

Gargunnoch Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on January 8th 2013

Present: Geoff Peart; Douglas Coupethwaite; Maitland Clark; Edmond Mansion; Cllr Alister Berrill; Helen Rowell; Gay Burt; M & S Willetts; Graham Vincent, Waste Recycling Officer.

1. Apologies

Barbara Drummond; Margaret Mckechnie

2. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and adopted . Proposer: Helen Rowell: Seconder: Maitland Clark

3. Community Police Officer's Report

Richard Morris was not in attendance and no report was available. Concerns were expressed again that cars parked in the Square at the end of Leckie Road with its junction with Main Street were causing something of a hazard in terms of visibility/ road safety. It was agreed that this matter should be referred to the Community Police Officer for his attention.

Action: CPO to investigate road safety concerns at Leckie Road/Main Street junction and report back to the next meeting.

4. Waste Recycling

Questions raised at the Community Council meeting in November had been forwarded to the Waste Recycling Team at Stirling Council and Graham Vincent from the team was present to respond to these. He began by apologising again for the non-appearance of his colleagues in November. There was further discussion on the withdrawal of the Brown Bin collections during the winter. It was noted that poor communication was at the heart of the problem and GV acknowledged this, confirming that the changes were part of a cost saving exercise. GV pointed out that free home composters were available from the Council and it was agreed to publicise this in the Bugle. Problems with boxes in windy weather was also raised - GV agreed that the elasticated tops were not the most durable but the Council had a supply of these which it was suggested could be made available to the Community Council to distribute as necessary. Concerns were raised that stickers on bins informing residents that they had placed unauthorised items in their bin did not indicate what the offending item was. GV indicated that letters were sent out which explained this - up to 3 letters could be sent out if problems persisted. It was felt that the language in the letters was too intimidating and a more educational approach was required. It was suggested that a new consolidated leaflet setting out the current position would be helpful. Finally, the delayed collections over the holiday period were raised. GV explained the reasons which were understood but there was still a view that communication could have been better [since not everyone has access to websites or would think to look there]. It was suggested that the Waste Recycling Service could place adverts in the Stirling Observer and when there were other unscheduled changes could have emergency contact numbers of Community Council office bearers to update them on new collection days.

Action: GV to take forward the GCC suggestions for improvements in the waste collection operation to the Council and report back on progress. Advice on waste collection matters to be included in the next edition of the Bugle.

5. Secretary's Report

The Secretary indicated that only 2 items had been received. An invitation to a Rural Broadband Strategy meeting in the Council Chambers which Edmond Mansion had agreed to attend, and information about “community resilience” over the winter period, which the Secretary had placed in the Village Shop.

Action: Noted

6. Treasurer’s Report

EM reported that the CC account still stood at £2106 of which £706 consists of funds raised for the village defibrillator which continue to be held in trust by the Community Council following the fund-raising event. With respect to the latter, it was reported that the application for the balance of funds made to the British Heart Foundation had been successful and free training had also been offered by Mark Pennycook. Following discussion it was agreed that a number of issues regarding the location, maintenance and operation of the defibrillator still needed to be resolved and it was important that a village meeting considered these matters.

Action: MC to contact Jackie Stevenson regarding setting up a village meeting to discuss the defibrillator

7. Planning and Licensing Report

No new items had been received since the last meeting, nor feedback on Community Council representations [after the meeting, it emerged that the application behind Woodside, at the top of the village had been refused]

Action: Noted

8. Any Other Business

[i] Mc Neill Crescent Water Leak

Roads Department are supposed to be dealing with this but as yet no action had been taken and further concerns were raised given that the flow seemed to be increasing and sheet ice had formed on several occasions, causing hazards for pedestrians and motorists – a situation which was only going to get worse. It was understood that a meeting between the Roads Department and Scottish Water was to take place but had not yet done so.

Action: The issue to be kept under review

9. Dates of Next Meetings

February 5th

March 19th

May 7th

June 4th