

Cree Valley Community Council

Minutes: 10th January 2022

7:00pm Zoom

Attendees: Ben Palmer (Chair), Clifford Smithers (Vice Chair), Charles Marshall (Secretary), Richard Kay (treasurer) Jim Brown, Ben Palmer, Morag McIlwraith, Steph Bishop, Rev. N Newton, Angela Marshall, Cllr. D Inglis, Cllr J. McCamon.

Apologies: Alison McCathie, Jenni Marshall, Cllr K. Haggmann

Guests : Louise Kerr (Free Press).

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Proposed – R. Kay.

Seconded –. C. Smithers.

Chair – Matters Arising

B. Palmer reported that he was still waiting on a reply from the Forestry Commission re forest tracks and maintenance of tracks.

Police Scotland: Report & Questions.

Report circulated in separate email. It was noted that the Police had to attend an incident at the Central Bar in Newton Stewart.

Visitor Presentations

It was agreed that Cree Valley Community should progress membership of the Biosphere Community for the Cree Valley area.

None

Elected Members

Cllr J. McCamon reported that a meeting is to be held next week with Representative of JDH re mining at Blackcraig. She added that she had also asked for an update on the progress of CCTV in Newton Stewart.

J. Brown stated that the complaint re Planning and the Vault in Newton Stewart will now progress to Stage 2 of the Council's Complaints process.

Cllr. D Inglis reported that he would progress the outstanding issues of potholes with DGC.

1. Planning

J. Brown reported that the only application made for the Cree Valley Area during the previous period was a conversion to a property at Penninghame.

2. Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme

Cllr J. McCamon stated that all answers to questions on the Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme had been given to CVCC. J. Brown replied that he was not satisfied with the responses from Dumfries and Galloway Council (DGC), regarding River Management adding that this should be brought to the attention of Audit Scotland as he felt this was a statutory duty of DGC.

3. Kilgallioch Wind Farm Benefit Fund

B. Palmer stated that he was disappointed in the Benefit Review in that it did not include the process for selection of Core Communities. In addition, the views of Cree Valley residents appeared to have been over-represented and therefore were not included in some of the conclusions of the report. He added that Kilgallioch Benefit Company had “revised” some of the wording in the report (FOI Request).

It was agreed a further meeting of the Sub-group would be arranged to discuss the next steps.

4. Events Group

C. Smithers reported that the Hogmanay Hoolie had been cancelled due to Covid restrictions. He added that the money raised for the Hoolie could be used for a Spring/Summer event. It was agreed this would need to be verified with funders.

C. Smithers reported that the sale of Raffle Tickets had been very successful.

5. Resilience

Nil Report.

It was agreed that part of the £2,000 grant from Kilgallioch could be used for the “running” of the Resilience Team. It was agreed that costs would be required before a decision was made on the purchase and use of “chain saws” by the Resilience Team.

6. CVADT Update

As per Events Group. In addition, it was reported that the Winter Wonderland had been highly successful.

7. Southern Upland Way

B. Palmer reported that several trees had fallen between the bridge at Clacheneasy to Bargrennan. It was agreed contact would be made with the Forestry Commission.

8. Update on Action points.

C. Marshall reported that:

- The erosion on the River Cree was still outstanding.
- Glentool - road/pavement repairs were still outstanding.
- The off Princes Avenue/lane requires the repairs carried out to be finalised.
- T- junction at the Cree Bridge was in urgent need of repair, still outstanding.

Public Forum – None.

Correspondence

All issued prior to meeting.

D. Inglis suggested that all correspondence should be read out at the meeting.

Financial Update:

The Financial Reports were distributed.

AOCB

R. Kay reported a water leak in Church Lane.

S. Bishop reported that several streetlights were not working in Penninghame.

Morag McIlwraith reported that a tree had fallen in Glentroll and had brought down an overhead wire.

Next meeting 6th February 2022 at 7:15 p.m. at the McMillan Hall Newton Stewart