

**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN,
ON MONDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2015 AT 7.30 PM**

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www.WigtownCC.org.uk

PRESENT

Nick Walker, *Convenor*
Robin Richmond

Jock McDowall
Matt Kitson, *Secretary*

Willie McCartney
Jak Kane

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Alistair Geddes
Louise Kerr,
Galloway Gazette
David McKay, *Free Press*

Cllr Jim McColm
Sgt Susan Prentice,
Police Scotland
David Moran, *Treasurer*

Cllr Graham Nicol
PC Nicola McFadzean,
Police Scotland

APOLOGIES

David McAdam

June Robinson, *Mins Sec*

1 WELCOME

Nick Walker welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies. No urgent other business was identified.

2 POLICE MATTERS

1. Three incidents of theft were reported – Alcohol from the Co-op, Tools from a shed in Kirkinner and tools from a van in Wigtown. The police are currently investigating all three.
2. Operation Quarterlight is currently targeting stolen vehicles.
3. 2nd Week of the Easter Holidays will see the Good Citizen Initiative for young people, supported by Community Learning & Development.
4. Young Drivers Initiative will provide good driver training with funding support for undertaking the driver theory test.

3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (12.1.2015)

Robin noted that his name had been incorrectly spelled. With this correction, adopted: prop. Jock McDowall, sec. Jak Kane.

4 TASKS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

4A Young Scots Award: Matt reported that a volunteer opportunity to become a youth representative on the Community Council has been lodged with the Third Sector.

4B Community Resilience: Matt reported that no progress had been made. Action: Matt to contact Wendy Jesson to determine Wigtown CC's registration on the scheme and to find out whether grant funding may be available in line with other CCs.

4C Wigtown parking and bus stop: D&G Council has advised that a survey of the area has been carried out and they expect to progress the designs in the near future. Once the designs are complete a parking review will be undertaken.

4D Derelict Properties: Carried forward to the next meeting.

4E Public Toilets: Covered under Councillor McColm's issues (item 7.1).

4F Beddie Crescent Play Area: David and Matt reported that work is due to commence on the new play equipment soon together with wooden posts placed on the corner before the play area to deflect vehicles that might skid in icy conditions.

4G Louis McGuffie VC: Nick reported a low turnout at the recent public meeting. Public voting is still ongoing for the proposed sites and renaming of the gardens.

5 UPDATES & REPORTS

5A Consultations

Jak outlined the **Local Development Plan Supplementary Guidance** consultation. Community Councillors were asked to provide feedback direct to Jak by 09/03/2015.

Nick Walker presented a copy of the Health and Social Care Integration consultation paper. Deadline for responses is less than four weeks away (6.3.2015). Action: Matt to put a copy on the Community Council website and link to the online survey form. All encouraged to respond.

5B Finance

David outlined current financial status of accounts as follows:

Christmas: £3,049 with payments outstanding for Christmas Tree (£300) and cherry picker (£100 in vouchers). Action fund: £36. Admin. account: £499. Response Account: £50. Festivals account: to be confirmed.

5C Christmas: Willie reported on the Christmas events debriefing meeting held on 2.2.2015. Based on experiences of past two years, suggestion that lights be switched on later, and to coincide with carol singing earlier; aiming at mid-December event. Lights may be on for Pensioners' Christmas meal prior to official lighting. Market / kist likely to be repeated. Various church events also. Noted electricity payment made to Bowling Club. Regarding lights, agreed new scaffolding poles required for bracket lights, and some replacement tree lights (3-4 sets); Willie to get quotes; David and Willie to make application to Area Committee for funding, and Christmas fund to contribute as needed.

5D Wigtown Week:

Matt, Willie and David reported attending the Riding the Marches presentation where it was agreed that they would explore combining it with Wigtown Week. The initial date proposed is (12.7.2015) is not possible though as Bladnoch Park has vintage vehicles event again. Riding likely to be 28.6.2015 therefore, too early for Wigtown Week, but potentially linked in organisation and program, and insurance. Noted that riders would have to register and verify they have relevant liability insurance. Additional premium (compared to usual Wigtown Week cover) may be partially paid from funds available to Common Riding organising group.

5E Planning:

Report was circulated (attached) and all recommendations were accepted.

5F Federation:

Nick reported that the Federation met on 12.1.2015 to discuss D&GC Budget, and provided some feedback to Elected Members. There was also a working party meeting of all Wigtownshire CCs and D&GC Wigtown Area Committee on 28.1.2015, which agree to propose a system where each CC has one delegate entitled to speak at Area Committee business meetings. This will require approval of full D&G Council but is hoped to come into effect later in the year as a pilot in Wigtownshire. Note Port William CC has left Federation.

6 COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC

Scottish Parliament Communities Conference – Councillors may attend free of charge, on 21.02.2015 at Easterbrook Hall, Crichton, Dumfries.

An enquiry was received about permission for quarrying at **Culquhirk, Wigtown**. D&GC planning dept. advised that no permission was required as it is for private use on the property.

Community Heating Project: Supported by Scottish Hydro, 92 properties with storage heating owned by residents on benefits could apply for replacement with more efficient heaters. Councillors advised to pass on to anyone who might qualify.

7 COUNCILLORS' ISSUES

Cllr McColm

7.1 Public Toilets: Alan Mawson, D&G Council has promised a report by the end of February.

7.2 Wigtown Bay Nature Reserve: Simon Fieldhouse at D&GC is trying to arrange a meeting with Aileen McLeod MSP, Scottish Government Environment Secretary, to deal with outstanding questions around the Wigtown Bay Nature Reserve, and its extension to include the Crook of Baldoon. Agreed that Comm. Council request a meeting with Simon Fieldhouse, Aileen McLeod and Elected Members of D&GC, to expedite this. Jock, Jak and Willie to represent CC.

7.3 Budget: D&GC approved the Budget last week. As a result, 52.8 Support for Learning posts will be cut across D&G over the next 3 years. Agreed CC would link in with Parent Councils at Wigtown and Kirkcubbin, and Community Associations in Kirkcubbin and Whauphill, to request a meeting with Colin Grant, D&GC Education Service, to find out how this affect our district, and how changes can be mitigated. Cllr McColm noted a £500K contingency fund intended for unforeseen circumstances, but details of process are not yet available. Robin and Matt to represent CC.

Cllrs Nicol and Geddes advised that they had nothing to raise beyond issues already discussed.

8 NEXT MEETING

Monday 9 March 2015 at 8.00 pm in Village Hall, Whauphill.

Subsequently 13.04.2015 at 7.30 pm, Wigtown County Bldgs.

Scottish Power Forum for Mid-Galloway 25.2.2015, 7.15 pm, County Bldgs (Robin) (Apologies from Nick).

Federation next meets 10.3.2015, with Elected Members and Police Scotland.

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PLANNING WORKING PARTY REPORT FOR FULL COMM. COUNCIL 9.2.2015

Members – Willie McCartney, Robin Richmond, Nick Walker

Current applications

15/P/1/0012 EXTENSION TO CATTLE SHED & UNDERGROUND SLURRY TANK, LOW MALZIE, WIGTOWN (part retrospective). RECOMMEND – no submission.

14/P/1/0600 REPLACEMENT WINDOWS, 33-34 SOUTH MAIN STREET, WIGTOWN. Unclear whether replacement is like for like, and unclear whether in keeping with conservation status of C listed buildings and town. RECOMMEND – no objection, but comment on requirement for listed building consent, and need to ensure windows are in keeping with conservation status.

15/P/1/0002 DWELLINGHOUSE WITH CARPORT, WOODSHED AND ROOF MOUNTED SOLAR WATER PANELS, PLOT 3, THE ORCHARD, WIGTOWN. Proposal appears in keeping with adjacent houses, on a designated building plot. RECOMMEND – no submission.

15/D/1/0001 EXTENSION TO AGRICULTURAL BUILDING, STEWARTON FARM, KIRKINNER. RECOMMEND – no submission.

Update on proposals

14/P/1/0685 SITING THREE PORTABLE PREFABS. AT TRAMMONDFORD, WIGTOWN. Required for FC to meet SFA standards, etc. SUBMISSION in support per CC meeting 12.1.2015.

Windfarm proposals

D&GC windfarm community benefit policy formally amended, and no longer calling for 50% of community benefit to go to a regional fund. Guidance still suggests community benefit at a minimum rate of £5000 per annum per installed MW generating capacity. D&GC Developer Contributions Officer, McNabb Laurie, is available to support communities in negotiations about community benefit. RECOMMEND – note and welcome new policy.

Shennanton – Per CC meeting 12.1.2015, invited to give short presentation on planning application at 9.2.2015 meeting, and to answer questions. Not confirmed attendance, but also application not lodged. RECOMMEND – await formal application and then seek info. from developer.

California – appeal re Met. mast still pending, and decision now more than 5 weeks overdue. Details on website: www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk/CaseDetails.aspx?id=115342. Preapplication consultation period closed 26.1.2015, and CC contributed to point out that request for public meeting was declined and subsequent comments received no response; CC pointed out strength of feeling locally against the development and summarised key areas of concern; CC asked that this submission be included in the PAC summary which accompanies a formal planning application, if this goes ahead.

Airriequhillart – EDF Energy Renewables has announced decision not to proceed with this proposal.

Auchleand, Mindork – no update.

Solar panel proposal

Causewayend - no update.

Recommendations

CC approve report and its recommended actions.

Nick Walker 8.2.2015