



**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN**  
**ON MONDAY, 8 January 2018**

[contact@WigtownCC.org.uk](mailto:contact@WigtownCC.org.uk)

[www.WigtownCC.org.uk](http://www.WigtownCC.org.uk)

**PRESENT**

Sandra McDowall <i>Convenor</i>	Jak Kane <i>Secretary</i>	David Moran
David McAdam	Willie McCartney	Jock McDowall
Joe McKeown	Robin Richmond	Nick Walker
	Kevin Witt	

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Cllr Jim McColm	Police Scotland	Jen Stout <i>Free Press</i>
-----------------	-----------------	-----------------------------

**APOLOGIES**

Kerr Inger	Matt Kitson
------------	-------------

**1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies from Kerr Inger and Matt Kitson were intimated.

**2 POLICE MATTERS**

In the absence of a local Community Police Officer, a Constable from Stranraer attended the meeting and reported on recent incidents. These included: a break in at Wigtown Pharmacy; a theft of a cash box containing car wash money, theft of heating oil from a tank; and driving problems with black ice, storm conditions and fallen trees.

**3 NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved with the addition of Kirkinner Car Park, Park Cemetery and the B733 at Kirvennie as Other Business.

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Monday, 11 December 2017)**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated. Nick Walker explained that the Salt Bins discussed in 'Other Business' had been those located in Bank Street and not High Street. The minutes were adopted subject to the required amendment, proposed by Kevin Witt and seconded by David Moran.

**5 MATTERS ARISING**

**Salt Bins** - Joe McKeown questioned the Action that had been allocated against his name in respect of that discussion when he had not been present at the meeting and it was explained that it had been suggested that the Resilience Working Party, with him as Convenor, look at whether the co-ordination of volunteers treating icy/snowy paths could be incorporated within its remit. It was accepted that the Council does eventually carry out the work but, in the interim, conditions underfoot could be treacherous for those less able. The wheeled spreaders that had been provided to the CC were not suitable to be used with the salt/grit provided in the council bins as the material was too coarse and damp. Cllr McColm offered to investigate if the finer grade of salt required for use with these spreaders could be sourced from the Council. **ACTION: CLLR McCOLM**

**Wigtown Map** - Jak Kane had circulated a list of businesses and two Community Councillors had suggested changes/additions. Jak would now compose a letter to be sent to all, inviting donations towards the cost of updating the map.

**Wigtown Hide** – Countryside Ranger, Tom Henry had replied to correspondence from the Community Council that had highlighted problems at the harbour hide. He said that the Council

would be repairing the boardwalk leading to the hide and he would try to have repair work carried out to the build-outs for wheelchair users of the hide at the same time. He still maintained that the only way to address the water ingress to the roof of the hide is a full replacement of the membrane that sits below the turf roof but this could not be carried out before Spring 2018 in the new financial year.

**Martyrs Stake Path** – The Council’s Access Team had made initial contact with SPEN re the reinstatement of the path after improvement works to the adjacent power line but there had been no progress. The Access Team would not be able to pursue the issue until January 2018 due to staff pressures. It was agreed that the issue of the removal of poles along the pathway that no longer carried power lines should be included in any future discussions with SPEN.

## 6 UPDATES & REPORTS

### a: Financial Report

The Treasurer had circulated a report prior to the meeting that showed the breakdown of balances in the Administration and Festivals accounts as at 4 January 2018:

Administration	£1,408.04	Summer Festival	£2,433.43
Resilience	1,069.65	Christmas Festival	1,824.57
		McGuffie VC	<u>473.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,477.69</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,731.00</b>

Jak Kane advised that the final two payments from to organisations for poppy wreaths had been received with no other activity on the Admin Account.

On the Festivals account, payments had been made in respect of Liability Insurance £140, Creetown Silver Band £150 and hire of the Church Hall £40. These had been offset by £100 income from the sale of Lucky Square sheets by David McAdam. Confirmation had been received that Wigtown Community Shop would be awarding a grant of £600 for Christmas lights with a further £56 of donations from Scad’s Shop. There remained c£300 to be paid to Wigtown Bowling Club for electricity used for the lights around the Square and on the tree.

A donation of £500 had been made by Stranraer Local History Trust towards the McGuffie VC celebrations that had enabled an £89 payment for a ISBN number to be allocated to the book being produced. An application to Wigtown Community Shop re McGuffie VC had been unsuccessful.

### b: Consultations WP

There was no Consultation Report per se but Jak confirmed that he had submitted a response to the consultation on the Statement of Licensing Policy as agreed at the last meeting. Licensing Standard Officer, Julia Farrol had acknowledged receipt and confirmed that they will provide copies of the operating and layout plans for future applications when consulting with the Community Council.

Cllr Hagmann had reported at the December meeting that the Full Council would be considering the proposed Local Development Plan 2 at its meeting on Tuesday 12 December 2017 with the Council being asked to approve the proposed Plan and agree to publish it for 8 weeks from Monday, 29 January 2018 for consultation. However, Jak explained that on 12 December Councillors had agreed to defer consideration of LDP2 until 18 January and it was not clear if this would defer the start of the consultation. Cllr McColm confirmed that it was still the intention for the proposed LDP2 to be approved in time for the January launch date.

### c: Planning WP

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting that featured one new application and gave updates on earlier applications.

As a result of enquires from the Community Council, an application had been submitted in respect of the Storage Container sited in Duncan Park by RS Carpets. The container has been in situ for a number of years. It was agreed that there be no CC submission.

The Updates on previous applications were noted

Cllr McColm did not participate in the consideration of the subjects of the report.

### d: Resilience WP

No update

**e: Derelict Properties**

No update other than confirmation that Willie McCartney had passed Michael Goldie's contact details to a neighbour of the High Street property..

**f: McGuffie VC Memorial**

Nick Walker confirmed that a Grant application had been submitted to the Wigtown Area Committee and he expected to submit an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund with letters of support by the end of the week. A decision was expected from the Galloway Association of Glasgow soon but Wigtown Community Shop had decided not to make an award. There had been a supportive meeting with Karen Brownlie, DGC re remedial work required on paving, steps, gates and flagpoles required at the existing gateway

**7 WORKING PARTY MEMBERSHIP**

**a) Wigtown Week:** It was agreed that discussion should be left until Matt Kitson was able to take part but, as a first step, Nick Walker agreed to find out the 2018 date for the Riding of the Marches which would coincide with the Food Festival. It was agreed that, rather than have all on the same weekend that the Crowning of the Wigtown Princess as the start of the Summer festiva should be held separately.

**b) Christmas Lights 2018:** It was agreed that a separate working party (WP) should be maintained and that planning for next year should start earlier. Initial members of the WP would include Sandra Mcdowall, David Moran, Jock McDowall, Willie McCartney, and Nick Walker.

**11 COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC**

**Third Sector D&G.** An invitation to an Information Session on 'FareShare in Dumfries & Galloway' to be held in Dumfries on 10 January 2018 had been circulated.

**8 COUNCILLORS' ISSUES**

Cllr McColm referred to the state of Kirvennie Hill on the B733 which had been included as Other Business at the start of the meeting. He had raised the issue with Roads Department and the stretch of road had been patched up but the temporary repair had deteriorated and the condition of the road was now worse than before. Problems were being caused by drainage water flowing across the road and freezing, breaking up the repairs and causing icy patches. There had been a spate of burst tyres and at least two car accidents at this stretch of road and it was agreed that the Community Council write to Roads Department in support of Cllr McColm's efforts for a meaningful and permanent solution to the issue at Kirvennie Hill

He also spoke of the Council's Budget for 2018/19 which still had a funding gap of £10M and he thought it almost inevitable that there would be a sizeable increase in Council Tax.

**OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

**Kirkiner Car Park** – The issue of a caravan and trailers being left in the car park was raised. It was agreed that little could be done as the wheeled vehicles were portable and were parked rather than a structure like a container where Planning Permission would be needed.

**Park Cemetery** – The lack of sufficient parking at Park Cemetery continued to cause problems particularly when a burial was attended by many mourners. It was noted that there had been plans drawn up in the past to provide additional parking on an adjoining piece of land. It was agreed that the secretary would write to Dave McRobert, DGC Principal Roads Services Officer to ask for further information on potential remedies to the problem. **ACTION: Jak Kane**

**Fountainbleu** – Cllr McColm confirmed that he had taken up the issue of the overgrown banking with Stuart Caven. It had been established that the banking was neither owned by the Council nor the owner of the adjacent land. The issue was being pursued but understandably Roads Department priorities are currently potholes and drainage issues

**B733 at Kirvennie Hill** – Covered earlier in Councillors' Issues.

**10 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, 12 February 2018 in Wigtown County Buildings.

