend. The implementation of a procedure for informing the community about progress with various wind farm proposals would be useful.

Action: LH to ask those at the last meeting for agenda items and if they would like to see Natural Power and/or Element Power at the meeting to update their windfarm plans.

Benbrack and Loch Urr Wind Farms have now been submitted to SG for Planning permission, with responses to be submitted by 12th January. FC suggested this deadline may be immovable.

Action: TC to email econsent to request extension to deadline of 12th for Benbrack Wind Farm Application and to ask to be able to comment on Loch Urr Wind Farm Application since the line will affect the Carsphairn area.

i) Blocked Gullies

GP established that gully clearance has begun and Carsphairn was deemed a high priority by D&G Council so work to take place shortly.

Action: Anyone who finds gullies still blocked in a few weeks time can email TC who will chase this up.

j) Planning Rules for Trailer (mobile) Anemometers

LH received the reply that planning permission is required if they are to be in place for longer than one year.

k) School Letter

The copy of this letter has been forwarded as requested.

l) Annual Dinner

LH and AL are making arrangements for this. Details to be confirmed.

m) Heritage Centre Lights

They will be repaired by D&G Council. The toilets can be locked if its felt necessary but they are appreciated by people passing through Carsphairn so will be left unlocked unless any problems arise.

9. Kaya Flood Study Report

LH: At the meeting Kaya explained their scientific methodology which they are applying to the flooding problem in the village including information from those villagers affected, with a view to preventing this happening again and to fully understand why it happened The report will be completed in two to four months time. AL noted that Kaya had reported that SP had told Kaya that Drumjohn was not operational on the day of the flood, or for 3 days prior to the flood.

Kaya would appreciate any further information from the community, including old photos of the village to help compare to the present day. This can be sent to Tony Challis (carsphairncc@gmail.com) who will forward to Kaya.

10. Planning applications

The only one of any note was the Windy Rig application.

11. Correspondence

Correspondence list for the past month was issued by email by TC.

TC has 3 dvds of the Benbrack application if anyone wants one please email him.

A community liaison meeting is being held at Moniaive by Element Power (EP) for Windy Rig. Only two reps from CCC are permitted to attend. CCT asked if they could send a rep but EP have not responded. TC proposed Steve Cowley should attend as CCC rep along with Sylvia Sinclair. Seconded by MH.

12. AORB

- AC asked if any progress had been made with the Resilience Plan and had all actions been carried out, such as holding a public meeting. LH replied that only one volunteer came forward in response to an email sent out to local groups and individuals.

Action: TC to send out another email to the community and Community Groups requesting volunteers to progress a Resilience Plan.

Action: AM to put a notice on the CCC notice board by the shop.

The meeting was closed at 9.15pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 26th January 2015 at 7.00pm