

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held at 7.00pm on 29th August 2022 in Lagwyne Hall

Present:

Elected Members:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Liz Holmes (Chair) | Andrew Metcalf | Matt Hickman (Minutes) |
| Simon Holmes | Sylvia Sinclair (Vice Chair) | Anna Clark Kennedy (Secretary) |
| Darren Challis (Treasurer) | Clare Duggleby Christine Whipp | Ben Ade |

In Attendance:

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Steven Cowley | Juliet Dixon | David McMillan |
| Dennis McLean | Margaret McLean | Mary Saunders |
| Emily Wall | Tom Wall | Phillip Wall |
| Cllr Andy McFarlane | | |

1. Welcome and Apologies.

LH welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Fiona McQuin, Ian Saunders and Melissa Ade

2. Declarations of Interest.

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of meeting 27th June 2022.

It was noted that the issue of the path to the rear of Macadam's Way raised by Dennis and Margaret McLean had not been recorded. An addition to the minute was made. Subject to this amendment the minutes were approved.

Proposed AM.

Seconded DC.

4. Treasurer's Report.

Attached.

5. Police Report.

No police present. Report attached.

6. D&G Councillor's Report.

Councillor Andy McFarlane introduced himself and explained he is circulating around the area following his 3 months of induction training. He felt it beneficial to have listened to the content of the meeting and assured he would work with the CC to help deliver our aspirations. The proposed closure of Carsphairn Primary School was raised by the Chair. Cllr McFarlane made it clear that he understands our concerns and that the School cannot be closed on purely financial grounds. He does not sit on the Education Committee. LH explained our plans for a future affordable housing initiative to bring families with children into the community and the long travelling distance to Dalry school. CW asked the Councillor what he felt were the important issues for Carsphairn. He replied that clearly windfarms and their impacts were a major concern along with transport issues given our distance from other communities. ACK asked AMcF to be aware of the potholes on the B729. It has been reported to the roads department many times that this route remains almost impassable. Surprise was expressed that repairs have been carried out on the relatively small C35s and no attention paid to the main road to Moniaive. The Councillor explained it was not an absence of finances but an inability to recruit suitable staff that is causing the delays to the repairs. SS

suggested that the traditional approach of having “Road Men” responsible for individual stretches of road seemed to work more efficiently.

The matter of the early morning bus was mentioned. A meeting had been arranged with Councillor Dougie Campbell but did not materialise for various reasons. It was noted that the connections with buses further down the route are still being missed. **ACTION** ACK will contact Cllr DC to further progress.

7. Presentation – Connecting in Communities Helen Keron and Lisa Ridley.

Helen Keron introduced herself and explained her role as the Executive Manager of GCAT. The Glenkens and District Community Action Plan is progressing, focusing on the core aims of economically flourishing, connected, carbon neutral and asset rich communities. A big part of her role at GCAT is to see the plan manifest. The issue of land use does not appear as the original survey was taken in 2019. Helen is acutely aware of the consequences of encroachment from forestry plantations and other land use changes. Although CCT and the Glenkens and District have separate Action Plans, the issues are very similar and Helen looks forward to Carsphairn being included in the G&D CAP progress and resource sharing. Helen is on helen@catstrand.com for any discussion about Action Plan alignment or resource sharing.

Helen then introduced Lisa Ridley who has been in post since June and heads the Connecting in Communities initiative with her team of Fiona Limbrey and Jo Jackson. Fiona supports volunteers and volunteer organisations across the area and Jo leads the activity programmes.

Lisa discussed how rural living can bring complex issues including access to homes and childcare provision. She is currently exploring the impacts on the Glenkens and district and feels a lot could be learnt from our experience. Lisa is very keen to hear from local people illustrating their personal circumstances. All contacts are anonymous. Although the original funding from the Lottery for CiC excluded Carsphairn, new streams of funding are now in place through the Glenkens and District Trust which redefines the catchment area and includes us. Lisa is particularly hoping to hear from people facing isolation issues and can be contacted at Lisa@Catstrand.com

8. Matters Arising from the Minute of the meeting 27th June 2022.

a/ War Memorial. – MH explained that he and CD had been in touch with 8 different stone masons and not had any positive response to the provision of a quote for the work. DM advised there is a stone mason locally who could be approached. MH and CD will continue to progress this issue.

b/ Community Garden, Noticeboard and Plum trees. –

The noticeboard is now in place and looks excellent. The meeting thanked Ben Ade for his hard work and patience in making this happen. It was noted that the plum trees bought recently have died. Martin Temple will obtain replacements under warranty from the supplier.

c/ Traffic Calming Signage. - The application made by the CC to CREFL has been refused. The temporary traffic signs have now been removed. It was agreed to reapply to CREFL for funding for permanent traffic calming signage. Proposed AM, seconded MH. **ACTION** – AM will draft second application for approval by colleagues. LH will draft letter to CREFL further explaining the situation, also to be approved by the CC prior to submission.

d/ Carsphairn School. - The consultation paper to begin the process of permanently closing the school will be published 1st September. The CC will consider its response. There will be no communications with the Education Department without prior approval by CCs.

e/ LEDS 2022. – The increased payment of £400 has been approved by CREFL. The situation regarding the removal of the Energy Price Cap and the consequential significant increase in the costs of energy was discussed. It was agreed to write to CREFL to begin a discussion on the future of the LEDS project.

ACTION – MH to draft a letter for circulation around colleagues.

9. No item #9. Minutes reflect agenda.

10. Windfarms.

a/ Lorg – An online meeting is being arranged to discuss the proposed Holm Hill substation connection to the Lorg Windfarm.

b/ Benbrack – A community information event was held in Lagwyne Hall on Tuesday 28th June.

c/ Windy Rig Laydown Area – Concerns have been expressed from within the community regarding the condition of the laydown area and how it does not reflect the standards originally proposed by the developer. A meeting between Statkraft and the CC is being arranged.

d/ Other Windfarm Business – An exhibition of the proposed Appin Windfarm is planned for the 7th and 8th September in Moniaive and Tynron. Concerns were raised regarding the route of access. **ACTION** – ACK will attend the meeting and investigate.

11. Forestry.

Scottish Woodlands are undertaking a consultation on the future of Carsphairn Forest. **ACTION** - KH will draft a reply for approval.

12. Community Market.

A community market is planned for 24th September in Lagwyne Hall from 10am to 2pm. Participation is encouraged. Baking, vegetables and crafts will be made available for sale. Bairn Banter will be in attendance to entertain children. There will be a communal stall for those wishing to donate.

13. Green Well Update.

MH advised he has been attempting to contact heritage consultants with the aim of securing National Monument status and a consideration of the possible benefits to the community of having such an asset so close to the village. MH will continue to progress this and keep colleagues informed. LH suggested an approach to the Council Archaeologist Andy Nicholson.

14. CCT Report.

DM advised that all the children who applied have now received the extracurricular grant payment. There are on-going plans regarding bulk fuel purchases and community transport.

15. Planning Applications.

Nothing relevant to report.

16. Correspondence.

This had been distributed by the secretary.

17. AORB.

The following issues were raised-

AM noted the electrical sockets and box on the community garden were in need of attention. He will liaise with Steve Cowley and report back.

The matter of the sign at the garden was also raised. The plastic is delaminating and a new sign will be required soon. **ACTION** - ACK will contact Nigel Martin for the original artwork.

Further, it was noted that the picnic tables are beginning to degenerate. **ACTION** AM will investigate options for their replacement and advise.

CW asked for it to be recorded that she really valued both the community garden and the CCW woodland. These are assets that are important and should be supported by the community.

There are no updates on the plan for a path to Bridgend.

AM reported following his meeting with Lyndy Renwick from FLS at the historic Polmaddy village and stressed he attended in a personal capacity only, not as a representative of the CC. The paths have been trimmed recently. **ACTION** - ACK will contact LR to request a copy of the management plan for the site. It was reported that the overgrowth near the Hall is obstructing the footpath. ACK to contact Ben Anstead to request the obstructions be removed.

DM advised that the CCW woodland hide is now up and running, there have been 2 full days of volunteers clearing pathways and undertaking general maintenance at the site. There are on-going projects with Galloway Glens, the Dark Skies Initiative and fungi identification.

EW raised the matter of the BT Openreach building which is close to the main road and a visible eyesore when first entering the village. **ACTION** - ACK will contact Openreach and request the appearance of the building be improved.

The meeting closed at 8.38 pm

Date of next meeting – 26th September 2022 at 7.00 pm.

Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for August 2022

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> | | | | £2,524.81 |
| A&B Sinclair Welding | Planter Repair | 100.00 | | £2,424.81 |
| Community Council Balance | | | | £2,424.81 |

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> | | | | £402.96 |
| Keegan & Pennykid | Garden Insurance | 320.72 | | £82.24 |
| CREFL | Grant 2022-23 | | 2700.00 | £2,782.24 |
| Balance | | | | £2,782.24 |

Resilience Group

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|---------------|
| Balance | | | | £34.07 |
|----------------|--|--|--|---------------|

Bairn Banter (CREFL)

| <u>Payment Details</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Paid Out</u> | <u>Paid in</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Brought Forward</i> | | | | £175.33 |
| Melissa Ade | Advance | 175.33 | | £0.00 |
| Balance | | | | £0.00 |

Bairn Banter

| <u>Payment Details</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Paid Out</u> | <u>Paid in</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Brought Forward</i> | | | | £45.25 |
| Melissa Ade | Advance | 45.25 | | £0.00 |
| Balance | | | | £0.00 |

Young Deciders (Vattenfall - South Kyle)

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|----------------|
| Balance | | | | £642.40 |
|----------------|--|--|--|----------------|

Temporis Capital Blackcraig Small Grant Fund

| <u>Payment Details</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Paid Out</u> | <u>Paid in</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| <i>Brought Forward</i> | | | | £0.00 |
| Foundation Scotland | Grant 2022-23 | | 2000.00 | £2,000.00 |
| Martin Temple | Garden Maintenance | 288.00 | | £1,712.00 |
| Balance | | | | £1,712.00 |

D&G Council Hardship Fund

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|--|--|----------------|
| Balance | | | | £916.90 |
|----------------|--|--|--|----------------|

Jubilee Celebration (CREFL)

| <u>Payment Details</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Paid Out</u> | <u>Paid in</u> | <u>Balance</u> |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <i>Brought Forward</i> | | | | -£1,723.49 |
| CREFL | Grant | | 1723.49 | £0.00 |
| Balance | | | | £0.00 |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|------------------|
| Ring-fenced Balance | | | | £6,087.61 |
|----------------------------|--|--|--|------------------|

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|------------------|
| Bank Account Balance as at start of day 28th August 2022 | | | | £8,512.42 |
|---|--|--|--|------------------|