

GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL DRAFT MINUTES

Gargunnoch Community Council Meeting

Monday 14th January 2019

Garden Room Gargunnoch Community Centre

Members Present: - Jeremy Wilkinson (Chairman), Jon Sutherland (Secretary) Julie Cole; Charlie Fitches; David King; Lovat MacGregor; Christine Phillips; Helen Rowell and Douglas Barr.

In attendance: Three residents, Councillor Graham Lambie, PC Gary Martin, PC Steven Graham and Fraser Sinclair (Minute taker).

Apologies: Pam Campbell

1. Apologies

Jeremy opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first meeting of 2019 and introductions were made and apologies noted for Pam Campbell.

2. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Jeremy gave an overview of the last meeting which took place in November 2018. The minutes of the previous inaugural meeting (chaired by Pam Campbell from SC) were approved with a few minor grammar changes. The second set of minutes from the subsequent meeting on the same date (chaired by Jeremy Wilkinson) were also approved with a few minor changes.

4. Matters Arising

Jeremy reviewed the meetings minutes and covered the following as matters arising:

Roles and Responsibilities

Jeremy confirmed an electronic copy of the Community Council handbook and the Community Council boundary map had been circulated to all members and Pam Campbell had provided a hardcopy of the handbook and larger geographical map also.

Gmail Account

The Gargunnock email address has been created by former treasurer Edmond Mansion which is gargunnockcommunitycouncil@gmail.com Edmond can create two administrators of the email address which has been confirmed as Jon Sutherland and Christine Phillips.

Action: Jon will communicate details of the email address to the SC Community Engagement Team.

Action: Jon and Christine will monitor incoming emails to this account and take appropriate action or copy to other Councillors where appropriate.

Area Profile Summary

Last meeting Pam discussed Area Profile Summary (2011 Census) which Jeremy had already circulated to members.

Admin Grant

Pam Campbell is still following this up as this was granted in 2018. Cllr Lambie agreed he would also follow up for the community council.

Action: Treasurer to also chase payment.

Treasurer

David has resigned as interim Treasurer, and therefore a new Treasurer requires to be appointed. Douglas Barr was nominated as Treasurer. Christine Phillips proposal and seconded by Jeremy Wilkinson and Helen Rowell. As there were no other nominations, Douglas was elected as Treasurer.

Constitution and Standing Order

Jeremy had circulated the signed copies of these to all members.

Handover from Previous Community Council

Informal handover took place on 28 November with Maitland Clark (former Chairman) and Edmond Mansion (former Treasurer) along with Jeremy Wilkinson, Jon Sutherland, Julie Cole, Helen Rowell and Christine Phillips to exchange information. Jeremy wanted to thank Maitland and Edmond for their contributions and thanks to the previous Community Council.

Minute Taker

Discussion was had on a possible minute taker, and Pam Campbell has offered Fraser Sinclair. The retiring Chairman has contacted residents who had previously expressed an interest in this job, but they were no longer available. Consequently, it was agreed therefore that Fraser will take on the role of Minute Taker, with this appointment to be reviewed after 3 meetings.

Action: Douglas and Jon to follow up on minute taker funds.

Social Media

Helen will manage the Facebook account with Lovat being a secondary administrator for the page.

Communication of Community Council Dates

Dates for all meetings of the community council have been advertised on the village notice board, the pub noticeboard, Community Centre noticeboard and the CC Facebook page.

Action: Jeremy to submit an article to `The Bugle` informing residents of the new community council members and meeting dates. Group photo to be taken at the end of the meeting for the article providing contact details and names.

Booking of Community Centre for Community Council Meetings

Jon confirmed that the Garden Room has been booked for the year with the exception of November's date when it will take place in the Waiting Room.

Insurance

Stirling Council wishes to know what assets Gargunnoch Community Council own. It was agreed that the only assets owned by the Community Council are the telephone box, defibrillator and the notice board.

Action: Jeremy will follow up with SC and provide list of assets.

New Templates

Within the handbook are a series of templates which has been given by Stirling Council as a guideline.

Boundary Maps

Jeremy had circulated the boundary map but Pam has provided a larger scale boundary map to allow members to see the geographical remit of Gargunnoch.

Action: Jeremy will email Pam to confirm receipt.

Stirling Observer Article

Jeremy submitted an article for the Stirling Observer introducing the new Gargunnoch Community Council and thanking the retiring Councillors. This article was in the 7th December issue of the Observer and was circulated round members.

6. Police Report

PC Martin and Graham introduced themselves. PC Graham advised he used to be the community policeman for the area and with changes in shift patterns, PC Graham wished to make the members aware that they will endeavour to try and attend all of the meetings but there may be occasions they are unable to attend.

PC Graham had circulated the Police Report and discussed the following:

Anti Social Behaviour – an Incident occurred in November 2018 of abusive phone calls between a couple, PC Graham wished to acknowledged that it's not acceptable behaviour and there is a high profile Police campaign on at the moment regarding domestic abuse. The matter since, has been resolved.

No thefts have been reported in Gargunnoch since the last meeting, and the theft by house break-ins in other villages within the Forth & Endrick area have stopped. Police can provide crime prevention advice.

Road Safety- there have been no reports of any incidents. Police Scotland still maintains a high profile and visibility in the surrounding area.

It had been suggested through Jeremy by residents and members of having a Police presence in Gargunnoch to allow residents and the community to come and discuss items with their local PC.

PC Martin and Graham agreed that it is something they could set up every month or every other month and have a form of surgery to allow locals to drop in and have a discussion on any concerns.

Action: Police Scotland to contact Jon with dates of when they may be able to have a surgery and Jon will book a room within the community centre.

Julie asked about the recording of road traffic accident statistics as there had been a few incidents before Christmas. PC Martin confirmed that if there isn't any injury to a person then it won't have been reported through Police Scotland and if there was it would be done instantly.

A Resident raised concerns of a car parked on the corner of McNeill Crescent – half on the pavement and half on the road and that it could cause danger.

Action: PC Martin took the details of the car to follow up.

5. Treasurer's Report

Nothing to report. Handover is in progress between Edmond Mansion and Douglas Barr. Edmond will send over all relevant documentation and account information over.

Douglas asked about Audit trails. It was confirmed that there is an "auditor" in place for approval of the Annual Statement of Accounts. Jeremy confirmed that the three signatories on the account are Douglas Barr, Jon Sutherland and Christine Phillips.

Jeremy asked Douglas, for the next meeting that he give an update on the financials.

Action: Douglas to provide financial over-view at the next meeting.

7. Planning/Licensing Report

Julie gave an update that the Leckie Estate have appealed against the SC refusal of their application for an estate office and car park to be installed. Julie and

Martin (husband of Julie and resident of Gargunnock) submitted a letter on behalf of the Community Council to oppose the appeal.

It has now been submitted to the Reporters Office and need to await the outcome from them. Cllr Lambie advised that it will go to Committee on 1 March 2019. Jeremy wished to acknowledge that the letter had been submitted and expressed gratitude to Julie and Martin Cole for their help in preparing the letter.

Quarry Sawmills Mains on the Old Dumbarton Road - an application has been submitted for a house and garage.

Land Adjacent and East of Hallam - application for a house and garage has been approved.

8. Roads and Transport Report

Road Markings at The Square: Lovat gave an update that the Square and all the white lining works are still outstanding.

Action: Lovat will contact Angela McGibbon to see what progress has been made.

Replacement of Storm-Damaged Bus Shelter on A811 at Mains Cottage: Stirling Council have been in contact with Lovat to advise that they will replace the bus shelter with a glass structure which will cost £2,300 rather than replace the wooden structure. All of the members were comfortable with this progression.

Action: Lovat to progress and advise Land Services to go ahead.

Street Signage: new street name signs have been installed. Jeremy pointed out that McNeill Crescent has been misspelled and asked Lovat to raise with Angela McGibbon for replacement.

Mill Brae – no sign in place.
Station Road – no sign at North end.

Action: Lovat to follow up with Angela McGibbon at the Roads Department.

Traffic Speed Monitoring on Main Street: A resident raised what was the outcome of the counting traffic speed. Lovat advised that the results were very low. Discussion was had around this and felt best, that Lovat is to seek whether the counting clocker can be repositioned elsewhere in the village.

Action: Lovat to seek approval of a repeat of speed monitoring in another location on Main Street.

Pot Holes & Poor Road Conditions: Drummond Place/Main Street; Charles advised of the state of the potholes and requested can Stirling Council come and re-surface. Cllr Lambie said if they put this in an email and copy in Corporate

Complaints as well as Cllrs along with David Crighton and Kenny Sneddon then this request will be followed up.

Moray Park has extremely bad potholes.

Jeremy asked if Lovat could get a timescale from Lands on resurfacing from Gargunnoch House Lodge into the village. As last year they tarmacked the other half from the start of the A811 to Gargunnoch House, and apparently had promised to continue the work this year.

Julie added that the film company agreed they would pay for the pothole and repairs of the road which hasn't been followed through.

David raised concern that the pavement on Leckie Road between the Pub and George Place is in poor condition.

Resident expressed concern that the surface at Kirk Lane is quite bad and should be noted.

Action: Lovat to generate a prioritised list of road repair issues and submit to the Roads Department.

Marking of Speed Bumps: Another resident raised concerns that the markings on the speed bumps have faded and could it be redone. Lovat emphasised that it should be done through the remedial works getting done in the square but will follow up with Angela to confirm that it is in scope.

Action: Lovat to communicate to Roads Department.

9. Stirling Council Report

Cllr Lambie had circulated and tabled his report and spoke to it.

Wider discussion was had on the Trunk upgrade for the A811. Members of the community council asked Cllr Lambie how they can support him and the Council to ensure that this is approved and followed through.

It was agreed that a wider discussion would need to take place and that together a list of previous criteria's and incidents need to be pulled together.

Resident raised about a Stirling Council Grit bin and how to go about getting it refilled. Cllr Lambie confirmed that he could ring in and request for it to be refilled.

Discussion was had about the Solar Farm and Jeremy asked Cllr Lambie if he could investigate what community gain the village would receive from this solar farm being installed in the area.

Cllr Lambie advised that might be best if Lovat prioritise what road repairs need done and submit and copy in Corporate Complaints email address as well as all three Councillors.

10. Correspondence

Sunday Bus Service - Jeremy has received details from Buchlyvie Community Council on their campaign to introduce a Sunday bus service between Stirling and Balfour (serving Gargunnoch). Jeremy circulated the details to all GCC councillors, and the majority of councillors had agreed that we should support this campaign. Buchlyvie CC have been notified of our support, and Jeremy has now received a copy of the letter sent by Buchlyvie to the Environment and Housing Convenor at Stirling Council, and to all Ward 2 Councillors.

Winter Health – Jeremy received awareness posters over Christmas on winter health and that there is a communication from NHS24 inviting them and the public to a forum at the end of January to discuss and review their services which is being held in the Golden Jubilee in Glasgow.

Community News Sheet - which is collated by the Community Link Team is very informative of what is happening and Jeremy will forward the email details onto GCC members if they wish to sign up to the article.

Jon updated that Local Development Plan is available, there is a piece of work with Polling Stations for the village to ensure that access for disabled users is compliant. Also some work to be looked at around GDPR.

Jeremy discussed with members and residents about displaying all of the above items and minutes on the village noticeboard. However, as the noticeboard is fully utilised with other village communications, David suggested that a new notice board dedicated to GCC information (meeting minutes, police report, contact details for GCC councillors and Ward 2 councillors, etc) could be erected adjacent to the existing noticeboard, and this could also be used to share all the general information from Stirling Council. Funding may be available from the Community Pride Fund managed by SC– submission needs to be done by mid-February. All members and residents agreed to progress with the funding application.

Action: Jeremy to obtain costs and submit application for grant.

11. Other Business

Uneven Steps on South Side of Main Street: Jeremy raised this item which has been ongoing for some time regarding the uneven steps in the walkway descending from the houses on the South Side of Main Street (terminating at the East end of McNeill Crescent) which has not been resolved.

Action: Jeremy will email Corporate Complaints and copy in all three Cllrs.

Raised Road Drain: Another on-going issue has been the drain which is above the ground and level with the road at the East junction of Main Street and McNeill Crescent. Jon and Jeremy both inspected and couldn't see any evidence. It was agreed that an eye would be kept on it.

Christmas Tree Lights – Lovat confirmed that it was all sorted and that he was reimbursed.

Rest Garden Funds: Jeremy has been in contact with the SC solicitor concerning the Rest Gardens Fund. Stirling Council hold a charitable trust known as the “Gargunnoch Rest Garden Fund”. This fund (£1,336) has lain dormant for many years, and consequently SC now intend to distribute these funds to the GCC. However, before the monies can be distributed, SC requires approval from the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR); and it is noted that there may be restrictions on how the money can be used. SC have previously confirmed that they will continue to maintain the Rest Garden.

Once the transfer is completed it was agreed the community council would agree on what the money would be spent on. Discussion was had on the monies being used to upkeep the Rest Garden given its heritage in the village.

Cemetery: David King also discussed Gargunnoch Cemetery and the disrepair of standing gravestones and sinking of the plots hence the danger of some of the headstones collapsing. Councillor Lambie undertook to raise this with Land Services and for them to investigate and report back.

Decaying Tree Overhanging Road: Helen has received communication from a resident concerned about the dead tree branch overhanging the road adjacent to Mains Farm (at the East entrance into the village from the A811). Helen advised that the tree has been confirmed dead. Helen spoke with associates at Galbraiths who are looking into the costs for removal of the tree but have advised that with budget pressures it has been factored in for removal sometime during 2019.

Helen and the members agreed that there is a serious Health and Safety risk to drivers and pedestrians of the low hanging branch over the road from the field.

Action: Jeremy asked that Helen get back in touch with Galbraiths to progress further and to see if they would even cut the branch down to reduce the risk in the meantime.

Defibrillator: Charlie discussed about having another Defibrillator for the village (in addition to the one located in the phone box adjacent to the shop). It was proposed that another one should be installed on the outside of the Community Centre.

Action: Charlie is to define costs and procedures for obtaining/installing a second defibrillator.

Action: Jeremy to discuss and request approval for the installation of a defibrillator at the Community Centre with the Community Trust (as owners of the building).

Action: Charlie to give an overview at the next GCC meeting on the maintenance, inspection, running costs, etc. for the existing defibrillator.

Action: Charlie to arrange a training course on use of the defibrillator and CPR.

George Place: David brought up the issue of rats in the common grounds at the rear of the houses in George Place together with a request with that the pavement between George Place and the Inn car park be resurfaced.

Action: Cllr Lambie confirmed he will follow up.

Shooting Activity: Julie wished noted the amount of shooting activity recently and given the season is due to finish at the end of January she is concerned that the activity could increase in the future and that it should be monitored.

Gate at Sawmill Cottage: Julie also discussed that the gate at Sawmill Cottage is extremely narrow and does not feel it is compliant for any disabled user or wider machinery items to pass through and could it be measured and extended.

Action: Cllr Lambie agreed he would follow up with Guy Harewood. Jeremy also advised he will follow with Guy through the Access Forum.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 11 March 2019 at 7.30pm in the Garden Room, Gargunnock Community Centre.