



Community Council (CC) Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday March 10th 2015

Present: Sue Best (SB), Mike Edwards (ME), Ron Forster (RF), Paula Hamilton (PH) Helen Keating (HK), Gerard Macnamara (GM) Councillor Colin Wyper (CW), Alison Veitch (AV).

1. **Apologies** were received Cecilia Franklin, PC Joh Brown, Councillors Patsy Gilroy and Jane Maitland.
2. **The minutes of the meeting** on February 10th 2014 were approved and signed, proposed by AV seconded by PH.
3. **Matters arising:** (i) There is still no information about the garage site. SB had been advised that a meeting has been arranged between a council official and site owner/agent to agree remedial work to the boundary walls. She will try to find the outcome of this meeting. **Action: SB**
(ii) Ron Forster attended a meeting about the formation of a Stewartry Community Council Network.
(iii) Samples of fabrics for replacement flags have been obtained; a union flag would cost in the region of £68, which HK proposed should be paid for by the Community Council. SB will obtain further quotations and seek advice on a replacement Gala flag, which could probably be paid for by the Gala funds or in conjunction with Common Good Fund. SB to seek advice from the Area Framework team on how the various CC funding "pots" can be disbursed. CF also asked if the flag pole at the Fleetvale car park entrance could be replaced.
Action: SB
(iv) The children's play area equipment in Burger Park has been replaced.
4. **GDI Report:** (i) Work is in hand to clear the obstruction under the B727. No estimate has so far been received about clearing the silt in the pond.
(ii) The gravel margin around the Temple is now complete. The Temple restoration was featured on Border TV.
(iii) D&G council is discussing with a contractor the work of removing trees on the bank side at the B727 entrance to Gatehouse. A meeting has been arranged with RF/DGC for March 12th to discuss general improvements relating to roads/road margins. **Action: RF**
(iv) RF attended a meeting in New Galloway about the annual monitoring of grey squirrels. The morning was spent indoors listening to a variety of topics on squirrel conservation and in the afternoon they witnessed practical techniques for grey squirrel trapping in the local woodlands.
(v) a number of volunteers attended an archaeological workshop on the reporting of artefacts found during excavations.
(vi) Volunteers also joined the Galloway Fisheries Trust in removing self-seeded saplings at the headwaters of the River Fleet.
(vii) GM reported that the owner of the garage site has removed some of the blockage under the road and that the sluices have been replaced tidily.
5. **Dumfries and Galloway Report:** CW had little to report. He has registered with Transport Scotland the appalling state of the A75. AV reported that a tree on the roadside on the road to Carstramon wood had fallen across the fence and that the Council repair has left a dangerous hole

above a large drop in to the field beside it. CW will report this. RF will also mention it to the Council representative at Thursday's meeting. PH asked CW to convey her thanks to Councillor Gilroy on her solution of the school bus problems.

6. **Provost's Report:** A notification has been received about the Council's proposed list of approved traders. SB will apply for the set of posters available and will ask what the criteria are for traders applying to join the scheme. HK also drew members' attention to the notice on the Council notice board about over 50s having their driving skills checked. **Action: SB**
7. **Dean of Guild's report:** GM has visited the proposed site for a house in Garden Street, which would be similar to the one on the next plot and sees no objection. Applications are also sought for an extension to a chalet at Carrick (no plans included) and a pole at Laggan Outdoor Centre. We have also received notification of a Planning Submission and a large quantity of pictures and plans for the California Windfarm site which has been applied for by Skylark (a joint venture between Ecotricity and Skanska). SB had attended a meeting about it in February and had registered our preliminary objection and after much discussion, and mindful of the Council's Landscape Capacity Study and the impact on tourism and visual amenity, it was agreed by 6 votes to 2 that we should register further objection with the Planning Department.
Action:SB
8. **Treasurer's Report:** We now have £73.07 in the General Fund, £619.16 in the Common Good Fund and £613.72 in the Footpath Fund.
9. **Community Response Team:** had nothing to report, as the meeting planned with the Council representative was cancelled at the last moment because of the representative's illness
10. **'One Man's Rubbish':** it was agreed that we should have another try at the recycling scheme on the last weekend of May, to coincide with Spring Fling when there should be more visitors.SB will invite Twynholm and Borgue Community Councils to join us and also put details in The Bulletin.
Action:
SB
11. **AOCB:** (i) A Gatehouse resident's proposal that the Council should organise a public meeting of prospective General Election candidates was met with little enthusiasm. However SB would speak to other CCs and establish whether there was any support for such an event. **Action: SB**
(ii) CF's request for a paid day a week's job for a youngster was laid aside as there would be too many practicalities to implement it, and there were no obvious sources of ongoing revenue funding to support such a post.
(ii) ME reported that, in a section of the B796, spoil from clearing ditches has been dumped onto the road side, restricting the width. RF will mention it at the meeting with the Council. **Action: RF**
(iii) it was agreed that for reasons of several absences there would be no meeting in April.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday **May 12th** at 7 pm.