



**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN**  
**ON MONDAY, 12 February 2018**

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

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

**PRESENT**

Willie McCartney *Chairman*  
David Moran  
Robin Richmond

Jak Kane *Secretary*  
David McAdam  
Nick Walker

Kerr Inger  
Joe McKeown  
Kevin Witt

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Cllr Katie Hagmann

Cllr David Inglis  
Euan Maxwell *Free Press*

PC Billy Dodds *Police Scotland*

**APOLOGIES**

Sandra McDowall

Matt Kitson

**1 APOLOGIES**

Apologies from Sandra McDowall and Matt Kitson were intimated.

**2 POLICE MATTERS**

PC Billy Dodds reported on recent incidents. These included: an anonymous report of excessive noise from licensed premises; a horse that had sustained superficial injuries in a road traffic collision with a van at the junction of A714 and Potato Mill Road; and three separate domestic-related incidents which resulted in the perpetrators being detained and interviewed. Out of the three domestic incidents only one person had been charged and reported to the court.

He also highlighted the potential problem of sheep worrying particularly in the coming months and spoke about changes in the laws of criminal procedure recently implemented by the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act 2016.

He explained that a number of Loreburn Houses in Wigtown would be surveyed internally/externally over the next six months. The Police anticipated reports of "suspicious activity" in the areas being surveyed but tenants will be advised of the estimated date of survey of their homes and surveyors carrying out the work will have photo ID and a letter of authority from Loreburn.

Finally, he said that any issues with regard to roads, signage etc, could now be addressed directly to [roadnetworkteam@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:roadnetworkteam@dumgal.gov.uk).

It was agreed that the Secretary would circulate a copy of PC Dodds' full written report after the meeting.

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

The Agenda was approved with the addition of Federation of Community Councils, Dog waste, Ramp at No 11 North Main Street, and Bladnoch Road.

**4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Monday, 8 January 2018)**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated. The minutes were adopted, proposed by Kevin Witt and seconded by David Moran.

**5 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere in the Agenda

## 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 5 February 2018:

Administration	£1,533.04	Summer Festival	£2,433.43
Resilience	1,069.65	Christmas Festival	1,986.54
		McGuffie VC	<u>473.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£2,602.69</u></b>	<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£4,892.97</u></b>

Jak Kane advised that the Bank of Scotland had paid WCC £125 compensation in connection with the problems experienced with changing the signatories on the CC's bank accounts.

On the Festivals account, income of £600 and £56 respectively had been received from Wigtown Community Shop and Scad's Shop for the Winter Festival. Payments had been made in respect of Wigtown Bowling Club's electricity £310, DGC Road Closure fee £88.03 and Kirkinner's Christmas tree £96. The shortfall for the 2017 Christmas event now stood at £172.39 (-£451.85 - 2016)

Notification had been received that Wigtown Community Shop had reconsidered their decision re McGuffie VC and that they would now be awarding a grant of £600.

### b: Consultations WP

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting that detailed two Council consultations with end of March 2018 closing dates.

As discussed at the previous meeting, Councillors had approved the proposed Local Development Plan 2 at its meeting on 18 January and it had now been published for consultation for 8 weeks from Monday, 29 January 2018.

The other was the third and final phase of the consultation on the Review of Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils.

With both consultations the Council had offered support with either a member of the Development Plan Team attending a CC meeting or a separate CC meeting to discuss the proposed Scheme.

It was agreed that Jak Kane would review the documents and draft a response if required for consideration at the March meeting.

### c: Planning WP

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Nick Walker explained that there were no new applications to consider.

The principal update was the Council's decision to refuse permission for 3b's application in connection with Southfield Park due to 3b's failure to provide supplementary information requested. Notification had also been received that the appeal against the refusal for permission for replacement windows at 10 Agnew Crescent had been unsuccessful.

These and updates on two other applications were noted

Cllrs Hagmann and Nicol did not participate in the consideration of the subjects of the report.

### d: Resilience WP

Joe McKeown said that, after discussion with Graeme McKie, he proposed applying for grant support from the newly launched Kilgallioch Community Fund and Awards for All Scotland for the Resilience project that would cover the cost of the proposed generator and associated works. It was agreed that he should make the applications on behalf of the Community Council and Cllr McKeown then left the meeting.

### e: Derelict Properties

No update.

### f: McGuffie VC Memorial

Nick Walker advised that the next meeting of the organising committee was scheduled for 20 February 2018. Grant support had now been confirmed by Heritage Lottery Fund £10,000; Galloway Association of Glasgow £2,000; and Wigtown Community Shop £600. Galloway Preservation Society was currently considering their support and the Wigtown Area Committee was due to meet in March.

## 7 COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC

**Kilgallioch Community Benefit Company** – The Community Council had been invited to send two representatives to the launch of the Company on 8 February 2018 at the North West Castle Hotel, Stranraer. The meeting was attended by Jak Kane and Matt Kitson who had heard about the company and its Kilgallioch Community Fund which was available to groups in this area. This year it would offer grants of up to £10,000 with an application deadline of Monday 9 April for a decision in June.

**Graeme McKie, Ward Worker** – a letter sent to properties in Newton Stewart with details of ground investigations which would take place in connection with the Flood Protection Scheme had been circulated.

**Scottish Fire and Rescue Service** had written about the launch of the Community Asset Register (CAR); essentially a register of volunteers who have a particular asset or skill which they feel could be used to support emergency services and responders at an incident. Eg someone with a boat or a 4X4 to deal with floods and snow.

**NHS Dumfries and Galloway** - advertised two vacancies for Non-Executive Board Members positions, with a closing date of 9 February 2018. Had been circulated prior to the meeting and deadline.

**Containers** – Planning Inspector Emma Stewart reported that Jack Vance had been in regular contact regarding his application and she expected this to be submitted imminently. With regards to Kirkinner, she had been in contact with the company that rented the piece of land and they have been advised that an application was needed.

**'Dual the A75 Group'** had written looking for confirmation that the Community Council had discussed the issue of the need for the A75 to be made dual carriageway and that the Community Council backed the aims of the group. It was agreed that the Secretary should confirm the Community Council's support for the Group.

## 8 COUNCILLORS' ISSUES

Cllr Hagmann said that she had recently attended the Children, Young People and Lifelong Learning Committee meeting. Councils' current statutory duty is to provide 600 hours of Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) to eligible two year olds and all three and four year olds. This statutory duty will change in 2020/2021 when there is a requirement to provide 1140 hours to all eligible children. DGC has adopted a phased approach to ELC expansion. Wigtown Primary School had been identified as a viable location for increasing capacity within this area. Capital works would involve refurbishment works with a slight increase to the existing footprint.

The Committee also discussed current music provision across schools in Dumfries and Galloway and the proposed redesign of the Instrumental Music Service.

Finally she announced that the full Council would meet on 27 February to hopefully agree the 2018/19 Budget.

Cllr Inglis said the Kilgallioch Community Development Company was looking to appoint four voluntary directors from outwith the four primary areas of New Luce, Old Luce, Kirkcowan and Barrhill Community Councils. who already had two representatives each on the Board.

## OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

**Broader Machars Federation** – Nick Walker advised that the next Federation meeting was scheduled for 21 February in the County Buildings. Chief Inspector Hollis from Police Scotland would attend.

**Dog Fouling** – There had been a lot of complaints about the increase in number and frequency of incidences of dog fouling. It was noted that, if it could be determined when and where, the Council's Community Safety Team would attend to engage with the culprits.

**Ramp at side entrance of No 11, North Main Street** – It had been reported that the temporary ramp at the side entrance to Number 11 was a trip hazard after dark when the building was closed. It was agreed that the Secretary would raise the issue with the Festival Company.

**Bladnoch** – Willie McCartney raised the issue of the Bladnoch Road which was ridden with potholes on both side of the road and was also prone to flooding outside 7,8 & 12 Bladnoch. It was

also highlighted that the drains at the junction of Botany Street and Lochancroft Lane also needed to be cleared. The Secretary would contact the Roads Department.

***Bench at Bladnoch bus stop*** – It had been reported previously that the bench at the bus stop in Bladnoch had disappeared. Willie McCartney was able to advise that a replacement had been funded by Wigtown Community Shop.

***Wigtown & Bladnoch Housing Needs Survey*** – Kevin Witt said that Wigtown & Bladnoch Community Initiative had commissioned a survey that he encouraged local residents to complete. A link to the online survey could be found on the WBCI website – [www.wigtownandbladnoch.co.uk](http://www.wigtownandbladnoch.co.uk) . .

## **10 NEXT MEETING**

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