



## Community Council (CC) Minutes

### Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Present: Alison Veitch AV Acting Chair) Danny Alderslowe (DA), Peter Cailey (PC), Helen Keating (HK), Jack Pickthall (JP), Nigel Scott (NS), Paula Hamilton (PH), PC. Steele Johnson (SJ), Councillor Dougie Campbell DC)

1. **Apologies** were received from Sue Best, Tony Fowler and Councillor Jane Maitland.
2. **Police Report:**
  - (a) Parking issues outside the chemist have not been cured in spite of the police having spoken with those concerned. PC SJ will talk to Fleet Valley staff.
  - (b) The theft of a purse at Spar has resulted in a charge being made, as also has the breaking of a window in the High Street.
  - (c) Vandalism to a car has not been resolved.
  - (d) The theft of a jockey wheel has been reported in Ann Street overnight on June 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - (e) Young bike racers have been causing a nuisance up the road above Upper Rusko.
  - (f) A spate of counterfeit currency (Ulster Bank £20 notes) has been reported in 7 shops in the area, following similar problems in other towns further north. A photo of the suspect is being circulated.
  - (g) PC Johnson reminds drone owners that there is definitive legislation about the flying of them. NS asked if there could be some ruling about the large forestry lorries that are using the road down from the station where there is sometimes no room for oncoming traffic. It is understood that there can be agreed routes for such vehicles and DC will investigate.
3. **D&G Council report:** DC reported that the Council was now led by a coalition of Labour and SBNP with Elaine Murray (Labour) as Convenor and Rob Davidson (SNP) as Vice. DC is on the Planning committee and several others and Chair of the Police and Fire Service committee. He commended to members the use of the Council's Enquiry Service by email to report concerns.
4. **Minutes of the previous Meeting:** the minutes of the previous meeting were approved proposed by PC, seconded PH.
5. **Matters arising:**
  - (i) Knockendurroch Windfarm application. It was decided that members should object individually if they were so minded.
  - (ii) Funding for the repair of the Rutherford monument has not been granted by LEADER so the possibility of the Community Council giving some financial support in order that funding could be sought from other bodies was discussed. The GDI will be asked to submit in writing an application for future consideration by the CC.
6. **Provost's Report:**
  - (i) a further expression of interest in the Murray Centre has been received from a teacher at the school for use as a facility for young schoolchildren who don't have access to woodland space, which suggestion she will discuss with the council's Education Department.
  - (ii) DA has held a meeting with the parents trying to get improvements to the Riverbank Wynd Playpark. He explained to them the problems the Provost has had with DGHP who own the land and the DGI will keep up pressure on that body to grant a lease on the land, enabling funding to be sought.
  - (iii) the garage site: the owner of the site has recently died. Ideas were expressed about the future of the site and DC suggested that we should enlist the help of our Ward Council guide, Ingrid

Gemmell, who could advice on the possibilities of Council aid available, and it was agreed that we should ask her to attend a CC meeting to talk to us.

(iv) Thanks to the efforts of Simon Faed and Ron Forster and their volunteer helpers the work in the Town Hall garden is progressing well. It has been decided to defer the replanting of rose bushes until the autumn. We have also been offered a donation for the garden from an American lady who saw the Gatehouse website!

(v) The Provost has been invited by the Trustees of the Abbeyfield Society Stewartry to visit Strathdee House in Kirkcudbright, on June 22<sup>nd</sup> (6 – 7.30 pm) to increase awareness of the services offered by the Society, and would welcome the company of anyone else who would like to go.

8. **Dean of Guild's report:** AV reported that an application has been made for the replacement of two wooden windows with double-glazed wooden windows for Overmoor, High Street (no objection), for an extension at Meadowside Lodge (no objection) and the replacement of two windows and a door at the former Deli in Woodside Terrace (no objection). She will look at the plans of the Murray Arms to insert a door access into the courtyard on Ann Street.
9. **Treasurer's Report:** PH reported that we have £1,480 in the Common Good Fund, £613.72 in the Footpath account, and £730.43 in the admin account.
10. **Model Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils:** It was agreed that members should study this for discussion at the next meeting.
11. **AOCB:** (a) DA reported that the Gatehouse Big Bike Scheme will be launched on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> at the Mill on the Fleet from 9.30 – 12.30. DC agreed to attend the official opening at 12 noon.  
(b) DA also reported that his wife had led a very successful visit by 19 pupils from P7 at both Gatehouse and Twynholm schools to Romania, with very positive feedback.  
(c) JP asked who owned Vinnie Hill which is reported as being in a mess and needs to be tidied up. NS promised to investigate.  
(d) It was reported that the railings outside the Community Centre are in disrepair.  
(e) DC reported the sighting of a grey squirrel, which NS will report to Dr Peter Garson.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Next meetings:

July 11<sup>th</sup>, August 8<sup>th</sup>, September 12<sup>th</sup> in the **Community Centre**