



**Meeting held on 13 December 2022 at 7.00 pm**

**Attendees**

**Councillors:** Peter Cailey (PC), Robert Dodds (RD) *present until 7.15pm*, Gill Hart (GH), Ivan Hill (IH), Helen Keating (HK), Amy McConchie (AM), Fiona Power (FP), Nigel Scott (NS), Francois Van der Zee (FZ)

**Dumfries and Galloway Council:**

**In attendance:** PC John Brown (JB) Police Scotland, Jenna Cairns (JC) Galloway and South Ayrshire Biosphere Partnership

**Minutes Secretary:** Susan Miller (SM)

**1 Apologies**

1.1 Ruaridh Hesketh (RH). In his absence the chair was taken by IH.

**2 Casual Vacancy Election (CVE)**

2.1 A proposal to hold a casual vacancy election in early 2023 to fill 3 vacancies was made by PC, seconded by FZ and unanimously approved.

**Action : GH to liaise with DGC as to arrangements for the CVE**

**3 Declarations of Interest**

AM declared an interest in item 10.1 (a) (iv).

**4 Public Forum**

None

**5 Presentation – Galloway and South Ayrshire Biosphere Partnership (GSABP)**

5.1 JC gave a brief presentation on the history and work of the GSABP, stressed the importance of the Cairnsmore National Nature Reserve and wish to work in close partnership with, and support, Biosphere Communities through attending events speaking to groups etc. She said work was in hand with the GDI to produce interpretation boards for the Gatehouse area and that Gatehouse had been offered a plaque or post as part of the Sustainable Development Goal trail around the Biosphere (subject to any necessary planning permission).

**Further information is available at <https://www.gsabiosphere.org.uk/>**

**6 Minutes of meeting on 8 November 2022**

6.1 Approval of the minutes of the meeting on 8 November amended by

(a) inclusion of Nigel Scott (NS) in the list of attendees

(b) the substitution of 'JD' for 'JH' in line 1 of paragraph 8.1

was proposed by HK, seconded by PC and agreed unanimously.

## **7 Matters arising from the previous meeting**

### **The Legacy Fund**

7.1 In the absence of the Chair, the item was deferred to the next meeting

### **Hamish McInnes Plaque**

7.2 IH confirmed that an application had now been submitted for permitted development planning permission.

### **Defibrillators**

7.3 FZ reported that a meeting had been held to agree siting for a 3<sup>rd</sup> defibrillator (in addition to one at the Community Centre and one at Gatehouse Store) and identified the kiosk in the car park as suitable. He proposed a sub group comprising IH, FP and FZ be formed to progress matters to installation and registration.

**Action: IH to chair sub group (IH/FP/FZ) and report progress to each CC meeting**

## **8 Chair's report and correspondence**

8.1 RH reported in writing

- (a) his thanks to the Gala and Christmas Lights Committee for their excellent tree and light displays and for the successful Christmas Market
- (b) the positive news that a further internationally recognised cycling event was to be based in Gatehouse in 2023 adding to the town's importance as the UK's leading destination for gravel cycling
- (c) that arrangements would be made for representatives from the Murray Usher Foundation to attend a CC meeting to discuss how they could work together
- (d) that the Murray Arms was now under new ownership; he wished Duncan and Vicki McConchie every success and thanked Jim and Helen Stewart for their contribution to Gatehouse life and gave best wishes for their retirement.

## **9 Dumfries and Galloway Council Report**

9.1 None

## **10 Review of Planning Applications**

10.1 FP reported that since the last meeting

- (a) there had been six decisions made since the last meeting:
  - (i) permission had been granted conditionally for the erection of two dwelling houses and a 1.8-metre-high timber boundary fence and installation of air-source heat pumps at 6-8 Roseberry Terrace, Birtwhistle Street, Gatehouse;
  - (ii) permission had been granted conditionally for the installation of powder-coated aluminium cladding over existing coping on the roof and inline roof vents at 1-7 Birtwhistle Gardens, Gatehouse;
  - (iii) no objections had been raised to the felling of 5 leylandii trees at Inglewood, High Street, Gatehouse;
  - (iv) permission had been refused for the siting of five holiday pods with associated decked and parking areas, formation of access track and water pond and installation of shared sewage treatment plant at Mossyard Quarry;
  - (v) permission had been granted conditionally for the installation of 12 replacement windows with UPVC windows at Bengray, Woodside Terrace, Gatehouse; and

- (vi) permission had been granted conditionally for the erection of an extension to the rear elevation of the dwelling house at Craignesket, Mossyard, Gatehouse.
- (b) there had been six new planning applications, for:
  - (i) the erection of a dwelling house and detached garage and installation of an air-source heat pump at plots 20/22 Bracken Wood, Gatehouse;
  - (ii) the rebuilding of and extension to an existing outbuilding to form an accommodation annexe without compliance with condition 1 of PP 11/P/2/0476 (requiring the existing dwelling house and annexe to remain part of the same single residence) at Owl Cote Byre, Carrick Shore;
  - (iii) the erection of a dwelling house and 1.8-metre fence and installation of an air-source heat pump at Fleetbank, Gatehouse.
  - (iv) the erection of an extension to the North-East elevation of the dwelling house at Catriona, 7 Beechwood, Gatehouse;
  - (v) the installation of a top-up tap (by Scottish Water) in the High Street, Gatehouse; and
  - (vi) the formation of rock revetments to preserve the sea edge and associated planting at Carrick Shore, Carrick.

## **11 Police Report**

- 10.1 JB reported some instances of anti social behaviour by young people which had been investigated and raised with the individuals concerned and their parents and the Drop In and the school informed; there was no evidence of the involvement of drink or drugs. He stressed the importance of reporting all incidents to 101 so that they could be investigated. He also stressed the continuing need to be aware of possible scams
- Further information is available at**  
<https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/scams-and-fraud>

## **12 Report from the Gatehouse Development Initiative**

- 12.1 FZ reported on the meeting held on 5 October:
- (a) the Cardoness Lights project was progressing
  - (b) Gatehouse News needed a new 'roving reporter' and anyone interested should contact **GDI@gatehouse-of-fleet.co.uk**
  - (c) a Net Zero Workshop had been held led by SPEN/Energy Saving Trust
  - (d) the wooden sculpture by the riverside had been placed in storage pending repair and consultation with the community as to its future

## **13 Treasurer's Report**

- 13.1 PC reported that the Admin Fund stood at £480 and the Common Good Fund at £376. He had not heard further from DGC regarding any increase in the Admin Fund to meet increased expenditure.

## **14 Citizen of the Year Award**

- 14.1 GH reported that the award had been returned and would be held in storage pending action as agreed at the meeting on 8 November 2022.

## **15 Welcome Pack**

- 15.1 FZ proposed production of a welcome pack for new residents (which could also be useful for existing residents) and it was agreed that GH would chair a sub group comprising AM and FZ to make proposals.

**Action: GH to chair sub group (GH/AM/FZ) to develop proposals for consideration by the CC**

**16 AOB**

16.1 GH raised the unsafe condition of the concrete plinth by the CC noticeboard and it was agreed to report this to CCES with a view to repair or relocation of the noticeboard

**Action:GH to report the unsafe condition of the concrete plinth by the CC noticeboard to CCES**

16.2 Funding of £755 for a bench to commemorate Nicholas Banting who had left a legacy to the town was proposed by HK, seconded by NS and agreed unanimously

The meeting ended at 8.10pm

Next meetings 10 January, 14 February, 14 March 2023