

Cree Valley Community Council

Minutes: 7th June 2021

7:00pm ZOOM Meeting

Attendees: Ben Palmer (Chair), Clifford Smithers (Vice Chair), Charles Marshall (Secretary), Richard Kay (Treasurer), Jim Brown, Rev. Newton, Angela Marshall, Jenny Marshall, Ben Palmer, M. McIlwraith, Cllr. D Inglis, Cllr K. Hagmann.

Apologies: Alison McCathie, Cllr, J. McColm, Kerren Walker (DGC)

Elected Members: Cllr J. Carson.

Guests : None

Chair – Welcomed all to the May 2021 meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Proposed – Ben Palmer

Seconded – N. Newton.

Chair – Matters Arising

R. Kay reported that the off Princes Avenue/lane requires the repairs carried out to finalised

C. Marshall expressed concern regarding the effectiveness of the Community Council Enquiry System (CCES).

In particular:

- Calls being closed without work being carried out.
- The number of times calls must be followed up.
- He stated that in one instance at least five calls were raised and closed for one repair on the River Cree banking. He added that this would improve the DGC Performance Statistics, whereas in reality there was dis- satisfaction with the system.

Police Scotland: Report & Questions.

Circulated after the meeting.

Elected Members

B. Palmer stated that he thought the proposed Newton Stewart Flood Protection Scheme was not fit for purpose. He proposed that the opinion of a Hydrologist should be sought to examine the proposal.

Seconded : R. Kay

1. Planning

It was agreed that a separate meeting should be arranged to discuss the proposals for:

- Crungie Wood
- Licensing for the Vault

2. Newton Stewart Hospital

It was reported that the Hospital was currently being used for Covid-19 vaccinations.

D. Inglis reported that there were no updates on post Covid-19 plans for the Hospital.

K. Hagmann reported that an update meeting was planned for the next two/three weeks.

N. Newton stated that the Community Bus should include the Hospital on its route.

3. Kilgallioch Wind Farm Benefit Fund

C. Marshall reported that Jane Atterton of SRUC had stated the report on the review of the Benefit Fund was due for completion at the start of July.

J. Brown is also drafting a reply to the Chief Executive of Scottish Power.

4. Events Group

N. Newton reported that the Christmas Fayre and Hogmanay Hoolie could happen, depending on the situation with Covid-19.

5. Resilience Planning

The report from the Resilience Team (dated 7th June 2021) was noted:

- Unfortunately, we have had our grant application to Foundation Scotland - Adapt and Thrive turned down. This was despite 6 months of hard work, but we are currently working on other applications.
- CVRT are known members of Volunteer Scotland. All the volunteers will require to be PVG checked. Volunteer Scotland will submit the applications on our behalf, with me a principal signature. As we are members of Volunteer Scotland the checks are free.
- We now have full use of a storage container in Barnkirk Roads depot, courtesy of Dumfries and Galloway Council. They also have another one at Dumfries which may be offered to us.
- We have made two visits to SFRS at Newton Stewart Fire Station to familiarise the Fire Fighters on the Polaris.
- The Polaris was used to assist the WOMENS Community Group distribute their hanging baskets around NS.
- Today the second Defib was installed at Newton Stewart Adult Recourse Centre.

6. Cree Valley Area Development Trust (CVADT)

D. Inglis stated that a significant amount of money could become available through the PLACES project. It was agreed that all groups should work together.

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 finalised

C. Smithers reported that he was disappointed with the response from the Community Payback Team in respect of availability.

Public Forum – None.

Correspondence

All issued prior to meeting.

Financial Update:

The Financial Reports were distributed.

AOCB

R. Kay stated that the 500-bus service was unsatisfactory in respect of the buses employed. He added that these were not suitable for the length of journey.

K. Hagmann stated that a letter should be written to Stagecoach asking how Community Councils can “feed into” considerations re bus routes etc: to ensure opinions are heard.

J. Marshall reported that Disabled Parking within the town had been remarked. However she added that this had been done outside the Co-op but not in Victoria Street or Albert Street.

Next meeting 5th July 2021 at 7:00 p.m. (via ZOOM).