

Gargunnock Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on September 4th 2012

Present:; Geoff Peart; Douglas Coupethwaite; Maitland Clark;; Edmond Mansion; John Craigen; Gay Burt; Richard Morris; Cllr Iain Muirhead

1. Apologies

Margaret McKechnie; Barbara Drummond; Helen Rowell

2. Minutes

The minutes were agreed and adopted. [Proposer: John Craigen: Seconder: Gay Burt]

3. Community Police Officer's Report

RM gave a verbal report indicating that there was little to note since the last meeting. Community Councillors however, raised a number of issues – there were continued concerns about speeding down Main Street and on Leckie/Station Road where it was felt the 30mph signs should be further out – RM suggested that the council be contacted re these matters. Some disturbance from youths in the bus shelter was also reported – it was reiterated that these incidents should be reported to the police and there followed some discussion regarding leisure facilities for young people in the village.

Action: Noted

4. Dog Fouling

Problems had previously been reported on Leckie Road and DC indicated that on Manse Brae there were problems with some dog owners who were bagging dog deposits but then leaving the plastic bags in situ. There was some discussion regarding campaigns that had been successful elsewhere – including spraying deposits pink; stencils on the ground highlighting the problem and photographs sent through residents' letter boxes.

Action: Community Council to develop a local campaign to raise awareness and promote civic responsibility re the problem.

5. Bus Information

The Secretary indicated that the Community Council had not always been informed of changes to bus service timings and there had been a recent problem when visitors to the village had a long wait for a bus to Balfron as there was no information on timings for buses in that direction.

Action: Secretary to seek assurances from the Council Transport Co-ordination service that timetable changes would be notified to the Community Council as a matter of course and information on the Gargunnock – Balfon timings be made available in the bus shelter.

6. Future Programme

A number of suggestions were put forward regarding issues for consideration in the next session of meetings. These included: [a] the preparation of a new Village Plan – the recent Plan for Thornhill was considered a good example; [b] setting up panels of residents who could be contacted on specific issues (eg, council housing) when the Community Council was asked for views on matters in which it had little direct experience; [c] presentation by the Council Waste Officer.

Action: [i] On issue [a] it was agreed that this should be a joint venture with the Village Trust and the suggestion should be referred to their next meeting. [ii] On issue [b] while useful in principle it was noted for further consideration. [iii] On issue [c] it was agreed to invite the relevant officer to the next meeting of the Community Council

7. Secretary's Report

[i] Welfare Reform

The Community Council has been invited to a presentation on the new welfare reforms on 22nd September at the Council Chambers.

Action: Noted

[ii] Stirling 2014

The Community Council has been invited to participate in the planning of the Stirling 2014 year of events and to encourage volunteering. Community Pride Fund grants will be available to support any activities.

Action: Noted

[iii] Local Development Plan

The final consultation version of the Local Development Plan will be issued for public comment on the 15th October with a closing date of 10th December. The community council had made comments on the draft plan it may be that formal representations will need to be made on the final plan if these have not been taken into account.

Action: Planning Correspondent to monitor progress and report back as required

[iv] Changes to Royal Mail Services

The Community Council received a letter notifying it of changes to services in the Stirling area.

Action: Noted

[v] NHS Forth Valley Annual Review

The Community Council received an email inviting councillors and members of the public to a presentation on the annual review of the service on 18th September at Forth Valley Royal Hospital, Larbert at 1.45pm

Action: Noted

8. Treasurer's Report

EM reported that the CC account presently stood at £1110.70

Action: Noted

9. Planning and Licensing Report

[a] Application for a new dwellinghouse at garden ground west of 4 Millbrae.

Following discussion of the plot size, design of the unit and general streetscape in the area it was agreed that this would not be out of character and no objections should be raised.

Action: No objections from the Community Council

10. Any Other Business

[a] Main Street Sheltered Housing

Following the last meeting the Secretary had written to the Council to suggest a LEAP scheme for Main Street Sheltered Housing and had been informed that this would not be possible.

Action: Secretary to check whether in principle a Community Pride scheme could be used for the same purpose

[b] Health Service Responsiveness etc.

DC had got no response from NHSFV but had contacted the Scottish Ambulance Service based in Dundee who were investigating the issue re the football match. A campaign has already been launched in the village to purchase a defibrillator.

Action: DC to keep under review

[c] Water Main Problem

GB highlighted the fact that there was still a problem with water running down McNeill Crescent and that Scottish Water [SW] should be contacted to deal with the issue.

Action: Matter has now been dealt with by SW

[d] Single Outcome Agreement

EM commented that he felt the material prepared by the Council relative to the Single Outcome Agreement was rather jargon ridden and difficult to understand.

Action: Councillor Muirhead to feed this back to relevant officials

[e] Single Police Authority

EM also raised the issue of the impending merger of all the regional Scottish Police Forces and the need for assurances that this would not have any adverse implications for the policing of rural communities.

Action: EM to contact the Chief Constable to seek clarification of the proposed arrangements under the SPA

11. Date of Next Meeting

October 2nd 2012