

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on 30th March 2015 in Lagwyne Hall

Present:

Elected Members:

Andrew Metcalf (Chair) Liz Holmes (Vice Chair)
Sylvia Sinclair Tony Challis (C. Secretary)

Members with Voting Rights

Simon Holmes

In Attendance:

Steve Cowley	Darren Challis (Treasurer)	Charlotte Brown
David McMillan	Wendy Fenton (Minutes)	Anne Rutherford
Anna Clark Kennedy	David Boyd (Scottish Power Renewables)	Karen Hall
Trevor Molineux	Kiera Wilson (")	Martin Temple
	Diane McColm (D&G Council Community Safety Team)	

1. Welcome and Apologies:

AM Welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received from Alan Lang and Matt Hickman.

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of meeting 23rd February 2015

The minutes of the meeting were approved. Proposed: TC Seconded: SS

4. Treasurer's Report

There were no bank transactions, leaving the account balance at 30th March 2015 of £3,142.86.

5. Police Report

No Police were present

6. D&G Councillor's Report

No Councillors were present.

7. David Boyd, Scottish Power Renewables (SPR): Wether Hill Wind Farm Extension

DB gave an update on Wether Hill extension: There are 14 existing turbines, 91m high, which came into operation in 2007. The extension proposal is for 11 turbines 100m high, each producing 2MW (total 22MW) – relatively small turbines in keeping with the landscape scale and existing turbines. Planning application should be submitted to D&G Council this summer and SPR will send relevant documents and notices to CCC. They are happy to continue to use CREFL for the Community benefit funds for Carsphairn and Moniaive will also receive a share (total is estimated at £110,000 pa). Asked about the grid connection, DB said this would ultimately be decided by Scottish Power Network. The Penpont substation is full and would be expensive to upgrade so it would most likely be elsewhere but SPR would inform the community as soon as they knew. Concern was raised by those present about the number of potential power lines that might affect the area given the number of proposed wind farms and how power distribution would be rationalised. (KW noted that the method of subsidising windfarms was changing in 2017 and that is likely to reduce the number of windfarms built.) Delivery would be along the B749 and a traffic plan would be implemented. DC asked if community ownership was a possibility and DB said there was a working group looking at this and it might be possible to consider this for Wether Hill Extension.

8. Matters Arising

a) Dog fouling

Diane McColm, D&G Council (DGC) Senior Community Safety Officer (West) explained that there are four Community Safety Officers for the Stewartry and they cover anti-social behaviour, littering, dog fouling, traffic wardening, fly tipping and noise complaints. Dog fouling causes most concern in the area. If they witness an incident they can issue on the spot fines of £40 for dog fouling. Littering (including cigarettes and chewing gum) can attract an £80 on the spot fine. If fines are not paid a court action can be taken.

Members of the public can also report offenders – two independent witnesses are required who are willing to prepare a statement and go to court if necessary. Fly tipping can attract a £200 on the spot fine - including anything left outside the tip when it is shut, if the offender can be identified. DM left some 'stubbies' (fireproof packets to put out cigarette ends) at the meeting and also in the village shop. Anti-social behaviour can be reported to the team, who are able to monitor potential problems, e.g. if dog fouling is taking place after dark they can come out and watch out for the offender. A request was made for a bin near the war memorial as it is a popular dog walking spot. DM will suggest this to the cleansing department.

b) Floods

The report by KAYA has still not been produced but should be ready April/May. Both AR and TC had requested DGC to look at the drains, which they did. They suggested coming to look at the culvert and bridge during a high rainfall event but SS thought they should come beforehand to hopefully prevent further flooding.

Action: AM to send letter to council asking them to clean drains at McAdam 's Way and the Heritage Centre and to contact the Roads Department to clean those out at the other end of the village.

c) Resilience Plan

TC submitted the initial plan to DGC. CCC's insurance covers public liability for personnel but not machinery. CCT need to decide if this is sufficient or if further cover is required. AR said that the updated Resilience Plan has been submitted to the Council

d) Correspondance Secretary

Anna Clark Kennedy had kindly agreed to take this role on after April.

e) Garden Transfer

The two solicitors will discuss how to proceed.

10. Planning applications

An application for a mast has been submitted for Dodd Hill (Benbrack Wind Farm).

11. Correspondence

The list has been issued. The A713 will probably be closed again this summer but it is not known when yet.

EON are holding a workshop at Lochside, New Cumnock, in April to discuss Benbrack, Lorg and Quantans Hill Wind Farms.

Action: SS will reply saying that two people (SS, SH) will attend from CCC.

12. AORB

- DM was concerned about the condition of the minor road between Drumjohn and Brockloch/Lamloch, which should be maintained by DGC.

Action: AM to ask DGC what their obligation is on this road.

- SS expressed concern about the state of parts of the Salutation houses and who was responsible for them

Action: AM will ask DGC to pursue.

- Lack of Council reps at the meeting was questioned

Action: AM will ask that DGC informs CCC who is going to attend the meeting or that they will submit a report if they cannot attend.

The meeting was closed at 8.35pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 27th April 2015 following AGM