

# CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Report for February / March 2021

### Elected Members:

Liz Holmes (Chair)  
Simon Holmes  
Christine Whipp  
Richard Duggleby

Anna Clark Kennedy  
Andrew Metcalf  
Ben Ade  
Sylvia Sinclair (Vice Chair)

Matt Hickman (Secretary)  
Darren Challis (Treasurer)  
Clare Duggleby

### Associate Members:

Trevor Molineux

Katch Holmes (Provisional)

Melissa Shaw (Provisional)

## 1. Introduction

Although Carsphairn Community Council (CCC) has been unable to meet publicly they have continued to operate using email.

Where applicable, all emails relating to the activities of the council have been copied to those who have subscribed to the CCC email distribution list. If you are not currently subscribed and wish to be included please contact the Correspondence Secretary ([carsphairncc@gmail.com](mailto:carsphairncc@gmail.com)).

This report has been compiled to cover activities for February / March 2021.

If any members of the public have any issues they want to raise to the CCC please email the Secretary at [carsphairncc@gmail.com](mailto:carsphairncc@gmail.com) or telephone the Chair on 01644 460662.

## 2. Meetings

In order to comply with Government Regulations, and following D&G Council advice CCC have not held any public meetings since February 2020. The April AGM, and all ordinary meetings are currently postponed.

CCC considered using electronic meeting tools (zoom/skype etc.) but discounted this option due to the very poor broadband coverage experienced by the majority of the Carsphairn community.

CCC continue to monitor the latest advice / regulations and will hold public meetings as and when it becomes safe to do so.

## 3. Community Council General Business

### a) Broadband

- No further updates

### b) Whitespace

- Following the withdrawal from the agreement, CCC have returned the unused grant funds to CREFL.

### c) War Memorial

- **Centenary Project:**
  - MH progressing on behalf of CCC and working with the Heritage Group.
- **Condition of Site:**
  - Following a CCES enquiry the council tidied up the site during the summer and are planning to plant the rockery late autumn/winter 2020. (CCES enquiry ref: 5012026)

- No further updates.

#### **d) Timber Lorries on Ken Road, Warning Signs**

- No further updates.

#### **e) Glenkens and District Trust**

- GDT distributed an update following their latest meeting including details of the various projects and their status.
- LH and SS attended a zoom 'catch up' 26 February where the CAP was briefly discussed.
- GDT organised a Glenkens Summit meeting on zoom on 2nd March attended by the Chair - various ideas as to how to move forward on the Community Action Plan were discussed.

#### **f) Removal of Redundant Pylons and Access Tracks**

- Old pylon line removal: Works ongoing almost all towers removed.
- Access track removal: Although no start date confirmed as yet, SPEN are planning to start the outstanding reinstatement around the SWS Project in the near future and have request a virtual meeting to provide / update information on this process. CCC representatives will attend.

#### **g) Feasibility of Produce Market**

- LH started to examine the possibility of running a Produce Market.

#### **h) Southern Upland Way**

- Tom Henry, Countryside Ranger – Southern Upland Way, sent through a survey that was completed and returned. It is planned to invite him to a CC meeting when possible.

#### **i) New Recycling Bins**

- D&G Council are rolling out the new Kerbside Recycling Service to the community starting in early April. More information is available at <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/21405/New-Waste-and-Recycling-Service> with details of dates and schedule at <https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15254/New-Service-Roll-Out-Schedule>.
- LH attended a seminar run by D&G Council and requested that a glass recycling unit be returned to the lay-by near the village (as existed in the past). This will alleviate the distance needing to be travelled to recycle glass.

## **4. Treasurer's Report**

- Monthly treasurer's reports were distributed via email

## **5. Windfarms**

### **a) Benbrack**

- **Ownership**
  - Ownership has changed from RWE to Red Rock Power Limited <https://www.redrockpower.co.uk/benbrack>
- **Windfarm**
  - **Status: Consented (including variation)** [ [EC00002082](#) , [ECU00001773](#) ]
  - No further updates.
- **Grid Connection**
  - **Status: In planning** [ [ECU00002079](#) ]

### **b) Cornharrow**

- **Status: Planning - Deemed Refusal (Appeal Submitted)** [ [20/0159/FUL](#) ]
- As all meetings are postponed it has not been possible to invite the developers to a meeting.

- CCC submitted an objection to D&G in May 2020. This included a report compiled by the community council along with the results of a community survey.
- Appeal lodged by Energiekontor to Scottish Government Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA) on 28th August.
- No further updates.

#### c) Enoch Hill

- **Status: In planning with variation** [ [ECU00002102](#) ]
- After being consented there is an application submitted to the ECU to increase the height, diameter and operational period.
- No further updates.

#### d) Enoch Hill 2

- **Status: Pre Planning**
- No further updates.

#### e) Eucharhead

- **Status: Pre planning**
- S36 application submitted to Energy Consents Unit [ [www.scottishpower.com/EucharheadRED](http://www.scottishpower.com/EucharheadRED) [ECU00002141](#) ]
- Community Survey undertaken – For: 1, Against: 15, Undecided: 0
- CCC submitted an objection on 28/01/21 including the Community Survey results.

#### f) EON / RWE Developments Community Benefits

- The EON renewables business was transferred to RWE in October 2019
- SS has followed up, awaiting a response.
- No further updates.

#### g) Glenshimmeroch – Anemometer Mast

- **Status: Conditionally Granted** [ [20/2061/FUL](#) ]
- Application submitted for 3 year extension to existing permission

#### h) Lamford Hill – Anemometer Mast

- **Status: Consented** (19/10/20) [ [20/0158/FUL](#) ]
- No further updates.

#### i) Lorg

- **Status: Consented** [ [15/0935/PP](#) ]
- No further updates.

#### j) Margree

- **Status: Planning Application submitted** [ [20/2085/FUL](#) ]
- Supporting documents added to planning application for 9 turbines.

#### k) Mochram Fell

- **Status: In Planning** [ [20/1683/FUL](#) ]
- CCC submitted an objection to the Mochram Fell windfarm variation (located near Parton).
- No further updates.

#### l) Pencloe

- **Status: Consented, variation submitted, new amendments made (11/20)** [ [ECU00001865](#) ]
  - (CCC objected to original application in 2015, development was subsequently approved.)
- 9cc group was set up to work with Invenergy on Community benefit but is only made up solely of Ayrshire community councils.
- A meeting was arranged to discuss community benefits to which CCC were not invited. CCC corresponded with Stuart Winter (SW) at Invenergy indicating our concerns as the windfarm abuts our community

council boundary. SW advised that CCC should ask 9cc for invitation to meeting and 9ccg advised we needed invite from Invenergy. CCC replied to SW's question and provided examples of Wind Farms on the county border that provide cross border community benefits (29/10). No response received to date.

- LH and SS had a zoom meet with SW on 6 November when it was made clear to Invenergy that Carsphairn should be part beneficiaries of the Pencloe community benefit fund. We await an update from SW.
- No further updates.

#### m) Quantan's Hill

- **Status: In Scoping** [ [ECU00002097](#) ]
- Vattenfall ran an online survey – now ended.
- Website with more information and a contact form: [www.vattenfall.co.uk/quantanshillwindfarm](http://www.vattenfall.co.uk/quantanshillwindfarm)
- Vattenfall set up a virtual exhibition and survey at <https://3dwtech.co.uk/dashboard/vattenfall/quantanshill/exhibition>.
- Vattenfall undertook a webinar on 15<sup>th</sup> February. This is available to view on the Vattenfall website (link above)
- A number of Community Councillors had a meeting with Vattenfall representatives to get an update on the Quantan's Hill windfarm.
  - An update was sent via the email distribution list.
  - Councillors made the developers aware of the issues that residents have previously raised as concerns including: far too many wind farms already in Carsphairn, the impacts of traffic during development, lack of job creation, along with quality of visualisations and questions regarding the grid connection.
  - The developers advised that they have a grid connection approved for 2027 at the Holm Hill substation.
  - The developers advised they are currently in the 'design freeze' stage and were hoping to provide more information to the public later in the year with a view to submitting a planning application in late 2021/early 2022.

#### n) Sanquhar II

- **Status: Transferred to DPEA** [ [19/0490/S36](#) , [ECU00001801](#) , [WIN-170-2006](#) ]
- CCC submitted an objection to this application (05/12/20) including the results of the community survey.
- DPEA undertaking a public enquiry.
- No further updates.

#### o) Shepherds Rig

- **Status: In planning – Public Inquiry** [ [18/1939/S36](#) , [ECU00000735](#) ]
  - With ECU - D&G Council have raised objections to the proposal.
  - CCC submitted an objection in March 2020.
  - Public Inquiry to take place.
- Meteorological Mast – Application to extend siting for an addition year -
  - **Status: Consented** (31/01/21) [ [20/1685/S42](#) , [20/1687/S42](#) ]
- No further updates.

#### p) South Kyle

- **Status: Consented** [ [13/C/2/0014](#) , [EC00003109](#) ]
- Vattenfall issued a newsletter with updates on the project.
- Foundation Scotland will arrange a meet focussing on Carsphairn's compiled list of suggestions relating to suitable projects that could be considered.
- CCC Chair and Vice Chair had a meeting with Vattenfall representatives where forest design plans were discussed.
- Following a report about traffic related to South Kyle Wind Farm contributing to mud on the road through the village, Vattenfall have raised the issue with the site team and a road clean-up is being arranged.
- Vattenfall are seeking a further meeting with CCC Chair.

#### q) Troston Loch

- **Status: Consented** [ [19/0344/S36](#) , [ECU00001785](#) ]
- Energy Consents Unit consented the application.
- Community Council had submitted an objection (14/10/20).
- No further updates.

#### r) Windy Rig

- **Status: Consented, in construction**
- **Community Benefits:**
  - No further progress reported (CLG meetings have not been able to be held)
- **Construction:**
  - Construction ongoing.
    - The primary construction phase undertaken by RJ McCleod is complete.
    - The delivery and assembly of turbine components is now underway with Collett and Vestas
  - Statkraft have a website to keep the public informed [Windy Rig Webpage](#)
  - If you wish to be kept up to date about traffic and site activities there is a text service being operated. Contact: [doug.wilson@statkraft.com](mailto:doug.wilson@statkraft.com) / 07542754642
  - Localised widening was undertaken on the B729 / C35s which is temporary in nature and will be restored after construction completes
  - Construction of Laydown Area has been completed.
- Complaints continue to be received from the public in regard to the condition of the B729 and C35s. a CCES case was raised by CCC (ref: 5108742 / 5118252). As no immediate satisfactory outcome was been secured, Councillor Pauline Drydesdale has helped arrange a ward event to engage with the Windy Rig Team, Council Officers, the management of Smithy House Associates, Councillors, the Community Council, ward officers & constituents to discuss the infrastructure, the management of the roads network (in and around the wind farms and across the immediate area) & the communications regarding these works. It is hoped this will improve the management and communications surrounding the aforementioned work with a focus on winter management as an additional factor. Also to facilitate better relationships between the contractors, the management of Windy Rig & our Council & to understand where each tier of responsibility lies.
- Two cranes that were travelling to site were involved in incidents leaving them overturned at the roadside. One between Moniaive and the site on the B729 and one on the C35. This stopped turbine component deliveries to site. Both cranes were recovered, which required road closures which again were at short notice. The B729 remains closed following damage done to the carriageway during recovery works. A significant diversion is in place until repairs can be effected.
- The planning application submitted to widen the C35s for Windy Rig wind farm access [ [20/0145/FUL](#) ] was withdrawn.
- Residents continue to be inconvenienced by the short notice provided to traffic movements, with often only a couple of hours notice which may result in significant delays to any other traffic wanting to travel along the distribution routes.
- Members of the public impacted by windfarm traffic should report incidents via email/phone to [doug.wilson@statkraft.com](mailto:doug.wilson@statkraft.com) / 07542754642, and if appropriate also report to the police.

#### s) Windy Standard (Brockloch Rig )

- **Status:**
  - **Windy Standard III Consented** [ [ECU00000335](#) ]
  - **Windy Standard I and II - Operational**
- Windy Standard III, a development of 20 turbines extending the existing Windy Standard I and II windarms was consented on 23/03/2021.
- Prior to the above consent, the CCC Chair and Vice Chair had a meeting with Miles McConville, the new Fred Olsen Renewables project manager, who has responsibility for all the Windy Standard developments.

## 6. Forestry Developments

- Katch Holmes (KH) is investigating the costs and benefits related to commissioning a report on the potential impacts of forestry on the area and community.

- For those interested there is a 'Communities for Diverse Forestry' facebook page available - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/581843619140972>
- KH has been speaking to Dalry CC who are looking at putting together an official Community Council forestry policy.

#### a) Blackmark

- Status: In design phase – no application submitted to Scottish Forestry
- A new 120ha woodland creation scheme is being planned by Tilhill.
- CCC submitted a response with initial comments and questions (18/12/20) and Tilhill responded along with a new plan. Original and updated plans are available at [www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning](http://www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning).
- No further updates.

#### b) Carminnows

- **Status: In design phase – no application submitted to Scottish Forestry**
- CCC submitted an initial response to the consultants indicating concerns about the diversity of planting and potential impacts to biodiversity and habitats. When the application is submitted to Scottish Forestry CCC will undertake a community survey and submit a formal response.
- CCC followed up by email asking for update in September and received a response indicating a revised draft design (available to view at [www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning](http://www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning)).
- No further updates.

#### c) Daltallochan Hill

- **Status: Application submitted to Scottish Forestry**
- An application has been submitted to Scottish Forestry and is currently undergoing initial assessment. It is not yet available on their website.
- The design documents are available at [www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning](http://www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning)
- CCC are working with the developer and community representatives to examine the possibility of a path from the village to Green Well / Cairsnmore, crossing this development. .

#### d) Furmiston

- **Status: Application Submitted to Scottish Forestry [ 20FGS55105 ]**
- An application was submitted to Scottish Forestry and consultation period has ended
  - As SF do not include documents these are available from the community website ([www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning](http://www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning))
  - CCC submitted a response along with community survey results (10/03/21).

#### e) Marbrack –

- **Status: Approved by Scottish Forestry (23/10/20)**
  - CCC conducted a community survey – For: 2, Against: 7, Undecided: 2
  - Final submission made by CCC with objection to Forestry Scotland (14/08/20).
  - No further updates.

## 7. Community and Covid-19 Resilience and Support, Traffic Calming Signs.

Carsphairn Community Council are available for help and advice. Please contact us as below:

- Correspondence Secretary: [carsphairncc@gmail.com](mailto:carsphairncc@gmail.com)
- Chair: Liz Holmes on 01644 460662 / [lizholmes21@gmail.com](mailto:lizholmes21@gmail.com)
- Secretary: Matt Hickman on 07531 035824 / [hickmantrail@gmail.com](mailto:hickmantrail@gmail.com)

#### a) D&G Council Hardship Grant

- D&G Council have provided a new hardship grant of £916.90. CCC have spent £240 of this on 100 sandbags to ensure adequate supplies if needed. The cost has been reduced by 50% through DGC's flooding subsidy. CCC are examining possible ways to spend the balance.

#### b) Speed signs

- Any speed signs would need to be community funded as D&G Council indicate that need does not exist using the statutory criteria.
- No further updates

#### **c) Community Resilience Plan**

- CCC reviewed and returned the updated Community Resilience Plan to D&G Council.

#### **d) Defibrillators**

- CCC have been working with Sue Vest at NHS in regards to registering village defibrillators.
- No further updates.

#### **e) Flooding**

- Members of D&G Council, CCC and resilience team assisted with a flooding incident in the village on 19/02/2021.

#### **f) Third Sector Resilience Website**

- CCC support for the community has been added to the Third Sector Resilience website: <http://www.dgresilience.org.uk>

### **8. Planning**

- CCC contacted the planning department in regards to start of works on an withdrawn application (Erection of Hut). No response received to date.
- Scottish Power S37 Kendoon to Tongland 132kV Reinforcement (KTR) Project application submitted [ [ECUO 0002124](#) ]

### **9. Correspondence**

- The Correspondence Secretary provides copies of all relevant correspondence written or received to our email distribution list and issues a monthly Correspondence Report via email to that list.

### **10. Primary School**

- In response to the most recent CCC correspondence John Thin advised that due to Covid-19 pressures the Council do not have the capacity to carry out the school closure consultation. The mothballing will continue, with the intention to commence the consultation process at the start of the next school session depending on the situation, and if the Council are in a position to proceed.
- No further updates.

### **11. Polmaddy Settlement**

- CCC requested a copy of the maintenance plan. To date this has not been received.
- No further updates.

### **12. Roads**

#### **a) Potholes on U172**

- CCES raised for multiple potholes along the U172. Ref: 5023503/5069891. An inadequate repair on the potholes has been undertaken. CCC requested that the repair work be completed properly before the onset of winter. D&G Council have advised they include this in their current programme for pothole patching (27/11).
- CCC reiterated to D&G Council that the condition of the road was still appalling D&G Council.

- Case ref [5133830](#) was opened and inspected. A repair was identified and has been added to the schedule of works planned from the start of the financial year (the original case ref is marked as closed).

#### **b) Potholes on the B729**

- CCC contacted D&G Council following complaints of potholes ( 18/03/21)
- Case ref [5133822](#) was opened (25/03/21), marked as duplicates and marked to be inspected by 26/04/21.

#### **c) Potholes on A713**

- CCC once again contacted D&G Council following complaints of potholes ( 18/03/21)
- Case ref [5133819](#) was opened and inspected. A repair was identified and has been added to the schedule of works planned from the start of the financial year (the original case ref is marked as closed).

#### **d) Dangerous Tree**

- A CCES enquiry was raised (Ref: 5131138) following reports of a dangerous tree at South Liggate (22/03/21).

#### **e) B729 Closure**

- Following the damage to the B729 caused by recovery of the crane bound for Windy Rig wind farm the B729 has been closed.
- D&G have a preferred solution to undertake repairs and this is out for tender. There is a planned start date of 12<sup>th</sup> April for the works. The contract period is 3 weeks but is dependent upon the specialist materials.

### **13. Community Garden**

- No further updates.

### **14. LED Scheme 2020**

- The final payments were made and collected which now closes the scheme for 2020.

### **15. Community Website**

- The website is regularly updated with news and events relating to Carsphairn and our community.
- The domain hosting contract has been renewed for a further 3 years.

### **16. National Planning Framework 4**

- The government are progressing this, further information available at : <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-fourth-national-planning-framework-position-statement/>.
- Community Discussion Workshops took place in early February.

### **17. Notice of Elections**

- An Election is to be held for the Member of the Scottish Parliament to serve the Galloway and West Dumfries County Constituency and for 7 Members of Parliament to serve in the Scottish Parliament for the South Scotland Region. If the Election is contested, a Poll will take place on Thursday, 6 May 2021 between the hours of 7am and 10pm.
- The Schedule of Polling Places will be issued as soon as practicable after the 31 March 2021 along with the Notice of Poll. .
- Should you have any queries please contact [electionsoffice@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:electionsoffice@dumgal.gov.uk)



# Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for March 2021

## Community Council General Transactions and Balance

No Transactions

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<b>Community Council Balance</b>	<b>£2,869.00</b>
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## 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>				<b>£1,682.07</b>
Martin Temple	Maintenance	264.00	0.00	£1,418.07
<b>Balance</b>				<b>£1,418.07</b>

### **Resilience Group**

No Transactions

<b>Balance</b>	<b>£34.07</b>
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### **Resilience Group Defibrillator (CREFL)**

No Transactions

<b>Balance</b>	<b>£78.81</b>
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### **Broadband Upgrade (CREFL)**

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				<b>£3,600.00</b>
CREFL	Repayment of Grant	3600.00	0.00	£0.00
<b>Balance</b>				<b>£0.00</b>

### **Temporis Capital – Foundation Scotland - Blackcraig Community Benefit (2020-21)**

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				<b>£1,634.79</b>
Darren Challis	Website Domain Renewal	362.45	0.00	£1,272.34
<b>Balance</b>				<b>£1,272.34</b>

### **D&G Council – COVID-19 Hardship Fund**

No Transactions

<b>Balance</b>	<b>£916.90</b>
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<b>Ring-fenced Balance</b>	<b>£3,720.19</b>
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<b>Bank Account Balance as at end of day 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021</b>	<b>£6,589.19</b>
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