

GARGUNNOCK COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Gargunnock Community Council Meeting

Monday 4th October 2021

Zoom

Members Present: - Christine Phillips, David King, Julie Cole, Mike Buckley and Douglas Barr.

In attendance: Fraser Sinclair (Minute Taker) and 4 residents.

Apologies: David Millar and Lovat MacGregor.

1. Apologies:

Christine opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and noted apologies and advised she is stepping in as Vice Chair until further arrangements have been agreed. Christine is not interested in the role of Chair, this will be discussed further at the GCC Dec meeting

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Adoption of Previous Minutes

The minutes of August's meeting were accepted – with small typo corrected within Treasury Report. Following August's minutes amended, the minutes are proposed by Douglas Barr and seconded by David King.

Action: Fraser to amend August's minute to reflect typo.

4. Matters Arising

Gargunnock Noticeboard

Douglas hasn't managed to progress as yet, but will update for the next meeting in December.

Action: Douglas and David to fill out a new application to Wind Farm Fund.

Electric Car Chargers

Scottish Energy have been out on site and have taken photographs which will be sent to EDF, following that and once completed and testing done. There will be a supply made to the meter for the charger. EDF and Scottish Power have confirmed there be somewhat of a delay in this being made live due to distribution timescales with some component parts for the electric chargers.

Road Safety – Junction at A811 Station Road

Letter had been put to all residents in the village to raise awareness of the issues regarding safety to the entrance and exit of the village. The petition has been kept

open for those wishing to express their concern. David confirmed that the bulletin has been put on the noticeboard to notify residents of this. Julie expressed that Officers are potentially looking to remove the petition, but local Councillors are seeking for it to remain live.

Action: Christine to contact Councillor Berrill and Davies has there been any communication from residents about the road safety and any progress to date from officers within the Council.

Vegetation Clearing Gargunnock Burn

Lovat circulated an email update from Councillor Berrill. No change in Council position they maintain that they do not carry the liability and maintenance for the burn. The suggestion from the GCC is that the next step would be for the residents affected to contact and appeal to the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (SPSO).

Councillor Berrill has given his apologies that he cannot support this further; as a councillor he is not in a position to instruct local Officers. David suggested that the GCC should support the residents involved in their case to the SPSO. Douglas suggested that once Lovat makes contact with SPSO, a decision can be made on what steps and actions can be taken. Lovat can let the GCC know how best to support the appeal to SPSO. A letter can be drafted on behalf of GCC to support the clearing of the vegetation.

Action: Community Council to write letter in support to the SPSO-review at Dec GCC meeting.

Cycle Path to Stirling

David King update: DK wrote to local Councillors, MSPs and MPs to solicit their support in the development of the cycle path. All Elected Members came back supporting the progression of the cycle path at the Kings Highway. Alyn Smith MP and Mark Ruskell MSP both took a strong interest in progressing and David and others had a meeting with them. Alyn Smith advised that Stirling Council and Sustrans are supportive. Julie and David indicated that there is also an issue with local land ownership which is still under consultation.

Action: review at Dec GCC meeting

Grass Cutting – Rest Garden

David King advised he has emailed but not had any reply from Councillor Davies. David mentioned that he got a copy of a memorandum from Midlothian Council which an agreement with Council and Volunteers to assist with maintaining public grassed areas and what measures could be possibly pursued.

Action: David will share the document with the GCC and Councillor Davies.

Community Shop

Christine emailed the shop owners of the village shop asking for an update on plans to repair the shop (since the closure due to fire) and re-open; there was no reply

Environmental Services came out four weeks ago, as there are food items still within the shop and a risk of vermin/pest infestation is very real. Environmental Health Officer has contacted the shop owners. The shop had exposed window and doors, following the fire- these have now been boarded up to seal up the property and detract from any vermin/pests

In light of the fact that we are unsure of the shops future, and there is a need for a shop in the village, Residents and Community Council members discussed views of what opportunities would be explored for the village to maintain a local shop. Some of the options were the possibility of a community buyout, or a temporary or permanent shop at the front of the Gargunock Inn.

Action: Julie, Douglas and Christine to follow up and look at operating models that could be applied in Gargunock. Aim to develop an action plan which will be updated at GCC meetings

5 External Reports

Police Scotland

No update this month.

Elected Members Update

No update this month.

6. Internal Reports

Chair Update

No update.

Secretary Update

No update.

Treasurers Report

The bank balance is £2,898.99 same as August's balance. Administration Grant for the year is £237.40 and will be shortly transferred to the bank account.

Planning Update

Julie hasn't received any planning reports for some time, but has submitted an objection to the anaerobic digester at Boquhan dairy farm.

Roads and Transports Update

No update.

7. Residents Forum

A Resident raised concerns about gates on Leckie Road, no planning application was made at the time of installation. Resident wanted to know what progress has been made to have Planning dept agree whether the gates remain installed or are removed.

Action: Julie agreed to take on the action, to contact Stirling Planning and request their update on the issue of the gates.

Discussion was had about the social media accounts and who is managing the various websites.

Action: Christine to work with David Miller (GCC secretary) and JS (previous chair) to gain access to the GCC Gmail account so GCC councillors can receive relevant emails

Christine to work with MB to achieve access to Gargunnock Facebook page, currently being supported by Lovat (as caretaker once HR resigned from GCC).

8. AOB

Douglas has resigned as Gargunnock Community Council Rep on the wind farm board. Christine asked Douglas does there need to be a replacement. Discussion was had about would it be beneficial to have a Community Council rep on the board.

Action:

Christine asked Douglas to write small paragraph of what is involved when attending the Wind Farm Committee, circulate to GCC councillors to reveal if anyone is interested in taking on this role – review at GCC December's meeting.

David King advised that he has resigned as Chair of the Gargunnock Community Trust. Christine asked if there are any implications to the GCC. David offered he could be the rep on the Wind Farm, given there is no conflict of interest now that he is no longer Chair of the Trust.

Christine confirmed there will be a short meeting on Wednesday 20 October to formally adopt the two co-opted members onto the Community Council and will be formally done at that meeting.

9. Date of Next Meeting:

6th December 2021 – Location TBC whether Community Centre or Zoom.

Current membership of Gargunock Community Council
October 2021

Position	Name	Membership type
Chair	Vacant	Full
Vice-Chair	Christine Phillips (CP)	Full
Secretary	David Miller (DM)	Co-opted
Treasurer	Douglas Barr (DB)	Full
Planning & Licensing	Julie Cole (JC)	Full
Roads & Transport	Lovat MacGregor (LMG)	Full
Windfarm Representative	Vacant	Full
Cycle path lead	David King (DK)	Full
Facebook and website administrator	Mike Buckley (MB)	Co-opted