

Cree Valley Community Council

Minutes: 2nd November 2020

7:00pm ZOOM Meeting

Attendees: Clifford Smithers (Chair), Jim Brown (Vice Chair), Charles Marshall (Secretary), Richard Kay (Treasurer), Rev. Newton, Allan Marshall, Angela Marshall, Morag McIlwraith), Ben Palmer, Ben Askew

Elected Members: Cllr. Cllr. K Hagmann, Cllr. D Inglis, Cllr J. McColm

Free Press – L. Kerr

Guests : None

Chair – Welcomed all to November 2020 meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Omission from September 2020 Minutes

Allan Marshall raised the fact that Newton Stewart Hospital was a separate Agenda item on the minutes. In addition, the issue of building at Station Road Yard was not recorded.

C. Smithers stated that the car parked in Queen Street was a resident in Queen Street. He added that the Police were aware of it and the issue of Disc Parking should be pursued. K.Hagman stated that the Council was only responsible for the Car Parks in Newton Stewart; however, will raise the whole issue at Area Committee.

K. Hagmann will pursue the issue of a Bottle Bank in Glentool.

Allan Marshall reported that he had received a complaint re someone's parent been taken to the Galloway Community Hospital three times for respite care, despite being suitable for admission to Newton Stewart Hospital.

A. Marshall proposed that CVCC write to Dumfries and Galloway Health Board regarding this issue and ask for their reassurance that Newton Stewart Hospital will reopen and not be closed permanently.

Seconded: N. Newton

With the above amendments

Proposed – R. Kay Seconded – Nigel Newton.

Chair – Matters Arising

None.

Police Scotland: Report & Questions.:

Report circulated in a separate email.

Elected Members

C. Marshall raised an issue with Community Council Enquiry System (CCES), in particular calls being closed without the issue being resolved. He gave two examples of this namely:

1. Erosion on the River Cree.
2. Flooding on Elizabeth Crescent.

It was agreed by all that calls on CCES should only be closed when the issue is resolved. In addition, Cllr K. Hagmann will raise this matter with DGC.

C. Marshall proposed that a formal complaint to DGC is raised, seconded J. Brown

J. McColm reported that recycling bins are being delivered. He added this is part of a Nationwide initiative and options are available (on DGC website) if residents do not have enough space for them.

K. Hagmann reported that consultation is taking place on Polling Stations (in for example Glentool). She added that she will put in a request for a glass recycling point at Glentool.

D. Inglis reported that the Newton Stewart Flood Scheme team were almost ready to consult with Community Council. However, this was very dependent on the position with Covid-19.

K. Hagmann also reported that:

1. A six-month temporary post for the Wigtown Ward Officer has been approved (due to staff illness)
2. Robert Lowther has taken on the role of Community Assets Manager (due to staff secondment).

D. Inglis reported that there was a backlog of Community Service hours (39,000 hours), which he was concerned about. He added that ascertain how CVCC could access this “resource” and CVCC should prepare a list of requirements.

K. Hagmann confirmed that the Roads Deficit Report was on target for December 2020.

1. Planning

J. Brown reported that an application for a Café at the Wigtown Service Station had been made.

After discussion it was agreed that CVCC should agree to the application on condition suitable traffic management arrangements are in place.

2. Christmas Lights Funding

R. Kay that CVCC will receive £2,000 from DGC Area Committee; however there is still a shortfall of approximately £3,000. He added that there was an extra cost for the supporting wires (safety check) across the road.

It was unanimously agreed that any shortfall could be financed by using the money from Kilgallioch which was ring fenced for CCTV (assuming funding is not received from elsewhere).

3. Community Action Plan (CAP) and formation of Trust

C. Marshall reported that a draft CAP has been produced and further meeting arranged with Community Enterprise to discuss this and prioritise activities in the CAP.
He added that the Development Trust has now been established and will be advertising for members in due course.

4. Kilgallioch Wind Farm

Nothing to report.

5. Events

C. Smithers that for Remembrance Sunday there will be no ceremony however individuals would be able wreaths in their own time, observing Covid-19 guidelines.

C. Smithers reported that the Xmas Tree had been sponsored by Montpelier

A. McCathie reported that no funding for Xmas gifts this year from Sainsbury's. C. Smithers reported that the Co-op was supporting CVCC this year for advent calendars which he hoped to deliver to the Primary Schools in the area.

6. Resilience Planning

Allan Marshall reported that he had been in contact with R. Lowther re storing the Polaris and was in the process of arranging training and setting up a Memorandum of Understanding with DGC on the use of the Polaris.

He added that the ideal solution would be for a Storage Cabin in Barnkirk Depot.

C. Smithers stated that an application could be submitted to Kilgallioch for funding.

7. Borderlands.

C. Smithers reported that CVCC were looking for a presentation on Borderlands.

K. Hagmann replied that the PLACE Business Case was still in development and the team are not yet in a position to give a presentation.

D. Inglis stated that Building Standards in DGC were investigating the condition of the Grapes Hotel in Newton Stewart.

8. Blairmount Park complaint

On-going

9. Action Points

C. Marshall reported that:

1. Path from Masonfield Drive to River Cree – Overgrown - now addressed.
2. Approach to Sparling Bridge on Minnigaff side, grass needs cut - still outstanding.
3. Lights on Sparling Bridge handrail on Sparling Bridge out in addition to light standard – still outstanding.
4. Heron Way traffic issue CCES raised.
5. Riverside Road issues – will be input to CCES tomorrow.
6. GAP site next to AB&A Mathews Property Office still outstanding.

D. Inglis stated that the entrances to Newton Stewart (roundabout in particular) should be tidied up by Amey

C. Smithers reported that the "Spooky Walk" had been a great success and credit should go to the organisers.

Public Forum - none

Correspondence –
Secretary - all sent out.

Financial Update:

The Financial Reports were distributed.

AOCB

A. Marshall reported that an ex Council House in Racegreen Avenue has fallen into disrepair (roof, facings etc). He added that this house is causing concern. D. Inglis replied that DGC Building Standards should be dealing with this if it is a safety issue. C. Smithers stated that the individual from DGC who is going to look at the Grapes could also look at this building at the same time.

Next meeting 7th December 7:00 p.m.