

Gargunnoch Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on November 6th 2012

Present: Geoff Peart; Douglas Coupethwaite; Maitland Clark; Edmond Mansion; John Craigen; Cllr Alistair Berrill; Barbara Drummond; Helen Rowell; Gay Burt; Richard Morris and 7 members of the public.

1. Apologies

Margaret McKechnie; Marilyn Willett

2. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and adopted . [Proposer: John Craigen: Seconder: Barbara Drummond]

3. Community Police Officer's Report

Richard Morris apologised for the lack of report for the previous month, however, he confirmed that there had been few reports to the police over the period. Issues of road safety and vigilance in relation to housebreaking were the two main messages. There was little information yet on the implications of the creation of a Single Scottish Police Force but RM felt there would be little change on the ground as far as rural communities were concerned. He indicated that the ACPOS website was the best source of up to date information on what was happening.

4. Waste Recycling

The two officers from Stirling Council who were invited to give a presentation to the Community Council did not turn up. In their absence there was a discussion of the issues which would have been raised with them. These included the following matters:

- The lack of consultation/notification regarding the cessation of brown bin collections over the December - February period
- Strong views that brown bins were still needed over the winter period and were more convenient than boxes which could blow away, lose or damage their covers and were more difficult for elderly people to carry
- What were householders supposed to do with Xmas trees, other wind damaged trees and branches and other bulky garden waste over the Dec - Feb period?
- There was a suggestion that if the decision on the brown bins could not be reversed could some communal facility be created for villagers to use?
- There were concerns that householders who had had stickers on their bins indicating that items had been put in the wrong bin did not always know what they had done wrong and some explanation would be useful
- In this context it was felt that the attitude of waste recycling officers should be more helpful and encouraging rather than emphasising enforcement
- It was also felt that given the changes since the recycling system was introduced it would be useful to have an information leaflet reminding everyone where different items could be properly disposed of
- There were other comments indicating that trips to Polmaise were not particularly convenient for village residents and that the erratic timing of Friday collections caused difficulties when the weather was inclement

Action: Secretary/ Chairman to clarify absence with the Council department and seek a response to the matters raised in the meeting.

5. Secretary's Report

The Secretary indicated that most items received had already been circulated to Community Councillors for information. He also referred to parking difficulties at the Falkirk Royal Hospital and noted that transport was to be discussed at the next meeting of the NHS Public Partnership Forum on 14th November. The Chairman asked if anyone present knew of any village residents who had a particular interest in Health Service matters who could attend these meeting on behalf of the Community Council.

Action: Noted

6. Treasurer's Report

EM reported that the CC account presently stood at £2120 of which £706 consists of funds raised for the village defibrillator which are held in trust by the Community Council following the fund-raising event.

Action: Noted

7. Planning and Licensing Report

No matters to report.

Action: Noted

8. Any Other Business

[a] Ghost Bridge

It was reported that the work on the bridge on the back road out of the village was strengthening works – injecting grout into joints.

Action: Noted

[b] Mc Neill Crescent Water Leak

Scottish Water has disclaimed any responsibility for the leak. Stirling Council Environmental Health have looked at it and passed it to the Roads Department given the potential road safety implications of sheet ice forming during frosty weather.

Action: Noted

[c] Community Centre

A complaint has been lodged with Stirling Council over the inordinate time it took their legal service to deal with the transfer of the property to the community.

Action: To be pursued by the Community Trust

[d] Miss Millers Cottage

Concerns were expressed that the current building works were causing an obstruction on the pavement. It was noted that this work should be completed soon.

[e] Seats on the Leckie Estate Road

There was a query regarding the ownership of the seats along the road beyond the Beeches as they were considered to be in need of maintenance.

Action: Chairman to investigate

[f] Provost's Award

The Community Council congratulated village resident Anne Muirhead on her award from the Stirling Council Provost for outstanding community service

9. Date of Next Meeting

December 4th 2012

GP 09.11.2012