

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held at 7.00pm on 26th March 2018 in Lagwyne Hall

Present:

Elected Members:

Sylvia Sinclair (Vice Chair)	Andrew Metcalf Simon Holmes	Matt Hickman (Minutes)
Anna Clark Kennedy (Secretary)		

In Attendance:

Trevor Molineux	Darren Challis (Treasurer)	David McMillan
Carol Middlemiss	Steve Cowley	Marijke Blake
Martin Temple	Fiona Clubb	Lindsay Duncan
Jim Chalmers	Cllr D Campbell	PC Ellis
The pupils of Carsphairn Primary School	Andrew Hay (DGC) Mrs Davis (PT Carsphairn School)	Nick Taylor (EON)

1. Welcome and Apologies.

SS Welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies from Liz Holmes.

As the chairman, LH, was absent SS had agreed to chair the meeting.

2. Declarations of Interest.

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of meeting 28th January 2018.

The minutes were approved.

Proposed AM,
Seconded ACK.

4. Dog Fouling Campaign.

The meeting was treated to an excellent presentation by the children of Carsphairn Primary School who explained their on-going campaign against dog fouling in the village and displayed the posters they had made. All received Easter eggs in recognition of their endeavours.

Andrew Hay, community safety and enforcement officer at DGC explained his role in dealing with such issues as antisocial behaviour, dog fouling, fly tipping, littering, abandoned vehicles, discarded needles, domestic noise nuisance and council car park inspections. Anyone experiencing such problems should contact him via the council's main phone number – 030 33 33 3000. More information is available at the [council's website](#).

5. Treasurer's Report.

Attached.

6. Police Report.

Pc Ellis advised that poor quality counterfeit Irish currency is circulating in the area.

No crimes have been reported since the last meeting

7. D&G Councillor's Report.

Councillor Campbell reported that the new budget had been passed and was available to view online [here](#) £12 million will have to be saved this year plus a further £46 million over the next 3 years.

The focus of the remaining budget is on anti-poverty initiatives including free school meals during holidays and funding to mitigate the consequences of the introduction of the Universal Credit system in D&G this year.

There had been a meeting between the roads department, local residents and representatives of the forestry industry resulting in an agreement on the use of the track at Knockower for the extraction of timber beginning this summer. It was stressed that the previous absence of consultation with the community was not acceptable in such cases. Cllr Campbell will be holding surgeries on the 9th April at 2.00pm in New Galloway and 3.30 pm in Dalry.

Questions were raised regarding the arrangement of the VC ceremony. Cllr Campbell will investigate and report back.

8. Benbrack Windfarm Presentation.

Nick Taylor from Eon introduced himself and apologised for not keeping his previous appointment.

He explained that, although the Benbrack development has been granted planning permission, there are no immediate plans to commence construction. The onshore wind industry is in a state of flux following the removal of subsidies and developments must be proved viable. Benbrack is a prime example of a project that will need to be reconsidered in an attempt to optimise the site. There will need to be consideration given to the removal of some turbines and the possibility of a redesign of the layout. The development is not moving forward into construction at the present time and may need to go back to planning. The CC will be kept informed of progress.

NT also briefly discussed plans for the development of the windfarm at the Lorg. East Ayrshire Council will not be objecting. Their comments are considered as access to the site is via the Afton windfarm in their area. DGC will determine the application as all turbines are in D&G. We do not yet have a target date for the decision. With reference to this project Nick stressed that EON are not able to build all the developments in the pipeline, and this too may need reconsideration if planning permission were granted.

SS raised concerns regarding the benefit fund from the Afton windfarm being altered so we do not receive any funding from it. NT explained that the development had been sold to a third party but that the original agreement that Carsphairn will receive a set amount of community benefit funding should have been honoured by the new owners.

Questions were also asked about the benefit fund for Benbrack. NT agreed to provide further details within the next few months.

Finally, NT brought the meeting up to date regarding the proposed asset swap between the two large German corporate entities of Eon and RWE. There is a target date of the end of 2020 for a swap between RWE's asset of the German National Grid distribution network for Eon's renewables divisions assets including windfarms. This may impact on future proposals being taken forward.

ACTION

SS to forward the letter from EON offering a set sum of community benefit from Afton Wind Farm to NT for his comments.

9. Matters Arising From Meeting 26th February 2018

a/ U172

No progress yet.

ACTION

ACK to pursue CCES.

b/ B729

Maintenance works completed. Concerns were raised about recent snowploughing not clearing passing places on this single track road.

ACTION

ACK to report concerns regarding snowploughing via CCES

c/ Timber felling by U143

Dealt with under item 7 above.

d/ Water on A713 by Drumjohn

A reply has been received from the roads department advising that works will commence in the new financial year. As this begins imminently it was agreed to follow up.

ACTION

ACK to make new CCES to establish when works will begin.

e/ Carsphairn School.

The secretary's email had bounced back.

ACTION

ACK to post letter.

10. Windfarms.

a/ Windy Rig

The developer will be attending our April meeting to give an update.

b/ Longburn

The target date has been exceeded. There is no decision yet.

c/ LEDs

Remains ongoing.

d/ Awareness raising

FC explained the new key on the community windfarms map.

e/ North Kyle Windfarm

There has been a planning application made for anemometers at North Kyle in New Cumnock.

It was agreed we will participate in any joint community council meetings regarding this development.

j/ Other Windfarm Matters

Shepherds Rigg – SH will draft comments on the scoping report for consideration by colleagues. The deadline is the 9th April. Note was made of FCs observations regarding the absence of a publicly funded body to represent the impacts on local communities.

Cornharrow – A planning advice notice has been submitted to DGC.

Enoch Hill – The CC has asked to be kept informed of the proceeding public enquiry.

Windy standard 3 – An extension of 24 months has been requested for the anemometers.

11. Bank Closures Consultation.

The Scottish Government is undertaking a consultation into the impacts of bank closures. Banks in Scotland have reduced by a third between 2010 and 2017. The secretary has distributed the consultation form. More information is [available to view online](#)

12. DGC Local Development Plan.

There was a discussion regarding the final draft of the LDP. Attention was drawn to issues such as forestry and windfarm development. MH commented that the "Housing Development in Remote Areas" supplementary guidance remained unchanged but

expressed some reservations that the rationale of a favourable outlook on planning applications in areas suffering historic depopulation which originally underpinned the scheme had been lost. It was also noted that there are presently no sites available for sale under what was the "Carsphairn Smallholdings Policy". Landowners are encouraged to read the current guidance [available to view online](#). DM raised the issue of the removal of a large piece of ground from the list of land suitable for housing development due to flooding. DC advised that the plan favours the use of infill sites between built houses.

ACTION

MH to draft a response for consideration by colleagues before submission. Deadline is the 30th April.

13. CREFL Report.

No report from February meeting as applicants have not been notified of decisions. Deferred to April meeting.

14. Resilience Group Report.

TM reported he had replaced the razor in the defibrillator box. The pads will need replacing next month and the batteries expire in December.

ACTION

TM to contact Anne Rutherford and Ian Howie as necessary to ensure the required replacements are made in time.

15. CCT Report.

The Council Valuers have recently visited the Muirdroch Wood site and a valuation is hoped for soon. FCS have now started felling infected larch and some spruce on the site.

The yoga classes have been suspended while the hall floor is renovated.

16. Planning Applications.

None of relevance.

17. Correspondence.

This had been distributed by the secretary.

The future VC commemorations were discussed. This will continue to be progressed by ACK.

18. AORB

AM reported following a meeting with representatives of the community at Dundeugh regarding their water supply.

The Chair made a moving tribute to Stewart Marshall following his recent passing. Stewart had been a long term community councillor in the 1980's, acted as our returning officer for many years and helped the local community with numerous projects including the TV mast, village shop and community garden. Sincere condolences were offered to his wife, Patricia, and family.

The meeting closed at 8.59 pm.

Date of next meeting – 30th April 2018.

Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for March 2018

Community Council General Transactions and Balance

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£2,785.10
No Transactions				£2,785.10
Community Council Balance				£2,785.10

Ring-fenced Transactions and Balances for Funded Projects:

Community Garden (CREFL)

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£1,459.74
No Transactions				£1,459.74
Balance				£1,459.74

Village Planters (CREFL)

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£200.00
No Transactions				£200.00
Balance				£200.00

Resilience Group (Fund Raising)

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£5.63
No Transactions				£5.63
Balance				£5.63

Resilience Group Equipment (CREFL / Stewartry Area Committee)

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£58.42
Trevor Molineux	Shed Keys	29.98	0.00	£28.44
Balance				£28.44

Resilience Group Defibrillator (CREFL)

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£500.00
No Transactions				£500.00
Balance				£500.00

Ring-fenced Balance	£2,193.81
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Bank Account Balance as at start of day 26th March	£4,978.91
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Carsphairn Community Trust

Report – March 2018

Muirdrochwood Project:

The District Valuers undertook a site visit on 14th March and hope to have a valuation for us by the end of March. This information will be pivotal to how the project moves forwards.

FES have started felling and this will be ongoing for several months.

Recreation Group:

Yoga – Monday sessions are still ongoing but will be cancelled for the first two weeks in April as Lagwyne Hall undergoes floor refurbishment.

Updates continue to be put on the community website and notice boards in the village.