



Community Council (CC) Minutes

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8th August 2017

Present: Sue Best (Provost) Alison Veitch (AV), Danny Alderslowe (DA), Peter Cailey (PC), Tony Fowler (TF) Paula Hamilton (PH), Helen Keating (HK), Jack Pickthall (JP), Nigel Scott (NS), PC. John Brown

1. **Apologies:** none
2. **Police Report:**
 - (a) Parking on the pavement in front of the chemist is still being monitored.
 - (b) The police have reported that the Gala events went off very well.
 - (c) Speeding cars up the Lauriston Road are also being monitored.
 - (d) The drivers of the wood lorries coming down from Gatehouse station are being very co-operative and considerate.
 - (e) PH reported that some complaints have been passed on to her about firemen who are called to an event have been speeding to the station while still within the 30 mph limit. PC Brown stated they may not exceed the speed limit, even though the firemen are rushing to get to the fire station.
3. **Minutes of the previous Meeting:** the minutes of the previous meeting were approved: proposed by AV, seconded PC.
4. **Matters arising:** (a) the broken stones on the steps down to the Mill on the Fleet have still not been mended.
5. **Provost's Report:** (i) The volunteers who now tend the Town Hall garden are still looking for a lawn mower. In the meantime Cecilia Franklin has very kindly been strimming the grass.
(ii) The Town posts at the entrances to the town are in a very bad state of repair, with the metal work and posts needing attention. JP volunteered to inspect them and report back. **Action JP**
(iii) The Playpark: there have been meetings with Dougie Campbell and with Robert Lowther, at which it was agreed that the latter should seek proposals for play items, after which a further meeting will be convened. DGHP will not contribute to the provision of equipment or maintenance but will have to provide the lease of the land.
(iv) Amended Scheme for community Council: no-one had any comments to make, so D&G Council will be notified of that.
(v) It has been reported that considerable fly-tipping was added to the Gala bonfire, with unsuitable items such as mattresses and items containing metal fittings included. The metal items left at the end were cleared by the Council (charged to the Gala committee) and it was agreed that in future notices should be put up to say that items contributed to the bonfire should only be of timber or pallets. If it happens again it was suggested that a temporary CCTV could be installed. It is hoped that the Gala committee will take the matter in hand.
8. **Dean of Guild's report:** (i) Mossyard: application to build a new dwelling (to be used as a holiday let) in the grounds of an existing property.
(ii) The Honey House: application to demolish the workshop – renewing an existing permission.
(iii) The Bank House: application to replace several windows.
(iv) Memory Lane: application for the construction of a dwelling house.
(v) 35 Fleet Street: extension and replacement windows.

(vi) It was noted that there has been activity at the old Garage site, with trees being removed.

(vii) It was also reported that Newton Farm has exceeded its quota of 30 caravans, with still no proper toilet block, resulting in fouling of surrounding farmland. It was suggested that an email should be sent to our three D&G Councillors and any complaints about noise etc should be directed to Mr and Mrs A. Hamilton.

9. Treasurer's Report: The Admin account stands at £702.34 (with meeting hall rent to be paid), the Common Good fund at £1,480 and the Footpath account at £613.72. The Christmas Lights committee will receive £250 from the Common Good fund and the GDI £500 from the Footpath account.

10. AOCB: (a) HK reported that the D&G Council store under the Town Hall Flat is up for sale for £6,500. Since the Town Hall gardening volunteers have nowhere to store tools, plants or a mower and have to collect watering cans of water from a private house along the street, it was agreed that a request for an asset transfer from D&G Council should be made. **Action SB**

(b) TF asked if there was any further information about the proposed Windfarm application – none.

(c) JP had received texts from the warden of Cardoness Castle about the lack of grass cutting along the road in front of the castle access. After it had been drawn to his attention it was reported that Dr David Steel had scythed the tall grass in particular around the seat, for which he is thanked. The Council men have only cut one swathe along the road nearby and SB will contact Robert Lowther to ask if the castle frontage could be included in the council grass-cutting regime. **Action SB**

(d) PH reported that the visibility at the junction with the A75 by the castle is still causing concern to tractor drivers carrying loads.

(e) SB asked for assistance in re-siting of some of the planters in the High Street where they have been shifted by parking car drivers. DA has volunteered to take the matter in hand. **Action DA**

(f) DA reported that there will be a visit by a group coming to talk to children about cyber-bullying and will bring their trailer to the Car Park in September. Electrical connection has been offered by Spar.

DA is to organise a get-together/community event on Friday evening on September 22nd to entertain a group of European teachers who are to visit Gatehouse.

(g) SB has noted that the telephone box at the Clock Tower, like that near the school, has no door or telephone but a light is on continuously. She will contact BT. **Action SB**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.

Next meetings:

September 12th in the **Community Centre**,

October 10th, November 13th and December 12th in the **Drop-in Centre**