

Hugh Clark Kennedy chaired the following sections of the meeting:

1. SEDERUNT AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENSE

Decision

Hugh welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies as listed above. Also noted was the resignation of Alan Lang as a member of the Carsphairn Community Council.

2. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON

Decision

AGREED that Liz Holmes be appointed as Chairperson, proposed by Andrew Metcalf and seconded by Anna Clark Kennedy.

3. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Decision

AGREED that Sylvia Sinclair be appointed as Vice-Chairperson, proposed by Liz Holmes and seconded by Simon Holmes.

4. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF THE SECRETARY

Decision

AGREED that Anna Clark Kennedy be appointed as Secretary, proposed by Liz Holmes and seconded by Andrew Metcalf.

5. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF THE TREASURER

Decision

AGREED that Darren Challis be appointed as Treasurer, proposed by Liz Holmes and seconded by Matt Hickman.

6. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF THE EXAMINER(S) OF ACCOUNTS

Decision

AGREED that Martin Wheeler would be appointed as the Examiner of Accounts. Darren would contact Martin and confirm to the next meeting on whether or not Martin had accepted this appointment.

7. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF ANY OFFICE BEARER OR EMPLOYEES

Decision

AGREED that Matt Hickman was appointed as Minute Secretary, proposed by Sylvia Sinclair and seconded by Anna Clark Kennedy.

8. CONSIDER THE CO-OPTION OF VOTING & NON-VOTING MEMBERS IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 4.1 (C) OF THE SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY

Decision

NONE at present.

9. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF ANY COMMITTEES

Decision

The Community Resilience Team was noted as being re-appointed. No other committee were appointed at this time.

10. CONSIDER THE PRODUCTION OF CERTIFIED STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF FORMER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Decision

Darren provided a certified statement of Assets and Liabilities of the former Community Council. Darren also queries if this could be used to support the CC Discretionary Grant Application and Wendy confirmed that this could along with a copy of the CC's last financial years set of accounts. Darren also noted that copies of the Federation Meetings which had been attended by members of the CC would have to be supplied to ensure that the additional payment to the CC was received – Wendy would source this from the SCVS and send onto Darren.

11. CONSIDER PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE COVER

Decision

NOTED that Public Liability Insurance was already provided by Dumfries and Galloway Council. Wendy provided additional information in relation to how to access additional insurance for events & activities which would not normally be covered under the Standard Insurance Cover. Also detailed was the company which provide this cover – Keegan & Pennykid.

12. CONSIDER REQUEST TO DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY COUNCIL FOR ADMINISTRATIVE GRANT FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31 Mach 2016

Decision

AGREED Darren would finalise the Application form and submit this into the Dumfries & Galloway Council CC Administration Team

13. CONSIDER THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADOPTING THE CONSTITUTION AND DRAWING UP STANDING ORDERS IN TERMS OF SECTION 3 OF THE SCHEME AND SET A DATE FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY OR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT WHICH TO ADOPT THESE

Decision

An EGM would be held immediately before the next meeting of the Community Council (Monday 29th August 2016) and would be advertised at least 14 Days before that date.

14. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

These would be raised under the next section of the meeting (Part 2).

15. FIX DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION FOR ORDINARY MEETINGS OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Decision

AGREED that meetings of Carsphairn Community Council would be held monthly on the last Monday of each month at the Lagwyne Hall, Carsphairn apart from July and December.

Part 2 Carsphairn Community Council Meeting

1. Welcome & Apologies

Liz welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were listed as noted above. George Prentice left the meeting at this point.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Adoption and Approval of Minutes of Meeting of 28th March 2016

Liz queried whether or not the minutes could be adopted and approved of the last meeting. Wendy confirmed that any decisions made would have to be re-visited by the Community Council and completed again. It was confirmed that the Minutes were an accurate record of the meeting, although the Community Council were unfortunately not officially operational at that time. The minutes were proposed by Sylvia and seconded by Andrew.

4. Treasurers Report

Darren circulated a detailed Treasurer's Report for July 2016 and details several updates as well as confirming the balance of the Bank Account. This document is available for all CC Members and Members of the Public to view.

5. Police Report

The Officers in attendance noted that the main issues which had affected the Carsphairn area had been the theft of diesel from farm machinery on the 14th and 16th of June and again on the 18th of July. This had occurred around the Brochloch area and similar instances of theft had also occurred around Kirkconnel, Sanquhar and Moniaive. The main suspect in each of these incidents had now been apprehended and more evidence is currently being gathered in relation to each of these cases.

There had also been an incident of driving under the influence of alcohol which involved one member of the public on the 16th July. This person had been remanded in custody to appear at a later date in court.

Anna requested confirmation of who within Police Scotland that all correspondence from the Community Council should be sent to and the Officers present confirmed that this was now Inspector Stuart Wilson who is the Stewartry Inspector.

6. D & G Councillor's Report & Floods

a) Follow up from Emergency Meeting held by Finlay Carson

b) Scottish Power Meeting at Glenlee

Finlay Carson provided a comprehensive overview of the actions which he had been taking in relation to the flooding which had impacted on the village. He noted that he was extremely disappointed that the PVA had not included the settlement of Carsphairn which could have been in part due to the size of the village (under 50 properties) and that no additional funding had been allocated by the Scottish Government to areas which were not included in what was termed as the "Vulnerable Zones". Finlay had contacted Rosanna Cunningham and expressed his disappointment at the lack of support for areas not within the PVA and had also requested that the Government investigate sourcing further financial support for the areas which had not been included. He explained how the PVA were arrived at and also the limitations on Dumfries & Galloway Council to provide extra financial assistance at this time.

Finlay also highlighted the numerous activities which had been completed by Alistair Speedie and the Flood Prevention Team along with the proposals by KAYA Consulting who had been available in the Village Hall to meet with members of the public. It was noted that this session had been incredibly busy and that it would be worthwhile running this again.

Hugh provided further information at this point in relation to the Galloway Hydro Scheme Act of 1939 and requested that Finlay pursue a new Act of Parliament to have the above act reviewed and updated due to the effects of climate change and rise in the level of the water levels over the intervening years. Also requested was to review the Hydro Scheme and the dredging of gravel within the dams which appeared to have drastically reduced over the years and in addition the rising water levels which several members of the public had noted were far higher now than in years before.

Finlay also read out a detailed e-mail from James McLeod, Infrastructure Manager to highlight the work which had been completed to date. He also noted that the community could assist the process of support any plans by the allocation of funding from any potential sources and it was agreed that this would be discussed further by the community.

This was an area of great concern to all of the community and it was agreed that Anna would contact James McLeod to request a previously proposed Public Meeting to which all of the points which were wished to be raised by the Community Council could be highlighted. Attendees at this meeting should also include Scottish Power, Forestry Commission Scotland, the NFU and SEPA. An Open Meeting would be requested for either the 8th or 15th of August 2016 – Anna would contact James to request that this could be organised as soon as possible.

Wendy also noted that residents can have Flood Prevention Surveys completed on their properties and the subsidies which are available on Flood Prevention Products through the D & G Council Scheme. Leaflets detailing this were distributed to members of the public present and had also been handed out during the Community Resilience Meeting which had been held on Thursday 14th July 2016.

7. Co-Option of Anne Rutherford, The Schoolhouse, Carsphairn, DG7 3TQ as an Associate Member – Proposed: E Holmes

Wendy noted that this item would require to be highlighted as an Agenda Item for the next meeting of the Community Council and would then be considered at that time.

8. GCAT – Sleeping Giants, Connecting in Retirement Project – Grace Cardozo, Managing Director

Liz welcomed Grace to the meeting and Grace provided an overview of the Connecting in Retirement Projects which was currently running at the Catstrand in New Galloway. She explained that there could be the possibility of running this project on an outreach basis within Carsphairn Village with the main objectives of the project of reducing social isolation within the Glenkens area.

Grace completed a detailed SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats) for the project and it was agreed that this would be taken forward with the possibility of funding being secured to run various workshops and courses within the village hall.

Grace would pull together all of the information received and feed this back to the Community Council via the Secretary.

9. Matters Arising from Minutes of Meeting of 28th March 2016

- a) Queen's Birthday – Community Event, Hall Committee Concert 12th June 2016
Noted that the Concert did go ahead but that it was relatively poorly attended. Request for more support for village events and consideration to be given to the work which the volunteers put into hosting any events held. Agreed that more support would be given to events in the future.
- b) DGC Survey – Traffic Passing Through the Village
Discussion on the installation of the Traffic Speed Signs which had previously been discussed. Anna explained the process by which a cable would firstly be installed to record the traffic speeds for a fixed period of time before the installation of the Speed Indicator Devices. This process would then produce an accurate reflection of the speed of the vehicles through the village both prior to the installation and then afterwards. Also discussed was the possibility of sharing the equipment with other settlements – agreed that this would be viable for up to the two other settlements but that issues would occur if it was shared with up to six other locations.
Agreed that Anna would investigate this further and report back to the next meeting.
- c) Garden Lighting, batteries, insurance, sign, benches
Discussion on the above and the costs of the batteries for the Community Garden. Agreed that a further quote would be sourced for the Camping Batteries and that Martin would volunteer to carry out monthly maintenance on the garden and swap the batteries over each month at that point. Anna would also discuss whether or not the CC Insurance would cover the Community Garden.
Matt would also get quotes to renew the sign and report back to the next CC Meeting.
Benches were also discussed and it was agreed that the oak benches would not require to be treated and that it would be better to leave them to weather naturally.
- d) Quantans Hill Exhibition – 5th April 2016
This event had been postponed and the CC were just waiting to be informed when the next one would be held.
- e) Red Cross – Request for Emergency Responders
Agreed that although this was a very worthwhile project that there was no one within Carsphairn that required this level of support in their homes. Anna would reply back to inform the Red Cross that this was currently not required within the local area.
- f) Support for A75 Upgrade Campaign
Item will be discussed further at the next meeting of the CC.
- g) SWTrans – Possible reduction of Local Bus Service
This would not affect Carsphairn and therefore no further agreed actions were agreed.
- h) SPEN – Blackcraig and Magree Pylon Line – Stone Extraction Traffic

Discussions were held in relation to this issue and the increase in the amount of traffic which this was causing within the village and surrounding areas. Noted that this would be raised again at the next meeting with agreed actions decided upon at that time.

- i) Scottish Power Planning Application – Temporary Car Park, Brockloch Forest Road
Reported that this had now been completed and that it was in a different location to where it was supposed to have been installed.
- j) Obstruction of Gate by Scottish Power Bridge – Morrison Construction
This had now been resolved.

10. Longburn Windfarm Public Exhibition 10th May 2016

Sylvia gave an overview of her attendance at this Exhibition and the changes to the original plan for the Windfarm Development. Noted that this would now have 10 Turbines and that all comments in relation to the Planning Proposals were due to be received by 25th August 2016. Further discussions were held in relation to the discrepancies on the maps and how this would have to be clarified by the Developers and also the Planning Officials. Also noted was the scale of the development and the greater potential increase in road traffic use. Another point raised was the potential for use of the newly constructed roads by members of the public (highlighted at this stage that some Windfarm Company Roads were classed as Private Roads and as such residents had been requested to pay large sums of money to allow access for items such as Oil Tanker for the delivery of fuel).

Also highlighted was the opportunity for community ownership of the windfarm and the potential aspects of this type of community project.

Agreed that Anna would contact the Planning Officers and request an extension to the date for the receipt of comments to allow the Community Council to discuss this further at their next meeting, for further investigations to be completed in relation to the discrepancies on the Map, for clarification on the use of the newly completed roads by residents within the area and also for the copy of the Environmental Impact Study which had been received to be forwarded onto all members of the Community Council.

11. Natural Power Meeting 23 June 2016

Simon & Liz had attended this meeting along with representatives from Glenkens and Balmaclellan Community Councils. Further information would follow at the next meeting.

12. Natural Power Community Meeting – Cheaper Energy 30th June 2016

Sylvia had attended the above meeting which included a presentation on Power & Energy Storage. It was agreed that an application would be submitted for a Feasibility Study to investigate the potential for these energy savings products further. A query was raised in relation to whether or not these would be Carbon Cost Effective – it was confirmed that this would be clarified by the Feasibility Study.

13. Resilience Group Report

The Co-Ordinator of the Resilience Team updated everyone present with details of the training which had been delivered in Dalry and also the detailed Community Resilience Training Evening which had been held on the 14th of July in Carsphairn which had been delivered by Steven Wylie. This had been very well received and included topics in relation to the clarification on the Road Closure Procedure and also storage of the Road Closure Barriers.

Trevor also informed those present that he had arranged for Richard Arkless, MP to come to a meeting in Carsphairn on Friday, 29th July, 2016 to discuss the concerns of the community about the threat of further floods.

14. CCT Report

A report was received on the work of the Trust which included details of the appointment of the Trustees as Engineering Registrars with SEPA which would allow the removal of sections of gravel banks to prevent the build up & hopefully future flooding.

Noted that this could only be completed until the 1st of September and that only 30% of the agreed areas of gravel banks could be removed. Further report would follow at the next meeting.

15. Correspondence

The Community Council had been invited to attend a meeting of the Third Sector on the 16th of September from 12 – 2.00pm at the Cairndale Hotel. Agreed that representatives would attend.

16. AOCB

Noted that the Shop & Café had now re-opened and that a fantastic job had been completed on the repair & refurbishment of both. Agreed that the owners would be contacted to highlight the positive aspects of the facility being re-opened.

Date of Next Meeting – 29th August 2016 at 7.00pm.