

**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN,
ON MONDAY 9 JUNE 2014 FROM 7.30 PM**

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www.WigtownCC.org.uk

PRESENT		
Jock McDowall	Nick Walker, <i>Convenor</i>	Betty McGowan
Willie McCartney	David McAdam	Robin Richmond
Agnes Cluckie	Jak Kane	Rob Harford
Matt Kitson, <i>Secretary</i>		

IN ATTENDANCE		
Cllr Jim McColm	Cllr Alistair Geddes	Cllr Graham Nicol
David McKay, <i>Free Press</i>	June Robinson, <i>Mins Sec.</i>	David Moran, <i>Treasurer</i>
Elaine Vance, <i>Whauphill CA</i>	Louise Kerr, <i>Galloway Gazette</i>	Joe McKeown

APOLOGIES		
Lynn Drysdale	Carl Davis	Brian Vogan
Police Scotland		

1 WELCOME & APOLOGIES

Nick Walker welcomed all to the meeting, and noted apologies. No urgent items to be added.

2 POLICE MATTERS

No report. Question arose as to progress investigating recent thefts from tradesmen's vans, etc.

3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 12.5.2014 MEETING & CONSIDERATION OF AGM MINUTES

Minutes from business meeting of 12.5.2014 were adopted: prop. Jak Kane, sec. Jock McDowall. Those present agreed that the draft minutes of AGM (also 12.5.2014) appeared accurate; approval will be at AGM 2015.

4 TASKS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Youth Representation – Deferred to next meeting as Rob Harford and Carl Davis not present at this stage in meeting.

DGFirst Waste Presentation – Unable to attend this meeting and not yet confirmed for July meeting.

Wigtown Partnership for Health – CC position on potential siting of new defibrillator reaffirmed after last CC meeting. Response suggests lack of consensus on this with WPH. WPH were advised to contact Planning Dept for advice. No CCllrs agreed to attend WPH meeting on 10.6.2014, but hopefully there will be a volunteer for next meeting, Tuesday 12.8.2014.

NHS Dentistry Area Committee Meeting - Those who attended this meeting made clear statement to NHS managers that NHS dentistry service at Newton Stewart Health Centre is highly valued and used. Decision is for NHS Board and likely to be made in August taking account of feedback from the meeting and other representations. Separate meeting of Wigtown Area Committee on NHS community services in general across Wigtownshire was held in Stranraer on 5.6.2014. Alistair Geddes will ask that minutes of both be circulated to CCs.

Louis McGuffie VC commemoration – No further feedback or suggestions. CC advised to contact D&GC Cllr Archie Dryburgh who is D&GC's lead for WWI commemorations, etc.

5 UPDATES AND REPORTS

5A Festival Committee

No Committee minutes produced. Attendance variable. However good progress made. Final draft programme almost complete. Princess needs confirmed, and various other minor items to be finalised before Machars Action produces programme and distribution to Wigtown and Kirkcubright Schools, Wigtown shops, and residents in Kirkcubright, Whauphill and Wigtown. It was confirmed that all children's events are family events, requiring children to be accompanied by an adult

Note no Festival event now planned for Sunday 13.7.2014 as Wigtown Agricultural Show is hosting Games Day at Bladnoch Park then; thus, this will be advertised in the programme. Photography competition finalised with new junior McGowan Trophy, as well as adult Winnie Anderson Trophy as usual. Fishing Competition to be run this year by Malcolm Booth and Jock McDowall.

5B Consultations Working Party

Jak Kane had previously circulated Consultations Working Party Report for June 2014. The report was accepted. In summary, Wigtown CC response to D&GC **Open Space Strategy** consultation was submitted. With regard to **Scotland's Electoral Future** consultation, Cllrs were encouraged to feedback views via online survey (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DPNQY93>) or in writing to Jak within one week to allow final response to be drafted. Submission deadline is before July CC meeting. **Local Government Boundary Commission for Scotland** consultation on councillor numbers needs views. D&GC has already responded to Local Authority consultation on this. Jak will circulate link for information on this, but deadline is after August CC meeting.

5C Finance and Resources Working Party

David Moran reported on account balances as follows:

Admin. - £158

Action - £2050

Summer Festival - £3351

Christmas lights - £1435

Resilience - £50

Note that Action account includes £1300 grant for Martyrs' Stake info. signage received from Galloway Association of Glasgow for Andrew Wilson's application on our behalf. CC grateful for progress on this project.

5D Planning Working Party

Nick Walker had circulated a report previously:

Current applications

14/P/1/0224 & 14/P/1/0263 REPAINTING SHOPFRONT, INSTALLING PLANT AT REAR, ERECTING FENCE (full planning and listed building consent), 30 NORTH MAIN STREET, WIGTOWN – the Co-op.

Recommend no CC submission.

14/P/1/0261 TELECOM CABINET, CORNER BOTANY STREET & HIGH VENNEL, WIGTOWN

Recommend no CC submission.

Update on proposals

Nil.

Windfarm proposals

Millairies – Appeal lodged with Scottish Government – previous submission automatically considered.

Shennanton, Airriequhillart, Mindork, Auchleand – no update.

Solar panel proposal

Lark Energy meeting Cree Valley CC on 7.7.2014 and Wigtown CC is invited to send a small number of reps. to the meeting. Developer may yet offer to attend July Wigtown CC meeting. Developer plans to hold a public exhibition (in Newton Stewart probably, venue and timing to be confirmed) on 15.7.2014.

Recommendations

CC approve report. No actions required.

CC approved report. Robin Richmond and Willie McCartney may be able to attend Cree Valley CC meeting to hear from Lark Energy (re Solar Panel farm).

Local Development Plan update received from Scottish Government with details of final changes needed to address issues that D&GC could not resolve following last consultation round. Some government decisions reflect feedback from Wigtown residents and Wigtown CC. The report is huge and is available to read on line at <http://www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk/CaseDetails.aspx?id=94397>.

5E Broader Machars CCs Federation

Minutes of Federation meetings of 13.5.2014 and 4.3.2014 had been circulated. Key decisions for early actions are to seek a Federation meeting with D&GC Chief Executive and Elected D&GC Members to discuss communication and engagement with communities in a range of areas of concern; and to ask if the old style of direct community participation in Area Committee business meetings could be reinstated, with the opportunity for Federation input directly to meetings where the CCs have agreed opinions. CC and D&GC Cllrs fully support this approach.

6 COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC

Bell from HMS Wigtown Bay – E-mail circulated from seller of this item looking for potential buyer. CC agreed no action due to expense.

DGFirst - Cemeteries grass cutting to be increased. Noted (with relief) by CC.

Galloway Association of Glasgow – Advice of grant as noted under item 5C above.

Mid Galloway VOICE (Volunteering Opportunities in Community Engagement) – Confusing, short-notice invitation to launch of this pilot programme. D&GC Community Learning & Development (and others in Machars Area Partnership) have funding to encourage and train volunteer. CC agreed to invite MAP (Donna Hoodless) to attend meeting to explain role and activities of MAP. This would be an opportunity to chase a response to our request from six months ago for Community Safety Partnership to attend CC also.

D&GC and Third Sector community funding roadshow – Invitation for Monday 30.6.2014, 2.00 pm to 8.00 pm, Ryan Centre, Stranraer. Open to all voluntary, community and charity organisations in Wigtownshire to hear from funders and gather information and guidance. For info., contact Wendy Jesson at D&GC, Stranraer – 01776 888 317, Wendy.Jesson@dumgal.gov.uk.

Scottish Rural Parliament – Main Scottish Rural Parliament event to take place 6-8.11.2014. This is an opportunity for rural areas to present a collective and coherent voice to the Scottish and UK Governments about what is important to us. Suggested that Federation consider becoming involved with this. A small local meeting may be possible to feed into the national event.

D&GC Local Nature Reserve – Cockle bed assessment to happen over coming weeks. Further meetings about Solway cockle fishing likely to follow. Noted by CC.

D&GC Wigtown Area Committee – Community meeting on **Dark Skies and Biosphere** will be held at Glentroll Community Facility on Wednesday 18.6.2014 from 7.00 pm. All welcome to attend, and all opinions will be welcome too. There will be the chance to question D&GC Officers attending and to help inform an action plan for the area to get full advantage of its special designations.

7 COUNCILLORS' ISSUES

Cllr Jim McColm reported on that the Area Committee has agreed an extra £10K for grass cutting in cemeteries and open spaces, in addition to the enhanced spending already noted from DGFirst (under item 6 above). Developments in the integration of NHS Community Care, Social Work services and voluntary sector will likely be a big issue over coming months. Reminder of Queen's Commonwealth Games Baton Relay passing through Newton Stewart on Thursday 19.6.2014 between 4.20 pm and 4.40 pm; then onto

Stranraer, with a concert planned for the evening in Agnew Park. Some road closures are likely.

Cllr Graham Nicol reported that figures show violent crime increasing across Scotland, partly due to Police Scotland standardising recording rules and processes. Drivers using mobile phones and not wearing seatbelts are apparently still big issues for Police locally. CC asked if there was yet feedback on impact of Police Scotland control room closure, etc. in D&G.

Cllr Alistair Geddes hoped that there would be a good attendance at the Dark Skies & Biosphere meeting on 18.6.2014 (per item 6 above).

8 OTHER BUSINESS

CC noted that Wigtown & Bladnoch Football Club has been very successful this season, winning five trophies. Agreed to write (c/o Cllr McColm) congratulating them on their success.

9 NEXT MEETING

Monday 14 July 2014 at 7.30 pm, Wigtown County Buildings