

**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN,
ON MONDAY, 14 JANUARY 2019**

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>
Kerr Inger	Matt Kitson	David Moran
David McAdam	Robin Richmond	Kevin Witt

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Jim McColm	Cllr Graeme Nicol
-----------------	-------------------

APOLOGIES

Jock McDowall	Nick Walker	Police & Free Press
---------------	-------------	---------------------

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Jock McDowall, Nick Walker and Cllr Katie Hagmann. In addition, the Police and the Free Press had indicated that they would not have a representative at the meeting.

2 POLICE MATTERS

There was no officer in attendance and no report had been received.

3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business intimated.

4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Monday, 10 December 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 David Moran.

5 MATTERS ARISING

a. DGC Road Closure Fee

Cllr Hagmann had broached the issue of the Council's £100 charge in connection with the temporary road closure for the Christmas light switch-on parade. She had been told that the fee covered the admin including advertising the Order and notifying the Emergency Services. Community Councils and charities benefit from a discount with others charged £1,080. The Council agreed that a closure may not be required but Traffic Management would have to be put in place and this might have its own cost.

b. CC Membership numbers

Jak Kane had looked further into the question of the minimum number of Community Council members required. The terms of the revised Schedule 1 which defines the revised maximum and minimum membership numbers would not come into force until October 2019 following the next scheduled Community Council elections. However, if numbers reduced before the elections, the Council should use the new levels. Under the revised Schedule 1, Wigtown's minimum number of elected Councillors was five.

c. Thomas Wheatley Gravestone

The Secretary had yet to speak to David Cluckie re the work needed on the memorial.

6 UPDATES & REPORTS

a: Financial Report

Jak Kane had circulated a report prior to the meeting. The outstanding payments for poppy wreaths had been received from Wigtown Guides and Brownies, leaving only the cost of Wigtown and Kirkinner's wreaths in the accounts. The annual fee for the Lottery Licence had also been paid.

A DVD of the McGuffie ceremony had been produced at a cost of £250. The Secretary agreed to ask Nick Walker to find out if the Community Council was allowed to produce copies of the DVD or if copyright was held by Purplebox.

A total of £216 had been donated towards the Christmas Festival; £151 from the Santa event organised by the Co-op and £65 from Scad. Wigtown Community Shop had advised that the Community Council had been awarded a grant for the Festival but the amount would not be known until the award ceremony later in the week. Expenditure included £450 for the tree, £100 to DGC for road closure and £150 to Creetown Silver Band. Since the Report, further payments were made: £200 to Wigtown Bowling Club for electricity and £96 for Kirkinner's Christmas tree.

b: Consultations WP

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting giving details of current consultations.

- i. **South West Scotland Transport Study Consultation on Review of Scottish Government's suite of Good Practice Principles for Renewable Energy Developments** - The Scottish Government was undertaking a review of its suite of Good Practice Principles for: Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments; Shared Ownership of Onshore Renewable Energy Developments; and Community Benefits from Offshore Renewable Energy Developments. The review would provide an opportunity to enhance and amend some aspects to reflect lessons learned, and align with current and future investment conditions. The consultation was formally seeking views from a broad range of stakeholders so that the revised documents ensure that communities continue to benefit from renewable projects in a manner that is appropriate for the current and future context in which projects are developed.

It was agreed that Jak Kane would draft a response that covered Community Benefits from both Onshore and Offshore Renewable Energy Developments..

c: Planning WP

Nick Walker had circulated a report prior to the meeting that included a new application in connection with the demolition and replacement of an existing porch and erection of a new shed at Moorpark of Baldoon. It was agreed that no submission be made in respect of this application and updates on earlier applications were noted.

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

d: Federation of Community Councils

The Federation had not met since the last CC meeting.

e: Christmas Lights Working Party

It was agreed that the date of the first meeting of the Working Party would be agreed at the February CC meeting.

7 Galloway Hills Medical Group (GHMG)- Community Defibrillator

The Secretary had written to Wigtown Community Shop asking that they agree to either take over full responsibility for the Defibrillator or that they would cover any financial costs involved with the Community Council dealing with the management of the machine.

The CC's request would be considered at their next Committee meeting. Jak had inspected the machine and found it had indicators showing battery level and pad life, both were positive but the pads had an expiry date of July 2019. Batteries costing £150 normally lasted 4-5 years and pad kits costing £43 needed replaced every 2 years or after use. GMHG could only advise that the defibrillator had not been used since the practice merger.

8 CORRESPONDENCE, ETC

NHS – Live Work and Play – Emma Harper MSP had sent a copy of the NHS D&G brochure that had been designed to assist in the recruitment of GPs to the region. She asked for suggestions that may assist in the recruitment strategy and it was mooted that GPs be offered interest free loans for house purchase and that they be salaried rather than be required to buy into a privately owned practice.

BBC – Debbie Muir, Sr Journalist Team Manger in Dumfries had written to say that the BBC were very keen to establish strong ties with local communities and asking for info re cc meetings as they would like to make it along to more of these. It was agreed that Debbie's email address would be added to the CC circulation list so that the BBC would receive the CC agendas and minutes.

Third Sector Dumfries & Galloway – The Third Sector interface would be holding regular monthly roadshows in Wigtownshire. The January event would be held in Burns House, Stranraer on 23 January from 10am – 1pm.

Tory Question Time – An event featuring National & Local Conservative Politicians had been organised for Monday, 4 March in Dalbeattie.

9 COUNCILLORS ISSUES

Cllr Nicol said that the Council budget was still the highest priority with savings of £17m needed this year with maybe the same level of savings needed next year. Some loss of services is likely as 58% of the available budget is ring-fenced restricting available options. The Council was committed to making no compulsory redundancies.

Cllr McColm said that there had been a meeting with the NHS re the problem with the IT system used by Galloway Hills Medical Group (GHMG) that had seen restricted GP service at Wigtown Surgery. The problem was being blamed on BT and GHMG and the Integration Joint Board had put pressure on BT to resolve the issue.

He also reported that the deadline for applications for Participatory Budgeting (PB) funds had now passed. Jak Kane highlighted that there had again been limited notice of this funding opportunity given to Community Councils direct. Initial information had been disseminated at the November CC meeting because information had been sent to Machars Action. The first that the Community Council was told of the funding by the Council was three days after its December meeting and the fund's closing date was three days after the January meeting. Cllr McColm said that it had been agreed after criticism of the process in the previous round of PB funding that Community Councils would be included in the rollout of the Scheme and he would endeavour to find out what went wrong.

Matt Kitson asked about the defective lamppost in Potato Mill Road that the Council's contractors would repair when they were next in the area. He felt that it was unsatisfactory for the timescale to be open-ended and asked at what stage would the Council insist that the contractors carry out the work irrespective of the number of other work they had in the region. Cllr McColm undertook to ask the question.

10 OTHER BUSINESS

Amended Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in Dumfries & Galloway 2018 – Jak Kane explained that the amended Scheme came into force on 1 November 2018 and the Scheme needed to be formally adopted by Community

Councils. The Scheme which also operates as the Constitution for all Community Councils in Dumfries & Galloway was adopted by the Royal Burgh of Wigtown & District Community Council and was signed by Sandra McDowall as Convenor and witnessed by Jak Kane, Secretary.

The Secretary agreed to raise the following matters with the Council:

Station Road – Kerr Inger again raised the issue of the poor condition of the road surface in Station Road. Cllr McColm said that he thought that any plans for resurfacing would be delayed while construction work was being carried out.

Agnew Crescent – There had been a vehicle collision with a lamp post in Agnew Crescent that required the lamp post to be replaced. However, the light fitting had not been refitted.

All Souls RC Church – The paving slabs at the dropped pavement outside the chapel had dropped and the depression caused a large puddle to form from rainwater.

10 NEXT MEETING

Monday, 11 February 2019 at 7.30pm, Wigtown County Buildings.