

# Gargunnoch Community Council

## Minutes of the Meeting held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013

**Present:** Douglas Coupethwaite, Geoff Peart, Edmond Mansion, John Craigen, Maitland Clark, Barbara Drummond; Councillor Graham Lambie ; PC Raymond Murphy; Lovat McGregor; Mike McGirr; Margaret McKechnie and Vi Bellers.

### 1. Apologies

Gay Burt.

### 2. Minutes

The minutes of the June Meeting were adopted as a correct record. Proposed by John Craigen, Seconded by Edmond Mansion

### 3. Community Police Officer's Report

PC Raymond Murphy indicated that since the last meeting there had been various incidents of vehicle vandalism in the village and a suspected wilful fire-raising. There had been further incidents of housebreaking in other west Stirlingshire villages and residents needed to remain vigilant. PC Murphy agreed to draft some advice for inclusion in the next edition of the Bugle. Lovat Mc Gregor indicated that there had been a meeting with Roads officials regarding road safety on Station Road and there was a need for data to support moving the 30mph sign further out. In discussion it was noted that road safety was an issue in other parts of the village as well and that there had been a long-standing campaign by the Community Council to have action taken on this matter including introduction of a general 20mph limit.

**Action: PC Murphy to draft article for the Bugle**

### 4. Community Council Elections

DC indicated that he had distributed a number of Community Councillor nomination forms to interested residents and was hopeful that a several would be prepared to stand and hence secure the retention of the Community Council after its dissolution on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Margaret McKechnie indicated that the Council's Community Engagement Team were proposing to change their method of operation following staff reductions and would attempt to attend Community Council meetings from now on but for a time limited period on each occasion. MM also indicated that the Community Council should try and be represented at the next meeting of the Rural Forum at Balfron on 18<sup>th</sup> November where the Depute Chief Executive would be setting out the Council's approach to budget priorities.

**Action: Noted**

### 5. Windfarm Update

DC and GP indicated that they had attended a meeting of the Earlsburn 2 Windfarm Community Benefit Group on the 17<sup>th</sup> October, along with representatives from the 5 other Community Councils in the group. The proposal from Falck Renewables is that there would be 2 parts to the community benefit package – [1] an annual fund of £22,500 [index linked] based on £1000 per megawatt installed capacity and [2] a community turbine which it was estimated would generate £90,000 annually over the life of the windfarm [25 years]also index linked. There was no discussion of how these sums should be apportioned between the 6 community councils but each was asked to put forward criteria which could be considered at the next meeting which was scheduled for March 2014. Falck had indicated that each community should only nominate 2 representatives

for future meetings who need not necessarily be community councillors. DC and GP indicated that they would be prepared to continue to attend these meetings on behalf of Gargunnoch Village and report back, should the new Community Council agree with this arrangement

**Action: The new Community Council to consider representation on the Earlsburn 2 Community Benefit Group**

## **6. Broadband Update**

Councillor Neil Benny had sent a letter to Rural Community Councils regarding the proposals to upgrade broadband services in the area. Edmond Mansion had drafted a reply setting out some concerns about the position of Gargunnoch in the priorities for improvement and it was agreed that this should be sent on behalf of the Community Council

**Action: EM to reply to Councillor Benny on behalf of the Community Council**

## **7. Secretary's Report**

The Secretary indicated that several items had been received in addition to those that had already been forwarded to Community Councillors. [1] A proposal to review Polling Districts which did not affect Gargunnoch [2] A questionnaire regarding Pressured Area Status [3] letters from Police Scotland regarding Public Counters and Traffic Wardens

**Action: Secretary to complete the Pressured Area Status Questionnaire other items noted**

## **8. Finance Report**

The treasurer indicated that there was £1114.27 in the current account, following the receipt of the Administration Grant and that £306 of this was attributable to the defibrillator.

**Action: Noted**

## **9. Planning and Licensing Report**

No planning applications had been received since the last meeting

**Action: Noted**

## **10. Any Other Business**

[1] **Effect of Windfarms on TV reception** – following discussion it was not thought that recent poor TV reception was related to windfarm developments in the area but to adverse weather conditions.

[2] **Councillor's Report** – Cllr Lambie circulated his report which included information regarding the effects of industrial action by Council staff. It was noted that in the absence of normal grey bin collections the Council would supply black bin bags which could be used instead.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

To be arranged by Stirling Council

GP 27.10.2013