

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Report for April / May 2021

Elected Members:

Liz Holmes (Chair) (LH)
Simon Holmes (SH)
Christine Whipp (CW)
Richard Duggleby (RD)

Anna Clark Kennedy (ACK)
Andrew Metcalf (AM)
Ben Ade (BA)
Sylvia Sinclair (Vice Chair) (SS)

Matt Hickman (Secretary) (MH)
Darren Challis (Treasurer) (DC)
Clare Duggleby (CD)

Associate Members:

Trevor Molineux (TM)

Katch Holmes (Provisional) (KH)

Melissa Shaw (Provisional) (MS)

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).

This report has been compiled to cover activities for April / May 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 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 AGMs, 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) 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.

c) Glenkens and District Trust (updated)

- GDT distributed an update following their latest meeting including details of the various projects and their

status.

d) Removal of Redundant Pylons and Access Tracks (updated)

- 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 requested a virtual meeting to provide / update information on this process. Online meeting to be held on 7th June where there will be CCC representation.

e) Feasibility of Produce Market (updated)

- LH started to examine the possibility of running a Produce Market and has consulted with local food networks.
- With the growing emphasis on local food production a survey was made available to current and aspiring local food producers to gauge interest in this type of activity in the local area.
- It is planned to organise a Carsphairn community market either at the end of June or in July.

f) New Recycling Bins (updated)

- D&G Council have rolled out the new Kerbside Recycling Service to the community. 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>.
- We still have not heard from D&G Council in regards to our request for a glass recycling unit to be sited in the lay-by near the village (as existed in the past). This is needed to reduce the number of journeys to the nearest glass recycling locations that are many miles away.

g) Community Garden Notice Board (new)

- CCC are examining the possibility of installing a notice board in the Community Garden as their current notice board is no longer fit for purpose and is not large enough for all statutory notices to be displayed.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Monthly treasurer's reports were distributed via email

5. Windfarms

a) Benbrack (updated)

- **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: Screening Opinion determined (23/03/21)** [[ECU00002079](#)]

b) Cornharrow

- **Status: Planning - Deemed Refusal (Appeal Submitted)** [[20/0159/FUL](#) , [PPA-170-2145](#)]
- 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) Euchanhead

- **Status: Pre planning**
- S36 application submitted to Energy Consents Unit [www.scottishpower.com/EuchanheadRED [ECU00002141](#)]
- Community Survey undertaken – For: 1, Against: 15, Undecided: 0
- CCC submitted an objection on 28/01/21 including the Community Survey results.
- No further updates.

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 granted for 3 year extension to existing permission
- No further updates.

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/SCO](#) , [20/2085/FUL](#)]
- Supporting documents added to planning application for 9 turbines.
- No further updates.

k) Mochrum Fell

- **Status: In Planning** [[20/1683/FUL](#)]
- CCC submitted an objection to the Mochrum 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 (pre-application)** [[ECU00002097](#)]
- Vattenfall ran an online survey – now ended.
- Website with more information and a contact form: 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 15th 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.
- No further updates.

n) Sanquhar II (updated)

- **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 are undertaking a public enquiry.
- CCC joined other local CCs in submitting objections to help support the 'Stop Sanquhar 2 Action Group' who have engaged a QC to assist with their engagement with the public enquiry.

o) Shepherds Rig (updated)

- **Status: In planning – Public Inquiry** [[18/1939/S36](#) , [ECU00000735](#) , [WIN-170-2005](#)]
 - With ECU - D&G Council have raised objections to the proposal.
 - CCC submitted an objection in March 2020.
 - DPEA are undertaking a public enquiry.
- Meteorological Masts – Applications consented to extend siting for an addition year -
 - **Status: Consented** (31/01/21) [[20/1685/S42](#) , [20/1687/S42](#)]
- Additional environmental information was provided and is included on the DPEA website ([WIN-170-2005](#))
 - CCC sent in additional comments with particular regard to the assertions regarding the impact of traffic movements (25/5/20).

p) South Kyle (updated)

- **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.
- SS and LH attended an online meeting with Vattenfall (14/04/21) to discuss the project. Minutes were distributed 26/05/21.

- Vattenfall are running a series of online discussions exploring priorities for the South Kyle Wind Farm Community Investment Fund during May / June.

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 (updated)

- **Status: Consented, in construction** [[15/P/2/0155](#)]
- **Community Benefits:**
 - No further progress reported (CLG meetings have not been held)
- **Construction:**
 - Construction ongoing.
 - The delivery and assembly of turbine components is 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 / 07542754642
- A ward meeting took place including representatives from D&G Council, Statkraft, Smithy Associates along with Councillor Pauline Drysdale and community participants to discuss the traffic issues around Windy Rig construction. Minutes were distributed.
- Roadworks to repair the crane damage to the B729 were completed and the road is now fully re-opened.
- Members of the public impacted by windfarm traffic should report incidents via email/phone to doug.wilson@statkraft.com / 07542754642, and if appropriate also report to the police. Incidents where the public feel that the Traffic Management Plan is not being adhered to should be reported to D&G Council, local Councillor or the Community Council. Any damage to the road should be reported using on the D&G Council website using the link <https://info.dumgal.gov.uk/faultreporting>.

s) Windy Standard (Brockloch Rig) (updated)

- **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.
- LH and SS attended meeting with Miles McConville and Kirsty Leiper of Fred Olsen Renewables on 13th May via Zoon. Minutes have been distributed but items of note:
 - FOR are working on a repowering proposal for Windy Standard 1 and there would be a online virtual exhibition in June. This will be a completely new proposal with fewer but taller turbines than those currently in operation.
 - FOR to set up a CLG to cover all the Windy Standard windfarms and would include Community Council representatives from Carsphairn, Dalmellington and New Cumnock.
 - Discussions took place regarding priorities for use of Community Benefits.

6. Forestry Developments (updated)

- 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.
 - No further update.
- For those interested there is a 'Communities for Diverse Forestry' facebook page available - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/581843619140972>
- KH is in contact with Dalry CC who are looking at putting together an official Community Council forestry policy.
- CCC have signed up to the new Scottish Forestry system 'Objective Connect' to enable better access to documents related to forest plans/felling permissions/consultations.

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.
- No further updates.

b) Carminnows (updated)

- **Status: Application submitted to Scottish Forestry [[20FGS54083](#)]**
- 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).
- Application has been submitted to Scottish Forestry

c) Daltallochan Hill (updated)

- **Status: Application Submitted to Scottish Forestry [[20FGS54063](#)]**
- - 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)
 - CCC submitted a response to SF (14/04/21).
- KH/CCC have continued to work with the developers to try and ensure the design is as beneficial as possible with further correspondence about plans having occurred during April/May.
- CCC are working with the developer and community representatives to examine the possibility of a path from the village to Green Well / Cairnsmore, crossing this development. A meeting was arranged by Ken Cairn EAG on 13th May and was attended by LH/BA/ACK. The Ken Cairn EAG are continuing to research this project with the full support of CCC.

d) Furmiston (updated)

- **Status: Application with Scottish Forestry Approve [[20FGS55105](#)]**
- The application to Scottish Forestry has been approved
 - As SF do not include documents these are available from the community website (www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning)
 - CCC had 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 (updated)

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

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

a) D&G Council Hardship Grant (updated)

- D&G Council have provided a new hardship grant of £916.90. CCC have purchased 100 sandbags to ensure adequate supplies if needed. The expected cost of £240 has been reduced by 50% through DGC's flooding subsidy. CCC are examining possible ways to spend the balance.
- CCC submitted the monitoring form to the council (31/03/21)

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.
- No further updates.

d) Defibrillators (updated)

- CCC have been working with Sue Vest at NHS in regards to registering village defibrillators.
- TM replaced the battery and pads for the defibrillator in Lagwyne Hall.

e) First Aid Course (new)

- CCC are organising free first aid courses for Carsphairn residents in the hall when safe to do so.

8. Planning (updated)

- 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](#)]
- Application submitted for replacement of existing roof slates with tiles [[21/0620/FUL](#)]
- Application submitted for erection of dwelling house [[21/0898/FUL](#)]

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 (updated)

- The D&G Education Committee considered a proposal, at their May meeting, to start the closure consultation process for Carsphairn School. CCC were not notified by the D&G Council Education Dept.
 - CCC submitted a response to the report and aimed to clarify the issues and correct errors it was felt were included in the report. This was distributed to all the Education Committee Councillors ahead of the meeting.
 - The meeting concluded to delay the process for one month owing to CCC's response to the report which was compiled by John Thin, schools' manager.
- CCC have been informed by one of our ward councillors that a meeting will be called by our ward officer to discuss the situation before the proposal to start the consultation for school closure is re-presented at the Education committee's June meeting. We await notification of this meeting.
- If the consultation process for closure goes ahead, this will include public meetings later in the year with opportunities for Carsphairn residents to have their say.

11. Polmaddy Settlement

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

12. Roads (updated)

a) Potholes on U172 (updated)

- 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).
- Further email has been sent to the council in regards to road condition as no works seem to have been undertaken to date. (25/5/20) [CCES ref 5169623]

b) Potholes on the B729 (updated)

- 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.
- No further updates – there are still unrepaired potholes.

c) Potholes on A713 (updated)

- 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).
- Further email has been sent to the council in regards to pot holes in the village that are causing disturbance and potential damage to properties. (25/5/20) [CCES ref 5169623]

d) Dangerous Tree (updated)

- A CCES enquiry was raised (Ref: 5131138) following reports of a dangerous tree at South Liggate (22/03/21).
- Tree was removed by D&G Council on 28th April.

e) B729 Closure (updated)

- Following the damage to the B729 caused by recovery of the crane bound for Windy Rig wind farm the B729 had been closed.
- D&G completed repairs and road is now fully open.

13. Community Garden

- No further updates.

14. Community Website

- The website is regularly updated with news and events relating to Carsphairn and our community.

15. 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.
- No further updates.

Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for April 2021

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>				£2,869.00
ICO	Data Protection Act – Renewal	35.00	0.00	£2,834.00
Community Council Balance				£2,834.00

Ring-fenced Transactions and Balances for Funded Projects:

Community Garden (CREFL)

No Transactions

Balance £1,418.07

Resilience Group

No Transactions

Balance £34.07

Resilience Group Defibrillator (CREFL)

No Transactions

Balance £78.81

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

No Transactions

Balance £1,272.34

D&G Council – COVID-19 Hardship Fund

No Transactions

Balance £916.90

Ring-fenced Balance £3,720.19

Bank Account Balance as at end of day 30th April 2021 £6,554.19

Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for May 2021

Community Council General Transactions and Balance

No Transactions

Community Council Balance	£2,834.00
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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>				£1,418.07
Martin Temple	Garden Maintenance	281.00	0.00	£1,137.07
Balance				£1,137.07

Resilience Group

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Balance				£34.07

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>				£78.81
Trevor Molineux	Defibrillator Pads / Battery	78.81	0.00	£0.00
Balance				£0.00

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>				£1,272.34
Trevor Molineux	Defibrillator Pads / Battery	117.99	0.00	£1,154.35
Balance				£1,154.35

D&G Council – COVID-19 Hardship Fund

No Transactions

Balance	£916.90
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Ring-fenced Balance	£3,242.39
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Bank Account Balance as at end of day 31st May 2021	£6,076.39
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