

## CARSPHAIRN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### *Minute of meeting held 31 October 2011 in Lagwyne Hall at 7.00pm.*

<b>Present</b>	<b>Elected members</b>	<b>Co-opted members</b>
	Matt Hickman (Chair) Margaret Richmond Sylvia Sinclair Liz Holmes Margaret Phillips	
<b>In attendance</b>	David Whyte (Secretary) Cllr George Prentice (pt) PC Jim Drysdale(pt) Sgt Ian McKee (pt) Iain Howie (pt) Louise Whyte Davie McMillan Gail Challis Darren Challis Tony Challis Lorraine Challis Irene McCreath	
<b>Apologies</b>	Anne Rutherford Arnold Duggleby Linda Szafran	

#### **1. Welcome and apologies**

Matt Hickman welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies as above.

#### **2. Declarations of interest**

None.

#### **3. Minute of meeting 26 September 2011**

The minute was approved subject to the following amendment

**3**The minutes were for the meeting of 29 August not the 27 June.

**3. 8 Access Roads:** The following to replace the original minute. **It was agreed that the issue of the access road at Glenelg would be deferred to the next meeting.**

**12** To be replaced with **Arnold Duggleby offered to lay the wreath and this offer was gratefully accepted.**

**Proposed:** Margaret Richmond

**Seconded:** Sylvia Sinclair

#### **4. D & G Councillor**

Cllr Prentice complained to the attendant police representatives about the speed of heavy goods vehicles in the area – specifically Carsphairn and Parton. This to be passed on to the traffic department.

**JD (BB)**

#### **5. Police Report**

PC Jim Drysdale reiterated last month's comments on opportunist incidents of fuel, farm equipment and scrap metal being stolen, and asked for vigilance, and particularly reporting registration numbers of suspicious vehicles.

It was confirmed that the new area Inspector as of 14 October is Clare Walker.

#### **6. Agenda item 7. Matters Arising - Community Garden Access**

**Road:** This item was taken out of agenda order after the Chair asked Cllr Prentice to remain to give input.

As indicated in the minutes of the previous meeting Nigel Martin had written to the Community Council asking if he as owner of Glenelg, could acquire the garden access road next to Glenelg.

The following correspondence was put before the meeting:

- Sylvia Sinclair's paper on the history of the Glenelg/Greenfoot property.
- The letter delivered by hand to NM on 6 October
- NM's email response of 9 October
- NM's formal response letter of 18 October

It was concluded that these matters should be discussed in public at a Community Council meeting, and not in private as requested by NM. Cllr Prentice then left the meeting.

#### **7. SCVS Presentation (Agenda item 6)**

Iain Howie explained that SCVS had been funded by the Stewartry Area Committee to give training assistance to and identify projects in Community Councils. Such projects might include:

- Community or joint purchase schemes in order to obtain better prices – eg for heating oil
- Care share schemes
- Nominated neighbour – eg allowing vulnerable individual to have a neighbour help them in cold call selling situations
- Spring Fringe – a less “up market” and less formal Spring Fling event within a community to promote cohesion
- Blood buddies – encouraging new blood donors and community social activity
- Inter generational skill swaps – the young learn from the old and vice versa
- IT training for community councillors (minimum of 2 – 3 people) – at an existing wi-fi location
- Coffee morning event to see how many people might be interested and in what

MH/DW

Meeting would revert to IH,

#### **8. Agenda Item 7 Matters Arising**

**Community Garden Access Road continued:** It was emphasised in discussion that community councillors are the trustees of public money and assets, and that the Community Council must act as it sees fit in the best interests of the community. The piece of land in question is not the driveway to Glenelg, but an access road to the Community Garden over which Glenelg has a right of access. A parking arrangement was raised in order to clarify the situation, and avoid any potential issue caused by continuous use.

An email to be sent to Nigel and Kath Martin cordially inviting them to the next meeting to discuss any misunderstandings and with the intention of resolving the matter.

MH

**Pylon Upgrade:** It was indicated that neither the Community Council nor local residents had been consulted by either the Council Planning

MR/AR/SS

Department or Scottish Power about the final location of the pylon upgrade. The properties mainly affected were those outside the main Carsphairn village settlement. The new pylons are planned to be 4 – 6 metres higher than the existing.

It is understood that because East Ayrshire Council has not yet decided whether to object, it is still possible to object to Scottish Ministers. An objection to be drafted and circulated stating that local residents were not made aware of the specific and significant impact of the new route particularly on outlying settlements.

SS

**Remembrance Wreath:** see item 3

**Footpath to Bridgend:** Keith Brown of the Roads Department had asked for an initial meeting because constructing a detailed quote would involve considerable council resource. It was also agreed that – having confirmed with the council – a quote should also be obtained from a private contractor.

MH

### 9. Windfarm Community Benefits

MH presented an email from the Tom Scott, Chair of CREFL who had attended a meeting of some other local Community Councils to discuss how negotiations were to be organised with various windfarm development companies. TS considered that this role should be undertaken by the Community Council, not CREFL. It was agreed SS and one other should represent the Community Council at the next meeting. TS to be informed.

MH

### 10. Future of the Community Council

MH read out Anne Rutherford's letter of resignation as a Community Councillor. The letter was accepted with great regret, and he recorded the thanks and appreciation of the meeting for all the effort and enthusiasm Anne had applied to her work for the Community Council during the over 30 years she had lived in the village. She has agreed to stay on as Treasurer for the time being.

MP

Margaret Phillips resignation email was also presented to the meeting, but in the course of further discussion she reconsidered her situation.

Both resignations concerned issues raised in the correspondence presented in item 6 above concerning alleged potential maladministration and promoting private interest over that of the Community, which both considered unfounded.

There was a general discussion on options should the Community Council become dis-established because there were insufficient voting members. It was agreed that by the next meeting consideration should be given to co-opting new members from recent arrivals in the community, other organisations in the community and from people who have served on the Community Council in the past.

MH

MH

David Whyte indicated that he would be resigning as Secretary after the November meeting, and that a replacement should be sought.

### 11. Community Garden

**Future Maintenance and Management:** The intention is to apply in principle to CFRL for a revenue grant to cover maintenance similar to those already made available to Lagwyne Hall and the Heritage Centre. If this principle is approved then a full application will be made to the January meeting. Ownership status will be reviewed in the New Year.

MR/AR

DW/AR

**Funding:** The final LEADER claim and final report is due to be completed during the month of November.

MR

**Millenium Bench:** Site in the Garden to be determined

- 12. Christmas Tree and Festive Lighting** **MP**  
**DW**  
 Suitable suppliers for trees for the Church, the Hall and the Garden are being followed up.  
 Tree lights for the Garden have been procured.
- 13. Planning Applications**  
 It was noted there were planning applications for
- 2 test masts at the proposed Quantans Hill site **SS**
  - Ground based solar panels at the Challis residence
- The Community Council does not object to either application..
- 14. Correspondence**  
**Seminar for Community Councils 15 November:** An invitation has been received to send 2 representatives. Respond indicating no-one is available. **DW**
- 15. AOB**
- Pub:** SS indicated that the late owner's executor had approached the Community Council. It was agreed that as an initial step TS should be approached to estimate the cost of restoring the building fabric. **SS**  
**MR**
- Pavement outside the Shop:** Council to be approached about the poor state of pavements throughout the village
- Information from Eon:** Darren Challis had not received any documentation from Eon on the proposed windfarm at Quantans Hill, especially notice of the meeting planned on 22 November at 6.00 pm. **DW**  
**SS**
- Glenkens Community Gardens Allotment Project:** Contact made with SS **SS**
- Village Planters:** John Dovaston to be contacted on plans for tidying and future planting.
- PTC:** MP invited MH to a meeting to discuss facilities for young people on 7 December, and informed the meeting of a Christmas Fair in Lagwyne Hall on 11 December **MH/All**

**The meeting closed at 9.45 pm**  
**Date of next meeting: Monday 28 November 2011**  
**At 7.00 pm**

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_