

**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN,
ON MONDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2014 AT 7.30 PM**

contact@WigtownCC.org.uk

www.WigtownCC.org.uk

PRESENT

Nick Walker, *Convenor*
Robin Richmond
Jak Kane

Jock McDowall
Matt Kitson, *Secretary*
David McAdam

Willie McCartney
Betty McGowan
Brian Vogan

IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Alistair Geddes
Bill McClure
*Building Healthy
Communities:-*

Cllr Jim McColm
Louise Kerr, *Galloway Gazette*
Sue Reedman

David Moran, *Treasurer*
David McKay, *Free Press*
Nathalie Guillaume

APOLOGIES

Cllr Graham Nicol

June Robinson, *Mins Sec*

Agnes Cluckie

1 WELCOME

Nick Walker welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies.

2 POLICE MATTERS

No update.

3. BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES – PRESENTATION

Nathalie Guillaume and Sue Reedman of Building Healthy Communities gave a presentation on role of the team, and the range of activities and initiatives they have organised and been part of. Established in 2001, the programme has received national recognition for achievement in empowering and enabling individuals and groups to improve health outcomes and quality of life. The presentation was very informative, and some written info. was left for CC. Nick Walker thanked Nathalie and Sue for their presentation.

4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (11.8.2014)

Adopted: prop. Jock McDowall, sec. David Moran.

5 TASKS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

5A Young Scots Award: Matt reported that volunteering opportunities within the scheme are managed through the Third Sector within D&G. Matt has contacted them to establish membership and placement of volunteer opportunities within the Community Council.

5B Louis McGuffie: The working party has narrowed the potential locations for the memorial stone to two: entrance to the Gardens opposite the County Buildings, and entrance to the Gardens at the bus stop near the Mercat Cross. WP meets again on 15.12.2014 and details will be finalised for a public engagement in January.

5C Solway Firth Partnership: Presentation to CC confirmed for March 2015 meeting.

5D Kirkinner/Braehead street signs: D&GC/DGFirst Roads Department will check signage and repair as necessary. No timescale has been provided.

5E Parking near Mercat Cross: D&GC has been asked to review parking, and feedback to CC.

5F Amended Community Councils' Constitution: Nick Walker proposed an Extraordinary General Meeting to be convened prior to the December regular meeting, to consider and adopt

the new Constitution, as the revised Scheme requires. This was agreed. Discussed possible move of AGM to allow more time for accounts to be prepared and revised, if necessary. Treasurer felt May AGM was adequate. No amendments to Constitution were proposed.

5G Derelict Properties: Cllr Geddes updated the meeting on the status of 24 North Main Street – the rear wall has collapsed and Planning/Building Control approval is being sought for revised work. This will also require agreement of Historic Scotland. No timescale at present and works halted meantime.

Further property in High Street, Wigtown – Cllr Geddes has agreement from Alistair Speedie, D&GC Director of Planning and Environment, for a site visit with D&GC Councillors, CCllrs and local residents, on 3.12.2014. Agreed Robin Richmond, Willie McCartney and David Moran to attend. Time to be confirmed. [*Later confirmed as 3.00 pm at County Bldgs.*]

6 UPDATES & REPORTS

6A Planning Working Party

WP report was previously circulated:

Current applications

14/P/10477 BARNBARROCH MAINS, WHAUPHILL. Erection of steel framed agricultural shed. RECOMMEND – no submission.

14/P/1/0638 ADJACENT TO 7 HIGH VENNEL, WIGTOWN. Erection of house and oil storage tank, on vacant lot. RECOMMEND – view documents and consider any local concerns, may need to ask for longer to come to an opinion.

Update on proposals

14/P/1/0293 – Crook of Baldoon RSPB work – approved by PAC.

Windfarm proposals

Shennanton – meeting of CLG 16.10.2014 (Jak Kane attended). Submission of planning application now expected January 2015. Public exhibition 25.11.2014 at 4.00 pm, in Kirkcowan.

California – appeal re Met. mast pending. New submission of formal notice of intention to lodge a planning application for seven turbines 126 metres tall on Kirkdale Hill and Torr Knowe across Wigtown Bay above Carsluith. RECOMMEND – set up small working party to gather info. and formulate draft CC response in the time available before the actual application is lodged with D&GC.

Auchleand, Airriequhillart, Mindork – no update.

Solar panel proposal

Causewayend - no update.

Recommendations

CC approve report.

CC remit small working party to handle California windfarm application.

Cllr Geddes and Cllr McColm were present but did not contribute to any discussions.

Report was approved. Discussion about California Windpark proposal agreed that CC should start to consider this in more detail, liaising with neighbouring CCs, Broader Machars Federation, and local residents and groups (including Save Wigtown Bay). Robin Richmond and David Moran appointed to this role. Given clear extent of public concern about proposal, CC resolved to ask developer (Ecotricity) to convene a full Public Meeting as soon as possible to inform the broader community and hear community concerns, rather than relying on public exhibitions and CC contact alone. CC request to be shared with Federation, asking for Federation support for Public Meeting request.

6B Consultations Working Party

Jak Kane previously circulated a monthly report. D&GC budget consultation process discussed. CC concerned about short timescales. Resolved to ask D&GC for two hard copies of the budget

as soon as it becomes available, to facilitate proper review, as had been agreed by D&GC Chief Executive when he attended Federation.

6C Finance & Resources

All accounts are in credit. Payment made for Martyrs' Monolith. Nick Walker asked CC to agree Saturday 10.1.2015 for formal dedication of monolith, as this suits main funders – Galloway Association of Glasgow and Scottish Covenanter Memorials Association – to attend; and an informal reception in County Bldgs after the dedication. This was agreed.

6D Christmas Working Party

Jock McDowall reported quote for Xmas Tree including installation, putting up lights, and removal, same as 2013 – £350. Agreed to confirm order. Lights around Gardens to be put up Sunday 16.11.2014, and cherry tree lights over weekend of 22/23 November subject to Nick Walker confirming cherry-picker. Agreed not to do raffle this year. Fliers for Xmas events to be completed once final details of related events confirmed.

7 COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC

Riding the Marches – Andrew Wilson provided written update on progress. Horse people recommended a Sunday afternoon/evening during Wigtown Week. Agreed CC to provide rep. on organising group for Common Riding, and link into Festival Committee.

Wigtown Cemetery Hedges – CC notified by D&GC, after the event, that work is being done on roadside by Park Cemetery, as the hedge is no longer viable; a post and rail fence will be erected, and a new Beech hedge will be planted. Safe parking remains an issue.

Scottish Power Forum – Meeting Wednesday 19.11.2014 at 7.15 pm. Nick Walker and Robin Richmond to attend.

Beddie Crescent Play Area Refurbishment – Two designs are being proposed by D&GC. Agreed to invite officer to attend December CC meeting to discuss ahead of public consultation.

Broadband Rollout – South of Scotland Alliance and BT report that broadband rollout for Machars is on schedule and Wigtown area should be upgraded by end of March 2015. It was noted that BT website does not reflect this.

8 COUNCILLORS' ISSUES

Cllr McColm advised potholes around Square had been filled and those in Church Lane are due to be completed. Wigtown Common Good Fund received £5800 capital boost with the winding up of Beddie Fund. Capital now stands at £15K. D&GC Planning Applications Committee will consider new D&G Infirmary plans in December. **Cllr Geddes** had no further issues to raise.

9 OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

None

10 NEXT MEETING

Monday 8 December 2014 at 7.30 pm in County Buildings, Wigtown.

Extraordinary General Meeting to consider adoption of new CC Constitution, followed by ordinary business meeting.

Subsequently Wigtown County Bldgs: 12.1.2015 at 7.30 pm, 9.2.2015 at 7.30 pm.