

CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held at 7.00pm on 30th January 2023 in Lagwyne Hall

Present:

Elected Members:

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

In Attendance:

Martin Temple	David McMillan	Steve Cowley
Judith Marsden	Kath Martin	Nigel Martin
Cllr Andy McFarlane		

1. Welcome and Apologies.

LH welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Melissa Ade.

2. Declarations of Interest.

None.

3. Approval of Minutes of meeting 28th November 2022.

The minutes were approved.

Proposed DC.

Seconded AM.

4. Treasurer's Report.

Attached.

5. Police Report.

No police present, report attached.

6. D&G Councillor's Report.

Cllr McFarlane raised the issue of bus timings and capacity. He had spoken with the contractor and had been assured that the connection should work and assumed the matter closed. We will monitor the situation and advise if connections are being missed. He will look into the matter of the Castle Douglas bus being over capacity and will report back. There was a discussion regarding the school closure consultation. The Chair reiterated that, should the school reopen, there would be plenty of children to attend. Cllr McFarlane assured that if it could be proved that there were enough children then the school would reopen. The Chair further advised the councillor that the proposed on-going mothballing for 2 years contravened the education Act which is clear that a minimum of 5 years is required following a consultation. It was noted that a new child of primary school age is expected to be moving to Knockengoroch, 9 miles to the north of the village. The meeting agreed that a 40 mile round trip to Dalry school is unreasonable for primary age children. It is clear that the best option for the community is to reopen the school as soon as possible. DC reminded the councillor of the community's disappointment that there was no attendance from an elected councillor at the public meeting held as part of the consultation process. CW questioned if it is currently possible for parents to enrol children at Carsphairn school. Cllr McFarlane was not sure but will check and let us know.

7. Matters Arising from Meeting 28th November 2022

a/ War Memorial. – MH advised that quotes were now being received from contractors. Samples of stone were discussed. It was agreed that the War Memorial is an important part of the community's heritage and it is more important to carry out this renovation sensitively than to do it quickly.

b/ Carsphairn School. – DM mentioned the council's plan to centralise educational facilities in towns not rural schools. The council's proposal to revisit the closure consultation process in 2 years not the 5 defined in the Act was further discussed.

c/ LEDS 2023 – DC was thanked for his management of the LED scheme again this year. There has not been a reply from CREFL regarding a discussion to improve the scheme in the future. It is assumed this will come up under correspondence at the next CREFL meeting.

d/ Community Garden. - AM was thanked for removing the Christmas tree. All necessary funding was received for the approved CREFL grants. The tables have arrived. AM is waiting for the weather to improve before installation.

e/ BT Openreach Building. – A works number has been received for the repainting of the entire building.

f/ Resilience Group. – LH will be updating the Resilience Plan with a meeting planned for the spring. SS will arrange new keys for the shed.

g/ Culvert Under A713 to North of Village. – A CCES has been raised and the council will be inspecting soon.

h/ Traffic Calming Signs. – The reapplication to CREFL has been submitted. The council wants to monitor the speed of traffic entering the village. We will consider this monitoring following CREFL's decision on the funding application.

i/ Seniors' Festive Dinner. – LH was thanked for her work on this project. 37 dinners were served and the evening considered a great success.

j/ Blocked Culvert on B729, Potholes. – Works have been completed today. It was noted that the number of wood lorries using the road exceeds the guidance from the Timber Transport Forum. There has been a lot of brash left by the road which is becoming a hazard and the potholes on the B7000 by Cuckoostone are very bad. **ACTION** ACK to raise CCES for both these issues.

k/ Police Report On Sheep Worrying. The Police have explained this was included on Dalry's Police Report in error.

8. Windfarms.

a/ Lorg. – A date for a future meeting to discuss the Holm Hill substation is being arranged.

b/ Laydown area. No updates as yet. No rubbish has been removed. **ACTION** ACK to raise CCES to advise the Planning Department that planning conditions are not being met.

c/ Proposed Appin Windfarm Access. – The CC will comment following a planning application.

d/ Manquhill Pre-Application Notice. – There is an exhibition in the hall on the 2nd February for this development.

e/ Other Windfarm Business. – There was an exhibition for the Windy Standard repowering project on the 25th January. There is an additional hearing on the Shepherds Rig proposal.

9. CCT Report.

DM advised the meeting that the yoga class and Social Mondays remain ongoing. It is planned to run the Extra Curricular Grants from April subject to funding. The calendars have been distributed. A donation will be made from the proceeds to Stepping Stones food bank made up to £320 from CCT funds to match the £320 raised at the Christmas Fair and donated to the Scouts. An application for funding has been made to finance the transport initiative. Applications from volunteer drivers are being sought.

10. Planning Applications.

There was a discussion regarding the Greystones application. MH proposed the CC write a letter of support but was not seconded so the proposal progressed no further.

11. Correspondence.

This had been distributed by the secretary.

12. AORB.

It was agreed that AM will attend the meetings of the Stewartry Community Council Network. There was a discussion regarding the tradition of community councillors not claiming travel expenses. It was agreed that, from now on, we will pay the HMRC standard rate for all travel on CC business for those who wished to claim. Proposed DC, second SH. There was a discussion regarding the money being held by CREFL for the feasibility study into a pub in the village. It was agreed to write thanking CREFL for their patience and

ask them to continue to ring-fence the money for the time being. **ACTION** ACK to write to CREFL's directors. It was agreed that the redundant noticeboard on the shop should now be removed. **ACTION** ACK to write to the shop committee requesting their permission to remove the noticeboard.

The meeting closed at 9.07 pm

Date of next meeting – 27th February 2023 at 7.00 pm.

Carsphairn Community Council - Treasurer's Report for January 2023

Community Council General Transactions and Balance

No Transactions

Community Council Balance **£2,524.81**

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>				£4,816.46
NDES	Electrics	450.00		£4,366.46
Solway Direct	Picnic Table	1,704.00		£4,366.46
Balance				£2,662.46

Resilience Group

No Transactions

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>				£2,200.00
Melissa Ade	Advance	500.00		£1,700.00
Melissa Ade	Music Event	250.00		£1,450.00
Balance				£1,450.00

Young Deciders (Vattenfall - South Kyle)

No Transactions

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>				£1,266.28
Andy Penman	Senior's Dinner Food (part)	182.85		£1,083.43
Balance				£1,083.43

D&G Council Hardship Fund

No Transactions

Balance **£916.90**

LEDS 2022 (CREFL)

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£0.00
CREFL	LEDS 2022 Grant (part)		25,000.00	£25,000.00
CREFL	LEDS 2022 Grant (part)		15,555.86	£40,555.86
Darren Challis	Mailshot Costs	155.86		£40,400.00
Residents (98 @ £400)	Householder Payment – online	39,200.00		£1,200.00
Residents (3 @ £400)	Householder Payment – cheque	1,200.00		£0.00
Balance				£0.00

continued over ...

Senior's Dinner

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£0.00
Oliver Rigg	Music	375.00		-£375.00
Andy Penman	Catering/Food (part)	550.00		-£925.00
CREFL	Senior's Dinner Grant		925.00	£0.00
Balance				£0.00

Housing Project (Inspiring Scotland)

<u>Payment Details</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Paid Out</u>	<u>Paid in</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<i>Brought Forward</i>				£0.00
Inspiring Scotland	Housing Project Grant		5,000.00	£5,000.00
SOSCH	Housing Project Survey	1,500.00		£3,500.00
Balance				£3,500.00

Ring-fenced Balance	£10,289.26
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Bank Account Balance as at start of day 29th January 2023	£12,814.07
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COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT
POLICE SCOTLAND

DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

Community Council – Carsphairn

Date of Meeting - Monday 30th January 2023

Officer Attending / Report Prepared By - PC Baird V0523

Crime Update (cover Performance / Issues / Trends)

PDG0255121222 – on 01/12/2022 Police received a report of dead sheep having been found on land near to Lamford, Carsphairn. Police attended and spoke with the reporter regarding the incident.

PDG0258031222 – Police received a report of an attempted theft of fuel near to Benbrack Windfarm, Carsphairn between 1630 hours on 3/12/2022 and 0730 hours on 5/12/2022. Enquiries on-going.

Please continue to report any information and/or suspicious vehicles and persons to Police via 101

Significant Incidents / Occurrences - (Local / Divisional / National)

STEWARTRY COMMUNITY DROP-IN DATES

FRIDAY 17th FEBRUARY 2023

PC Brown/Baird @ Kirkcudbright Police Office 9am-1030am

PC Brown/Baird @ Dalry 11-1230pm

PC Blacklock/Ellis @ Dalbeattie 3pm-430pm

PC Blacklock/Ellis @ Castle Douglas 6pm-730pm

These will be advertised on social media (Dumfries Galloway Police Division Facebook page) prior to the date.

Let's Talk Financial Harm



We all think we're savvy at spotting scams, but criminals are always finding new ways to con us.

There's no such thing as a typical target, we can all be caught out by the right scam at the right time. Once someone is the victim of a scam once, their details will often go onto the criminals' 'victims list' and the scams keep coming. Prevention is better than cure, so use the information below to talk about scams with your family, friends or service-users. It only takes ten minutes, and could prevent someone you know falling victim to financial harm.

You can even do it over a cup of tea!



Common Scams

New scams are always appearing, but here's some common ones to look out for:

Doorstep Callers

Doorstep callers may try to sell you products, or tell you that urgent work is required on your property. Any work will probably be overpriced, poor quality, or maybe not even needed.

Impersonation Scams

You get a phone call or email from someone saying they are your bank, HMRC or Amazon, asking you to make a payment or give them your personal or bank details.

Investment Scams

You see a flashy advert online or receive a call or letter offering a good deal to invest in luxury goods or cryptocurrency. In reality, this is all fake and the goods don't exist.

Pension Fraud

Someone contacts you out-of-the-blue with an attractive offer to transfer your pension savings. Your money is then stolen, or transferred to non-existent or high-risk schemes.

Romance/Friendship Scams

You meet someone online and they quickly declare strong feelings for you. Criminals use fake identities to do this and will then ask for money, often saying this is to come and see you, or for a family emergency.

Catalogue Scams

You receive a catalogue in the post which sells health and beauty pills, home and garden items or clothes. You place an order and end up in a subscription trap, paying up to hundreds of pounds a month.

Fake Lotteries and Prize Draws

You receive a letter or e-mail telling you you've won a prize draw or foreign lottery which you don't remember entering. They ask for a fee to claim your winnings, which never arrive.

Purchase Fraud & Counterfeits

You see products advertised on websites or social media that seem like a good buy, often for designer goods. You pay, but they either do not turn up, or are counterfeit and possibly dangerous.



- **Don't buy goods or services from a trader on your doorstep** - remember you decide if you need work done to your property, not a stranger at the door. Ask friends and family for recommendations, shop around for three quotes and consider a Council Trusted Trader.
- **Banks or government bodies will never contact you and ask for personal or account details.** If in doubt, hang up and call your bank on a number you trust. Never phone a number the caller gives you.
- **Don't feel pressurised or rushed into making a decision about financial investments or pension transfer.** Always seek advice from an Independent Financial Adviser who is authorised by the FCA. Check any offers at: www.fca.org.uk/scamsmart
- **Don't ever send money to someone who you haven't met in person.** Speak to trusted family and friends about your new friend or love interest, and listen to them if they seem concerned.
- **Be wary of leaflets and catalogues offering magic cures or miracle products.** Always read the small print and make sure you're not being tricked into a subscription.
- **Don't reply to any letters or e-mails saying you've won a prize if you haven't entered the competition.** No real lotteries will ask for a fee to claim a prize. Genuine lotteries rely on publicity - if they ask you to keep your win a secret, then it's probably a scam.

- **Only buy products from reputable retailers and well known shops.** Don't be tempted by designer goods that are much cheaper than everywhere else. If it seems too good to be true, it probably is!



Report It

Contact your bank quickly – they may be able to stop cheques or transfers.

Contact Police on 101 or report to Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000

Forward Scam e-mails to report@phishing.gov.uk

Forward scam text messages to 7726 (it's free to do this)

Prevent & Protect

Display a no cold-calling sticker – available from police stations, or contact Trading Standards at tradingstandards@dumgal.gov.uk or 030 33 33 3000

Always use a Trusted Trader for home repairs
www.dumgal.gov.uk/trustedtrader
or 030 33 33 3000

Telephone Preference Service to prevent marketing calls

www.tpsonline.org.uk

or 0345 070 0707

Mail Preference Service to stop marketing letters addressed directly to you

www.mpsonline.org.uk

or 0345 0700 705

What next?

If you want to learn more, become a Friend Against Scams. This 20 minute online course tells you all you need to know to protect your-self and raise awareness in your community.

[Click here to access the online course and become a Friend Against Scams](#)

Scams

Trading Standards Scotland recently launched a month-long campaign aimed at raising awareness of scams linked to the ongoing cost of living crisis.

Some of you may be aware that over the past few months' communities across Scotland have received numerous fraudulent email and texts claiming to offer energy bill rebates and cost of living payments, as well as fake supermarket voucher and fuel card giveaways on social media.

Doorstep scammers have also been taking advantage of the global shortage of construction materials to ask customers to pay large deposits, then failing to return to carry out the work.

Further information about the campaign can be found at

<https://www.tsscot.co.uk/cost-of-living-scams/>

Please remember to advise communities to report such incidents to Police Scotland via 101 or Advice Direct Scotland on 0808 164 6000, or through their website: www.consumeradvice.scot.

Matters brought to Police attention by Council

Police received an e-mail requesting information and an explanation as to why a sheep worrying incident dated 15/02/2022 was not reported to the Community Council, the below response was given;

Response given to above points at the meeting

Good afternoon,

I am aware of the incident you are referring to and can confirm this was reported to Police on 15/02/2022. I can also confirm that after full Police enquiries, a female was charged with the offence on 06/07/2022.

I can only apologise that this was not included on your Community Council report dated March 2022, given the close proximity to the council border it was included on Dalry's report in error. This was an oversight on my part and has not been omitted purposefully.

You will see on the March report the other rural crimes reported during that month were included along with some personal advice on 'Happy Dog Happy Home'. We endeavour to share as much information as possible with our Community Councils and hope you can all continue to report suspicious incidents/persons/vehicles knowing that these will be acted upon accordingly.

Kind regards,

Amy

Further action to be taken regarding above point

N/A

Section Sergeant (Comments)

Area Inspector (Comments)

Use overleaf if necessary