



Community Council (CC) Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday May 12th 2015

Present: Sue Best (SB), Kathleen Hamblin (KH), Paula Hamilton (PH) Helen Keating (HK), Gerard Macnamara (GM) Councillor Patsy Gilroy (PG), Alison Veitch (AV), P.C. John Brown

1. **Apologies** were received from Mike Edwards, Ron Forster, Cecilia Franklin, Alan Lowden
2. **Police Report:** A female has been charged with supplying cannabis at a school. The local senior schools are very supportive of police efforts. There has been a worrying increase in workmen doing substandard work for elderly people. DG First will inspect where possible to evaluate the jobs. There were two assault charges in Gatehouse and one pub event.
3. **D&G Report:** PG reported that GNI(UK) Ltd will be holding public information evenings in relation to the construction of the 2nd Interconnector Gas Pipeline from Cluden to Brighthouse Bay.
These will be on Tuesday May 19th at Terregles Village Hall between 2 and 7.30 pm
Wednesday May 20th in Castle Douglas Lesser Town Hall between 2 and 7.30 pm
Thursday May 21st at Kirkcudbright Lesser Town Hall between 2 and 7.30 pm
She reminded Councillors that the Community Council Elections will take place on October 22nd.
The Stewartry Area Committee Discretionary Fund and Small Community Fund are available for applications. SB asked her about the garage site since she had had no reply to emails sent to Robert Duncan on March 12th and May 6th. **PG** will follow this up. AV updated the position of the fallen tree damage between Fleuchlarg and Low Barlay, where the tree had taken down the bank leaving a dangerous, very steep drop at the side of the road. **PG** will follow up.
4. **The minutes of the meeting** on March 10th 2015 were approved and signed, proposed by AV seconded by GM.
5. **Matters arising:** (i) A Union flag has been obtained and quotations are awaited for a new Gala flag.
(ii) Posters about approved traders are still awaited.
(iii) Our objection to the California Windfarm has been registered.
(iv) SB has received no response to an invitation to Twynholm and Borgue Community Councils to join us in another try at 'One Man's Rubbish' stall at the May Bank holiday weekend. It was decided to leave it until later.
6. **GDI Report:** (i) The Temple access path is in progress.
(ii) The dangerous trees overhanging the Cut have been removed.
(iii) A Gatehouse Squirrel Group has been formed under the Chairmanship of Peter Garson and will operate under the auspices of the GDI and is affiliated to Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels, a national project coordinated by the Scottish Wildlife Trust. The group has been awarded £200 as a start donation from Red Alert SW Scotland. 5 Volunteers have been trained in squirrel control. 5 adult breeding greys have been found and dealt with (4 at Ardwall and 1 at Killigowan.) 30 feeding hoppers covering all principal broad-leaved woodland areas have been installed to detect the presence of grey and red squirrels. This exercise will continue over the next 6 weeks.
The volunteer group will continue working at Syllodioch investigating the area of what was the factor's house and some interesting features have been discovered.
7. **Biosphere:** it was agreed support this and will ask for a representative to come to a meeting to bring us up to date.

Action SB

8. **Provost's Report:** (i) Damage to the matting under the children's play area in Garries Park has been reported and repaired.
- (ii) SB has received a letter from Drs J and J Brock about the siting of the large rubbish bins outside the Masonic Arms. A Council representative has been to inspect it and a reply from DG First is awaited. SB will then reply to the Brocks. **Action SB**
- (iii) The Community Council Survey result will be put on the Gatehouse Website.
- (iv) John Enos will be asked to address us on the best way to manage CC funds. **Action SB**
- (v) A complaint has been received about the connection by the X75 bus from Gatehouse to Carlisle. SB has contacted the bus company for comment.
- (vi) Knochendarroch: Planning applications have been lodged and SB will report dated of planning meetings for those who wish to attend.
- (vii) Planters in the town: SB has approached local businesses for sponsorship of planters in the town, the positions of which will be discussed at the next meeting.
- (viii) It was noted that the Post Office will now be available from 7 am till 8 pm and Gatehouse Stores are thanked for taking on the role as otherwise Gatehouse would have been without a Post Office.
9. **Dean of Guild's report:** An application has been received for an extension to the shepherd's cottage at Drumwall and Retrospective planning permission for the flag poles on the front of the Bank of Fleet.
10. **Treasurer's Report:** PH has now received details of Discretionary Fund applications. She has received our grant for April 2014/15. Money had been set aside for a replacement notice board on the clock tower but SB suggested that GM should seek quotations for an extra board beside the CC notice board by the car park, which would necessitate a new concrete stand to be created for it. **Action GM**
11. **AOCB:** KH asked if CF had had a response about the provision of Broadband – it is planned to provide it in the area by 2017.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday June 9th at 7 pm.

Next meetings: July 14th, September 8th, October 13th.