

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Report for June / July 2021

Elected Members:

Liz Holmes (Chair) (LH)	Anna Clark Kennedy (ACK)	Matt Hickman (Secretary) (MH)
Simon Holmes (SH)	Andrew Metcalf (AM)	Darren Challis (Treasurer) (DC)
Christine Whipp (CW)	Ben Ade (BA)	Clare Duggleby (CD)
Richard Duggleby (RD)	Sylvia Sinclair (Vice Chair) (SS)	

Associate Members:

Katch Holmes (Provisional) (KH)	Melissa Ade(Provisional) (MA)
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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 June and July 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) Resignation (new)

- Trevor Molineux resigned as an associate member of the Community Council and Chair of the Resilience Group.
- Carsphairn Community Council thanks Trevor for all his hard work in supporting the community and Community Council over the years.

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 updates about the CAP and the Community Council grants.

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

- Old pylon line removal: Complete, 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 was due to be held on 7th June but has been postponed.
- SPEN advised that the meeting will still happen (19/07/21)

e) Feasibility of Produce Market (updated)

- LH has been working on the possibility of running a Produce Market and has consulted with local food networks.
- It was decided that due to the weather and other limiting factors it was not possible to run a produce market in June/July.
- CCC plan to organise an event to take place during the Glenkens Food Month.
- A more regular produce market will remain an aspiration and be progressed in the future.

f) New Recycling Bins

- CCC have yet to hear from D&G Council in regards to our request for a glass recycling unit to be sited in the lay-by near the village. Without this provision residents have to travel considerable distances to be able to recycle their glass.
- No further updates.

g) Community Garden Notice Board

- 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.
- No further updates

h) Village Planters (new)

- Troughs at the north end of the village had been removed by the Council a few months ago but have not been re-instated
- LH contacted Cllr Pauline Drysdale has followed up with D&G Council and advised that the Assets team were looking into it and would action ASAP (25/06/21).

i) Bairn Banter – Family Stay & Play Sessions (new)

Bairn Banter is a huge success for parents and families in and around Carsphairn and the rest of the Glenkens area, with many families keen to support it as a social lifeline for the smaller age group of children and their families.

Key points to mention:

- Weekly session running Saturday mornings 10am-11.45am in the Lagwyne Hall.
- Booking system seems to be very useful to keep track of numbers (also regarding Covid) and session planning.
- Positive feedback- Parents/carers and children are enjoying the activities and interaction with each other.

- The group has managed to secure £500 funding through the “The Get Into Summer Fund” which has helped cover start-up expenses, insurance, memberships, etc and future running costs.
- Bairn Banter is now a member of Early Years Scotland.
- The group also has independent insurance coverage.
- Equipment- Bairn Banter has kindly been gifted the use of some amazing soft play equipment by members of Balmaclellan community that can be kept within the group until they wish to have it returned. “We are just happy to see it put to good use!” Liz has also donated some great resources that she collected from the Kirk charity shop in Dalmellington.
- First Aid training in progress.
- Melissa is also looking into future funding applications to support long-term running costs, equipment, etc.

Melissa Ade would like to thank everyone for their ongoing support with the Bairn Banter project.

j) SEPA Flood Risk Management Consultation (new)

- SEPA are consulting about Scotland’s draft flood risk management plans. In phase two, that opened on 30th July 2021, draft information on the flood risk management plans and local flood risk management plans have been made available with consultation questions.
- As Carsphairn is considered a Potentially Vulnerable Area the village is included in the Solway Local Plan District document. More details available from SEPA.
 - <https://consultation.sepa.org.uk/evidence-and-flooding/frmplans/>
 - <https://consultation.sepa.org.uk/evidence-and-flooding/flood-risk-management-plan-solway>

4. Treasurer’s Report (updated)

- Monthly treasurer’s reports were distributed via email
- Accounts for year ending March 2021 were examined and signed off by Wheeler Groves accountants.

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: Screening Opinion determined (23/03/21)** [[ECU00002079](#)]
- No further updates

b) Cornharrow (updated)

- **Status: Planning - Consented (appeal allowed)** [[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 2020.
- DPEA allowed the appeal on 1st June 2021, subject to 36 conditions.

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: Application with ECU**
- S36 application submitted to Energy Consents Unit [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.
- 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 (updated)

- **Anemometer Mast**
 - **Status: Conditionally Granted** [[20/2061/FUL](#)]
 - Application granted for 3 year extension to existing permission
- **Wind Farm**
 - **Status: Planning Permission Appeal with DPEA** [[PPA-170-2149](#) , [20/0446/S42 \(20/0861/FUL\)](#)]
 - Original planning application was disputed / withdrawn with D&G Council
 - EIA Report submitted to DPEA on which consultation was sought.
 - CCC undertook a community survey and submitted this along with their objection to DPEA (29/06/21).
 - The reporter is to carry out a site inspection.

h) Lamford Hill – Anemometer Mast

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

i) Lorg (updated)

- **Status: New pre-application scoping submitted to ECU** [[ECU00003283](#)]
 - Windfarm was previously consented with fewer, smaller turbines [[15/0935/PP](#)]
- Community Survey undertaken, results to be submitted with the response that will be put together for the full planning application at later date.
- CCC asked for an extension to the scoping consultation and this was allowed until 26th September 2021.

j) Margree

- **Status: Planning Application submitted** [[20/0176/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 (updated)

- **Status: In Scoping (pre-application)** [[ECU00002097](#)]
- Vattenfall have published refined plans and updated their website and virtual exhibition (21 turbines refused to 14, and max. tip height set at 200m rather than 250m)
 - www.vattenfall.co.uk/quantanshillwindfarm
 - <https://3dwtech.co.uk/dashboard/vattenfall/quantanshill/exhibition>.
- Stantec are working with Vattenfall to prepare a Community Development Strategy and held a meeting with CCC representatives on Tuesday 22nd June via Zoom. Notes from the meeting were provided by Stantec and distributed via email.

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.
- CCC reviewed and agreed with the precognition drafted by Stop Sanquhar 2 Action Group.

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 (25/5/21).
 - A hearing is to be held in August, BA to attend on behalf o CCC.
- CCC have raised concerns and are reviewing forestry related activities included in this development to see if any response is required.

p) South Kyle (updated)

- **Status: Consented** [[13/C/2/0014](#) , [EC00003109](#)]
 - Vattenfall ran 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:
 - Statkraft have a website to keep the public informed [Windy Rig Webpage](#)
 - Construction of turbines has been completed.
 - All abnormal deliveries are complete and the main crane left site on 30th July.

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.
- FOR set up a Windy Standard 1 – Repowering Proposal exhibition including live and interactive chat events on 21st/23rd June and an online exhibition at www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk

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.
 - No further update.
- For those interested there is a ‘Communities for Diverse Forestry’ facebook page available - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/581843619140972>

a) Blackmark forest creation (updated)

- **Status: Application submitted to Scottish Forestry - in consultation** [[21FGS56423](#)]
- A new 120ha woodland creation scheme is being planned by Tilhill.
- The application documents with finalised plans are available at www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning.

- CCC are running a community survey and will submit a response to Scottish Forestry before the 11th August deadline.

b) Carminnows forest creation (updated)

- **Status: Application submitted to Scottish Forestry - under consideration [[20FGS54083](#)]**
- Application was submitted to Scottish Forestry and CCC undertook a community survey and submitted a formal response to SF and the developer on 22/06/21.

c) Daltallochan Hill forest creation (updated)

- **Status: Application Approved by Scottish Forestry [[20FGS54063](#)]**
 - 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).
- The Ken Cairn EAG are continuing to work with developers and research possible paths, a project that is fully supported by CCC.
- Planning application for formation of 5926 metres of forest road was deemed 'prior approval not required' (16/06/21) [[21/1110/DPA](#)]

d) Furmiston forest creation (updated)

- **Status: Application with Scottish Forestry Approved [[20FGS55105](#)]**
- Documents are available from the community website (www.carsphairn.org/CCPlanning)
- CCC had submitted a response along with community survey results (10/03/21).
- Developers undertook some marking out and vegetation assessment on site during July. They hope fencing will start later in the summer with ground preparation later in the autumn, but no firm dates as yet as they are still in discussion with contractors.

e) Marbrack forest creation

- **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.

f) Carminnows - Felling plan (new)

- Felling plans were submitted to Scottish Forestry for approval (24.09 Ha) [[FPA-8229](#)]
 - Consultation end date 3rd August.

g) Muirdrochwood - Felling plan (new)

- Felling plans were submitted to Scottish Forestry for approval (7.4 Ha) [[FPA-8157](#)]
 - Consultation end date 3rd August.

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

- 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)
- No further updates.

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) First Aid Course

- CCC are organising free first aid courses for Carsphairn residents in the hall when safe to do so.
- No further updates

8. Planning (updated)

- CCC contacted the planning department in regards to start of works on a withdrawn application (Erection of Hut). No response received to date.
- Scottish Power S37 Kendoon to Tongland 132kV Reinforcement (KTR) Project application being considered [[ECU00002124](#)]
- Application granted conditionally 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

- 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

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).
- Road repairs have been completed to a very high standard.

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

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).
- Further emails sent to the council in regards to pot holes on main road north of the village and in the village (25/5/21 7 15/06/21) [CCES ref 5169623 & 5184365]. D&G Council advised that these had been added to their programme for repair.
- No further updates.

13. Community Garden (updated)

- Garden insurance has been renewed with Keegan Pennykid.

14. Community Website

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

15. Local Energy Discount Scheme 2021 (new)

- The Community Council have applied to CREFL for funding to run the Local Energy Discount Scheme once again in 2021. The application is to provide a one off payment of £300 per property with full time residents. Properties used as second homes, rented out for holiday accommodation or not in full time occupation will not be able to receive any payment.
- Subject to funding approval this scheme will once again be run entirely by volunteers who hope to make payments to those eligible at the end of the year

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.
- No further updates.

Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for June 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)

No Transactions

Balance	£1,137.07
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Resilience Group

No Transactions

Balance	£34.07
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Temporis Capital – Foundation Scotland - Blackcraig Community Benefit (2020-21)

No Transactions

Balance	£1,154.35
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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 30th June 2021	£6,076.39
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Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for July 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>				£2,834.00
Lady Haig's Poppy Factory	Poppy Wreath	36.20	0.00	£2,797.80
Wheeler Groves	Examination of Accounts Fee	95.00	0.00	£2,702.80
Community Council Balance				£2,702.80

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>				£1,137.07
Martin Temple	Maintenance	339.50	0.00	£797.57
Balance				£797.57

Resilience Group

No Transactions

Balance **£34.07**

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>				£1,154.35
Keegan & Pennykid	Garden Insurance	296.30	0.00	£858.05
Balance				£858.05

D&G Council – COVID-19 Hardship Fund

No Transactions

Balance **£916.90**

Ring-fenced Balance **£2,606.59**

Bank Account Balance as at start of day 31st July 2021 **£5,309.39**
