

Gargunock Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

26th February 2018

Present:

Maitland Clark (MC) Chairman, Bob Burman (BB) Julie Cole (JC) Lovat MacGregor(LM) Pam Campbell – Stirling Council (PC), Councillor Graham Lambie, Police Constable Scott Craigie

Apologies : Edmond Mansion - Treasurer. Charles Fitches

Members of Public – 3

Minutes from 8th January 2018 agreed.

Matters arising:

The appointment of Harry Burt as Minute Secretary was agreed and commenced with effect from this meeting onwards. For the record – his e mail address is hrb43@btinternet.com . The Treasurer (EM) is pursuing an additional grant from Stirling Council to cover costs - £180 for 7 – 9 meetings and £270 for 9 – 12 meetings.

Treasurers Report:

Current balance £508.45

Community Police Report:

Constable Scott Craigie confirmed that recent changes in procedures in the Community Policing policy should ensure that better links between the Police and the Community Council will prevail in future. There may still be rota and operational issues which may affect Police attendance at the Community Council meetings but it is hoped this will be minimal.

It is expected that the new appointment of P.C. Gary Martin as the Community Officer for the local area including Gargunock, will strengthen the connection between the Community Council and the Police service.

Further discussion on the occasional presence of the Mobile Police Office in Gargunock ensued and the possibility of locating the mobile unit in the pub car park in similar fashion to the mobile Post Office van would be investigated.

Constable Craigie reminded those present of the continuing Hare Coursing activity which had been observed in the local area. This illegal activity should be reported to the Police immediately – details on the Notice Board - and the help of the public was necessary if this problem was to be eliminated.

Planning.

BB reported that no new applications had been made.

Leckie Estate - Applications for parts of the proposed development had been withdrawn with new/revised applications being made or expected. A letter of objection had been submitted by the CC and a response received. JC to decide on the manner and content of the CC response.

Further, JC confirmed that a watching brief be maintained as the situation was expected to change as the next few months progressed.

Councillor Lambie's report to the meeting contained details of each current application. He also confirmed that proposed changes in local planning procedures should make it possible for the Community to make direct representations to the Planning Committee. This should ensure that local opinion would have a more direct route to the Planning Committee members prior to decisions being made.

Road Safety

The long running saga of the priority road traffic signage in the area of the Square had further vigorous discussion without arriving at a resolution. Interpretation of the law in this matter continues to tax all involved. PC offered to make a further attempt to move this matter to a conclusion by discussion with the relevant department at the Stirling Council.

Enforcement of the blanket 20mph speed limit within the village was discussed and Constable Craigie confirmed that he would ensure action was taken, specifically in the three areas where speeding was regularly reported by residents – Station Road, Main Street and Manse Brae.

PC agreed to pursue the placing of temporary road traffic survey equipment on Main Street, similar to that originally placed on Station Road, to clarify the volume of traffic using the road. This equipment also provides information on the speed of the vehicles as they pass the check point.

The overdue reinstatement of the back road following the damage caused during recent filming activity has not yet been undertaken by the Roads Dept. This situation would be investigated by PC.

The A811 / Roundabout Petition is referred to in Councillor Lambie's report. The petition was presented to the February Environment and Housing Committee and roads officers were authorised to inspect the area. This matter will come back in front of the Environment Committee on 12th April.

Defibrillator and Heart Start Class.

Charles Fitches has organised this familiarisation class to take place at the Community Centre between 2pm and 5pm on Sunday 22nd April 2018.

Publicity for this to be coordinated by CF with all concerned.

The Community Council has agreed that the cost of the hire of the Community Centre for this activity would be met by CC Funds.

Ownership of ground at the Fountain.

The Community Trust has undertaken to work with PC to establish who owns this area.

Beeches Path

Ownership of this pathway is also being clarified with the help of PC. Ownership clarification is necessary before any action can be taken to improve / upgrade this popular pathway. The Trust has set up a sub group to investigate and progress this matter.

Drains and other items

Cllr Lambie to consult with Cllr Berrill regarding the state of the drains on McNeil Crescent and Main Street and the cutting and control of briars etc on the land behind the shop.

Rest Garden Funds.

It was confirmed by PC that funds are available for this project.

Bus stop at Meiklewood/A811.

This is thought to be owned by Stirling Council and PC will investigate if this is correct. Reinstatement or replacement of this storm damaged shelter is required in this exposed location.

Steps on South side of Main Street.

A non standard and possibly dangerous step exists in this area and presents a hazard to the residents using this access. PC will investigate with relevant Council dept and report back.

Repainting of Footbridge on Main Street

It was confirmed that the repainting of the footbridge on Main Street is a project which has the full support of the Community Council. Peter Rowell confirmed that the Windfarm Fund is the ideal source of funding for the materials required in re painting the metal structure of the pedestrian bridge with volunteer help being used to carry out the actual work. Clarification of the insurance aspects of this proposal is being investigated.

AOCB

LM is updating the Gargunnoch Community Website to make it more attractive and informative. The longer term objective is to increase interest in the work of the Community Council. It is noted that the viability and continuation of the Community Council depends on attracting new members as the AGM is in June followed by the election of new CC office bearers in the autumn .

PC confirmed that a Stirling Council operated fund of £130,000 existed to encourage Community Empowerment. Applications from £500 upwards were encouraged from community groups for a wide range of projects. The deadline for applications however was 24th March 2018. Further information from PC if required.

Date of Next Meeting

23rd April 2018