

**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN,
ON MONDAY, 13 AUGUST 2018**

contact@WigtownCC.org.uk

www.WigtownCC.org.uk

PRESENT

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

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Katie Hagmann	Cllr Jim McColm	Euan Maxwell, Free Press
PC John Jamieson	PC Krystle Martin	

APOLOGIES

Kerr Inger	Matt Kitson	Cllr David Inglis
	Cllr Graham Nicol	

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies from Kerr Inger, Matt Kitson, and Cllrs Inglis and Nicol were intimated.

2 POLICE MATTERS

PCs Jamieson and Martin attended the meeting. PC Jamieson first of all apologised for the absence of a Police Officer at the Community Council's July meeting.

He reported that there had been a theft by shoplifting from the Wigtown Co-op reported earlier in the day. Two males aged in their 30s had taken c10 bottles of alcohol with a value of around £200. Enquiries were ongoing and the police were appealing for any dashcam/cctv footage from anyone in the area from 1 to 2 pm.

A notification had been issued re the temporary closure of the road at the County Buildings for the annual Book Festival.

He reported that there had been no hitches at the Riding of the Marches but, while the Wigtown Show itself had gone smoothly, there was an assault reported at the evening dance. The suspect was known.

The Police was running an 'Anti-Social Summer Campaign' initiative during the school holidays in conjunction with DGC Community Safety and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. Teams have been increasing foot patrols within known hot spot problem areas.

Police Scotland has taken the lead for the rollout across Dumfries & Galloway of the 'Keep Safe' initiative that sees a network of local businesses creating safe places for disabled, vulnerable and elderly people when out and about. People can go to Keep Safe places to seek assistance if they feel lost, confused scared or in danger. There are currently over 20 places within D&G and more are to be identified.

www.iammescotland.co.uk .

Following input from Community Councillors, the officers undertook to: alert other licensed retailers in Wigtown of the circumstance of the theft at Wigtown Co-op; assess overgrown roadside vegetation at Trammondford crossroads; and look into a caravan parked in South Main Street causing a potential obstruction.

3 TRANSFORMING WIGTOWNSHIRE

John Ross, Chair of Transforming Wigtownshire and Project Manager, Lynda McKie attended the meeting to speak about the project which will look to improve the delivery of health and social care services (HSC) in Wigtownshire. Transforming Wigtownshire will ask communities to jointly and collaboratively work with the NHS, DGC, voluntary sector and independent sectors to co-design the best possible approach to services within available resources of people and money. This will include looking to identify better use of buildings, staff time and resources.

The programme will address three limited resources: recruitment in the NHS and social care; the financial resources available to the NHS and the local authority for HSC; and infrastructure including Community Hospitals like Newton Stewart which is not fit for purpose.

John explained co-production and how it is different to previous decision making processes and how they will be looking for input from patients, carers, staff and all community members.

Transforming Wigtownshire will be organising a consultation event in the Machars and an invitation will be sent to the Community Council.

Nick Walker provided them with contact details for the Broader Machars Federation of Community Councils and suggested that they engage with the Federation to reach all its members.

It was agreed that Transforming Wigtownshire would be kept on the Community Council agenda for the next meeting, with the issues raised to be discussed and fed back to Lynda McKie.

4 APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Items noted for discussion under Other Business included: Summer seat in Bladnoch and BT phone box.

5 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Monday, 9 July 2018)

The minutes of the previous meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved, proposed by Willie McCartney and seconded by Robin Richmond.

6 MATTERS ARISING

a. Blocked Drains -

The drains at the corner of North Main Street and High Vennel and at the junction between High Vennel and Botany Street, were cleared on 26 July.

b. Park Cemetery

Jak Kane had passed the information about Registers of Scotland (RoS) to Graeme McKie. He had also spoken to Bill McClure (former owner of Maidland Farm) and Alan Wykes. (current owner) and had established that the piece of land had been 'given' to Bill McClure and subsequently transferred to Alan Wykes when he purchased the farm. An email had been sent to Karen Brownlie updating her and asking that the acquisition of the piece of land for parking at the cemetery be progressed

c. A746/Bing Road

Confirmation had been received that the hedge had been added to the list of work for contractors

d. Bing Core Path –

A member of the Access Team undertook to look at the path and see when they could cut it but also to contact the landowner to see if he had plans to do it himself. They later confirmed that the grass was cut the grass on 17 July.

e. Maggie's Centre, D&G

A letter of support was sent to NHS D&G as agreed. An acknowledgement advised that they would be carrying out consultation on the proposal.

f. Kilsture Forest –

Sorbie CC had registered an interest in acquiring the forest and have formed a steering group 'Kilsture Forest Community Group'.

g. Derelict Buildings Pilot Project

Nick Walker advised that the meeting scheduled for July had been postponed until 5 September. As with the original date, Nick would be unavailable and it was again agreed that Robin Richmond and Willie McCartney would attend in his stead.

7 UPDATES & REPORTS

a: Financial Report

Jak Kane had circulated the normal monthly report prior to the meeting along with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure for the Community Festival. From the Administration Account, £400 had been transferred to cover the cost of producing First Day Covers for the McGuffie VC Celebrations as previously agreed, £18.69 paid to Machars Action for administration costs and £1 to BT for the transfer of the Whauphill phone box to the community.

Jak explained that the Festival breakdown showed the up to date position with a shortfall of £184 but a donation was expected from the Machars Young Farmers and a payment due to DGC for the school let. It was expected that one would offset the other.

As well as the aforementioned £400, a further £662.05 had been received from book sales for the McGuffie funds.

b: Consultations WP

A report had been circulated giving details of a consultation event in Stranraer scheduled for 30 August. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) were engaging with people across Scotland on their proposals for transforming to make Scotland's communities safer. They were inviting communities to go along to discuss the Board's transformation proposals and what they might mean for the area.

c: Planning WP

A report had been circulated by Nick Walker. In connection with a retrospective application in connection with Storage Containers in the Station Yard, Kirkinner, it was agreed that the planners be asked to include a condition that the applicant should install screening to improve the appearance of the site.

It was also agreed that the Community Council should make a submission in support of the application for replacement, door, window and chimney pots at 2 Acre Place on the basis that it demonstrated care being taken to improve a listed property in the Conservation area.

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

d: McGuffie Memorial Update

Nick Walker reported that additional McGuffie family members had been identified bringing the latest total to 35. Work on the memorial arch continued with the uprights installed and the arch fabricated and sent to be galvanised and powder coated. The Council were working on the site repairing the steps and path.

8 CORRESPONDENCE, ETC

Martyr's Stake Walkway & steps – a CCES enquiry had been sent asking the Access Team to investigate overgrowth at the walkway & steps and the gate at the Stake end.

Ross Gemmell undertook to clear the vegetation down the ramp and re check the gate as he had recently adjusted it.

BT Payphone kiosks - confirmation had been received from BT that ownership of the phone boxes in Bladnoch & Whauphill had been transferred to WDCC.

Scottish Rural Parliament – Information had been circulated re the Rural Parliament that would be meeting at Ryan Centre, Stranraer from 14 till 16 November. Attendance was open to representatives from all types of community organisations including Community Councillors with free admittance.

Police attendance - Galloway Community Inspector Stewart McColm had sent apologies for the non-attendance of a Police Officer at the July meeting due to the Community Officer who was scheduled to attend, suffering an injury leading to absence at short notice.

8 COUNCILLORS ISSUES

Cllr McColm said that the Council had been in summer recess for the previous 4/5 weeks so there was no business to report on.

Cllr Hagmann said that the Region's LDP2 would be on the agenda for the full Council meeting scheduled for 3 September. She also gave details of a free drop in housing information event for disabled people, older people, disabled veterans and those who support them. Organised by Housing Options Scotland, it will be held at the Ryan Centre, Stranraer between 10am and 3pm on Tuesday, 14th August..

9 OTHER NOTIFIED BUSINESS

Summer Seat, Bladnoch – Willie McCartney reported that the Council's bench at the western end of the village was damaged and in need of repair, A CCES enquiry would be sent asking for it to be repaired.

Bladnoch Phone Box – Kevin Witt was leading on the Phone Box project and Jak Kane proposed that the Community Council allocate £100 towards the cost of Kevin renovating the box. This was agreed..

10 NEXT MEETING

Monday, 10 September 2018, at 7.30pm, Wigtown County Buildings.