

**ROYAL BURGH of WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN THE COUNTY BUILDINGS, WIGTOWN,  
ON MONDAY 14 September 2015 AT 7.30 PM**

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

<b>PRESENT</b>		
Nick Walker	Jock McDowall	Willie McCartney
Robin Richmond	Matt Kitson, <i>Convenor</i>	David Moran, <i>Treasurer</i>
Joe McKeown	David McAdam	Robert Harford

<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>		
Cllr Alistair Geddes	Cllr Jim McColm	<i>Wigtown Free Press</i> David McKay

<b>APOLOGIES</b>		
Cllr Graham Nichol	Jak Kane, <i>Secretary</i>	<i>Galloway Gazette</i> Louise Kerr

**1 WELCOME**

Matt Kitson welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies. In the absence of the Secretary and no councillor volunteers, Matt Kitson undertook to record the minutes of the meeting.

**2 POLICE MATTERS**

No police report

**3 APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING (10 August.2015)**

Adopted: prop. Willie McCartney, sec. Robin Richmond.

**4 Updates & Reports**

**Consultations WP:** Matt Kitson advised the meeting that Jak Kane had drafted and submitted a response to the Amendment to the CC Establishment Scheme on behalf of Wigtown CC.

**Planning WP:** Pre-circulated report was presented by Nick Walker and recommendations approved by the meeting.

**Louis McGuffie Memorial:** Nick Walker advised that the next meeting is scheduled for Weds 16<sup>th</sup> September and an update will be provided at the October CC meeting.

**5. Tasks from previous meeting:**

A. **Education issue** (Nick);

Simon Patty from D&G Education is to meet with the Wigtown School Headteacher and Parent Council Leader – no agenda is available.

- B. **Youth representation** (Rob/Matt); Rob advised that a potential youth representative had come forward but has since withdrawn. This remains an issue for the CC.
- C. **Community Resilience** (Matt); Matt to meet with Wendy Jesson in the next two weeks to progress and report back to the next meeting.
- D. **Wigtown parking & bus stop** (Matt); No update. Matt to re-raise via the CCES.
- E. **Derelict properties** (Robin/Cllr Geddes); Cllr Geddes updated the meeting regarding progress on the two properties of concern to the council. 26 North Main Street – advice from the planning department suggests that they are awaiting Scottish Heritage approval for changes following the collapse of the rear wall. Work will not recommence on site for at least 3 to 6 months and the contract will need to be re-tendered due to the time between ceasing work and recommencement. The meeting found the delays and lack of a comprehensive timescale to completion unacceptable and agreed to endorse Cllr Geddes to impress upon the planning department the Community Councils dissatisfaction with progress. 24 High Street – The meeting asked Cllr Geddes to put forward the Community Councils concerns at the length of time that it has taken to address the work necessary to the property and to endeavor to establish an acceptable timescale. The meeting agreed that the problem of derelict properties does not have a coherent approach by D&G Council and this needs to be addressed to avoid the unacceptable length of time individual cases are taking to resolve. As the Wigtown Book Festival approaches, 10,000 visitors will be greeted with the site of derelict properties in a conservation national book town.
- F. **Minutes Secretary**; No volunteers or external interest despite adverts in Machars action. Agreed to await next meeting and the formation of the new CC.

## 6. **Wigtown Fairtrade**

Nick provided an update from the last meeting of the Wigtown Fairtrade committee. The council agreed to re-confirm their support and to allow the use of the Wigtown Coat of Arms.

## 7. **Remembrance Day**

It was agreed that the council would order the same number of wreaths as last year and that Matt would contact Janet Patterson or Wendy McCreddie to see who would accept the wreath for Kirkiner community following the dissolution of the Kirkiner CA. If no-one is identified then Matt to contact the Headteacher at Kirkiner Primary School to see if they would present the wreath.

Matt to book the piper and contact relative groups to start preparations for Remembrance day.

## 8. **Community Council Elections**

Matt reminded everyone that the closing date for nominations is Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September. Nick had some blank nomination forms if required.

## 9. **Communications, correspondence, etc.**

NHS Area Committee meeting – Thurs 17<sup>th</sup> Sept 6:30pm at The DEHS. Willie McCartney to attend/

Digital Engagement Workshop for Community Councils – various dates

Fairer Scotland Engagement Fund – applications for grants of £300 to £500 to run an event to gather participants' thoughts about creating a fairer, respectful and healthy Scotland. Deadline for applications 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

Southfield Park planning – enquiry regarding planning approval.

Bank of Scotland changes to opening hours – limited to Wednesday and Friday from the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

#### **10. Councillors' Issues**

Cllr McColm highlighted the higher costs related to the Waste Recycling collections in Wigtownshire and the halt to the rollout to the rest of D&G. A Council meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> September will consider a report which leaves little time for consideration and has considerable gaps in its consideration of the issues.

#### **11. Other Urgent Business**

Overgrown Hedge at Beddie Crescent blocking the footpath. This is a private hedge, however it was agreed to raise the meeting's concerns with D&G.

Christmas – The Wigtown Book Festival Company have agreed to run the Christmas Kist again this year – 28/29<sup>th</sup> November.

Matt to book the Creetown Silver Band for the switching on of the lights.

#### **10 NEXT MEETING**

**Monday 12 October 2015 at 7.30 pm in County Buildings, Wigtown.**

Subsequently meetings are subject to the outcome of the Community Council elections

**ROYAL BURGH OF WIGTOWN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
PLANNING WORKING PARTY REPORT FOR FULL COMM. COUNCIL 14.9.2015**

**Members** - Willie McCartney, Robin Richmond, Nick Walker

**Current applications**

**15/P/1/0205 RENEWAL OF PERMISSION (12/P/1/0261) FOR ERECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSE, GLENARROWN, BRAEHEAD.**

RECOMMEND – no submission.

**15/P/1/0217 FORMATION OF EARTH BANKED SILAGE PIT AND ASSOCIATED WORKS, ORCHARDTON FARM, KIRKINNER.**

RECOMMEND – no submission.

**Update on general applications**

**15/P/1/0159 EXTERNAL CABINET, WIGTOWN SURGERY** for public defibrillator.

Submission in support per August CC meeting. **D&GC has approved the application.**

**Renewable energy proposals**

**15/P/1/0031 SHENNANTON WINDFARM, NEWTON STEWART.**

12 turbines, 100m to blade tip, ancillary structures, etc. UPDATE: nil.

**15/P/2/0053 CALIFORNIA WINDFARM, CARSLUITH.** 7 turbines, 110m to blade tip, structures, etc. UPDATE: nil.

**13/P/1/0366 AUCHLEAND WINDFARM, WIGTOWN.**

7 turbines, 130 m to blade tip, ancillary structures, etc. UPDATE: nil.

**15/E/1/0008 SOLAR PANEL FARM, BALDOON.**

UPDATE: nil.

**Recommendations**

Note report, accept recommendations.