Cree Valley Community Council	Action point
Minutes of meeting held on 4th November 2024 in McMillan Hall, Newton Stewart	
Present: Melinda Dolan (Returning Officer); Stephon Bishop; Robert Boan; Paul Comacchio; Jonathan Hedley; Ian Heywood; Tammy Heywood; Jamie Hyslop; Richard Kay; David Malcolm; Charles Marshall; Morag McIlwraith; Debbie Monteith; Iain Service; Neil Skelton; Lisa Sykes; David Spruce; Pat Wardell; Cllr David Inglis; Cllr Richard Marsh; Moyra Breckenridge (minutes)	
Apologies: Cllr Kate Hagmann; Cllr Jackie McCammon	
1. The Returning Officer welcomed all 17 members elected on 3rd October to the meeting and advised that in accordance with the "Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils in D&G" (The Scheme) the meeting would follow the published agenda.	
2. Appointment of the Chair: Nominations Stephon Bishop: proposed by David Malcolm; seconded by Iain Service. No other nominations therefore Stephon Bishop elected as chairman	
3. Appointment of the Secretary: Nominations Jamie Hyslop: proposed by Tammy Heywood; seconded by Bob Boan Charles Marshall: proposed by Lisa Sykes/Morag McIlwraith; seconded by Richard Kay Iain Service: proposed by Jamie Hyslop; seconded by Neil Skelton (Jamie Hyslop intimated he would not wish to be considered for the post) Therefore, vote for position – 11 votes for Iain Service; 5 votes for Charles Marshall; 1 abstention. Iain Service therefore elected as secretary	
4. Appointment of the Treasurer: Nominations Richard Kay: proposed by Charles Marshall; seconded by David Malcolm Jamie Hyslop: proposed by Debbie Monteith; seconded by Tammy Heywood Therefore, vote for position – 7 votes for Richard Kay; 9 votes for Jamie Hyslop; 1 abstention Jamie Hyslop therefore elected as treasurer	
5. Elected Chairman Stephon Bishop received and signed The Scheme as a constitution for the community council, Richard Kay was the second signatory.	
6. Dates of meetings Community Council is required to meet at least 6 times in the year, one of such meetings must be the AGM; agreed to adhere to past practice – meet 1st Monday of the month (unless that falls on a bank holiday, whereupon the meeting will be held the next Monday); no meeting in August; meetings to be held in McMillan Hall commencing at 7.15pm; AGM must be held within 3 months of the end of CVCC financial year (i.e. March) therefore will take place in May (14 days' notice of such meeting required). Any agreed changes to these arrangements to be intimated to DG Council	
7. DG Council overview Returning officer explained responsibilities of CVCC to express the views of the local communities and to interact with statutory bodies. DG Council refer	

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planning/licensing/major works etc to CVCC for consideration. CVCC meetings must be held in accordance with procedures laid down in The Scheme which has been issued to each community councillor. The Returning Officer drew particular attention to sections 9 and 10 of the document Reference also made to: - Police attendance at CVCC meetings – Police authority aim to have a representative in attendance, if this is not feasible written reports will be provided to the meeting DG Council have produced a budget consultation. CVCC to consider this matter at their December meeting in order to submit their views/comments to DGC for the deadline of 12th December Public consultation event in Merrick Centre 3-7pm on 15th November; online survey can be accessed on DGC website New garden waste scheme – sign-up before end of November will mean collections will start in March 2025, later sign-up will result in collections starting in June 2025	Next meeting
8. Discretionary grant New and former treasurer to liaise to ensure conditions for receipt of grant are met ie. Minutes and Accounts must be submitted timeously; possibility of accessing funds from previous years to be investigated	RK/JH
Stephon Bishop took the chair and reiterated the requirement of all members to respect the terms of the constitution **Agenda items 9. - 13:** these matters will be considered at next CVCC meeting Chair proposed a letter of thanks be drafted to be sent to the outgoing chair Clifford Smithers; secretary to draft letter Arrangements in hand for Remembrance Sunday – 9.30am at Minnigaff War Memorial; Penninghame Church at 10.30am; 11.45am for 12 noon at McMillan Hall; new members encouraged to attend; arrangements for laying of wreaths finalised; British Legion kindly taking care of refreshments Scottish Power have called a meeting to be held in Barrhill Hall at 6.30pm on 25th November concerning community benefits from Kilgallioch/Arecleoch; no agenda has been made available for the meeting and CVCC requested to send only one representative; CVCC concerned about allocation of funds and suggestion local MP could be approached viz a viz a fairer distribution of such funds within the area; Jamie Hyslop will represent CVCC at meeting; Clifford Smithers will represent CVADT	IS JH
Public Forum: Hugh Leslie representing the Round Table asked about CVCC use of Santa's sleigh visiting local primary schools; decided there are insufficient funds this year for this. Windsor footpath: Volunteer sought to carry out emptying of the 2 bins along the footpath, SB will look into this Christmas Lights: Insurance for CVCC Christmas lights of £200 due by end of November; decided not to renew; as Christmas Lights group declined offer of these, they will not be erected this year and CVCC will discuss this matter again in the New Year with interested parties; the curtain lights at the windows of the McMillan Hall are not fit for purpose, SB to ascertain what is required to bring them into working order Concerns were raised by David Malcolm regarding the status/validity/potential bias of community councils; it was agreed that any evidence should be submitted	SB IS SB

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to the chair as a code of conduct or formal complaint to be considered at a future meeting Proposed Galloway National Park: Iain Service asked what involvement CVCC has had concerning these proposals; it was agreed to write to the Reporter to the proposed GNP body to request a meeting; former secretary and newly appointed secretary to liaise on this David Malcolm, Tammy Heywood and Debbie Monteith welcomed the positive attitude of the newly elected councillors and look forward to working together to the benefit of our community; elected councillor Richard Marsh echoed these comments Richard Kay questioned whether the Zoom licence should be continued; decided to let this lapse and re-visit any need to have this facility in the new year Cllr David Inglis will look into possibility of accessing uncollected discretionary grant monies from previous years; contact name for Resilience Group needs to be changed; Polaris and Resilience scheme will be discussed at a further meeting Penninghame PS rights of access: Agreed to be further discussed in the new year Question whether Mrs Pagan from Cumloden Manor who previously contributed funds for advent calendars for primary schools may wish to do so again Giles Davies brought up the parlous state of the former Galloway Arms Hotel building and the public safety concerns; DGC to be approached by elected councillors to request a visit by the appropriate safety officer to obtain opinion Suggestion CVADT may have funds which they could allocate for local use; approach to be made Concern raised about state of flower boxes in Drew Avenue; Cllr David Inglis to investigate who is responsible for their maintenance	CM/IS Cllr DI IS IS IS Cllrs DI/RM IS Cllr DI
Date and time of next meeting: Monday 2nd December at 7.15pm The chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.	

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