Gargunnock Community Trust

www.gargunnock.org

Registered as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) on 14 August 2024

OSCR Scottish Charity Regulator www.oscr.org.uk Registered Charity SC036793

Trustees Meeting
Thursday 13 March 2025 @ 7.30pm
held at Gargunnock Community Centre

1. Present:

Trustees: Nathan Anderton (Chair), Jill Patrick, Gill Bell, Steve Barnet, Crawford Gordon, Stuart Ogg (via Zoom), Geoff Peart

2. Apologies: Lois Simpson, John Steele, Gavin Fleming, Mairi Jackson

3. Declarations of interest

SO declared an interest in the Windfarm Fund Panel recommendations regarding the Beeches Path. No other declarations of potential interest were noted.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting on 30 January 2025

Minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 30 January 2025 were adopted as a true record of the meeting.

5. Matters arising and follow up actions from previous meetings *(only those still to be actioned are noted)*

On-going Actions:

I additional trustee required (All)
Develop Director's Induction pack and New Residents Welcome Pack. (SO)
Follow up to the issue of the field next to the Drop-In Centre (GF)
Drain cleaning at Community Centre (GF)

6. Secretary's Report

GB noted that she had informed the University regarding the installation of the air sensor on the Community Centre but had heard nothing further.

7. Treasurers Report

Having sent his apologies for the meeting GF had issued a note before the meeting explaining the current situation regarding the accounts and was awaiting a meeting with Anne Knox the Examiner.

8. Community Centre Report

SO noted that the proposed meeting involving trustees, Lee, and heating engineer from Yarrows had taken place. Engineer had repaired switch on boiler. He had committed to send some indicative costs of alternative energy sources albeit these had not been received at the time of the meeting.

Action: SO to circulate information on alternative sources of energy when received. SO to also follow up Business Energy Scotland to see about a possible updated energy audit.

Partitions require servicing CG to follow up with original installation company.

Plumber required to deal with leaking pipe. Previous contractor had not responded to calls so alternatives were suggested. CG to follow up.

Action: CG to follow up contractors for partitions and plumbing.

9. Windfarm Fund and Panel

After discussion the Windfarm Panel recommendations from its meeting on 24 February 2025 were endorsed by the Trust. In particular the Trust welcomed the two successful applications from young people in the village seeking to expand their education by travelling overseas.

The following Windfarm Panel recommendations were endorsed by the Trust:

GWF 1-25 Gargunnock Apple Day(s) £480

GWF 2-25 Think Pacific Mental Health Project £500

GWF 3-25 CISS Tianjin Scholarship £500

GWF 4-25 Community Centre Sinking Fund £5,188

GWF 5-25 – Windfarm Grant Administration £1,302.33

GWF 6-25 – Tree Printing Project £500

GWF 14-24 – GVC Support 2024-25 £2671

Additional funding for existing projects

GWF 7-23 Beeches Path £538

GWF 10-24 Village Fountain Restoration £90

GWF 18-24 Village Website £406

A proposal to tidy up and delete some of the old documents from the Dropbox files for the Windfarm Panel was discussed. While the general principle was agreed it was suggested that the views of Foundation Scotland should be sought as they would be one of the main organisations to audit the accounts.

Actions:

SO to inform the Windfarm Administrator of the Trust's decisions and recommendation regarding Foundation Scotland.

10. Local Place Plan

GP explained that with the resignation of David Millar from the Community Council Chair's position and from taking forward the Local Place Plan, the Community Council had appointed four members to take the project forward. Following a review of what other areas were doing the Community Council now proposed to appoint a contractor for up to 180 hours to undertake additional consultations with the intention is to encourage more participation, effectively restarting the process. This is likely to involve a new questionnaire being prepared and circulated to all households. Additionally, it was noted that there are still negotiations to take place with local land owners regarding any potential land allocation/release proposals.

GP indicated that a further public meeting is likely to take place in mid-June with the final document being submitted to Stirling Council by September. Stirling Council will then need to take into account the contents of local place plans from all their constituent areas in their own plan making process.

During the discussion there was some concern expressed about how the new process would take on board the existing document which had been circulated to all households and the weight which would now be placed on the views of those people who had contributed to the previous participatory process.

Action: GP to feedback comments to Community Council.

11. Projects Update

a. Cycle project

Currently, while the rental software still had to be launched it was noted that borrowing the bikes so far had been done on ad hoc basis.

b. Updated website

The Community Council were leading this process, albeit the website is owned by the Trust. The Community Council had secured funding from the Windfarm Panel to employ a contractor to work on an updated Community website. A small subgroup involving NA, SO, the Windfarm Panel administrator and two Community Councilors will oversee the work of the contractor.

c. Paths Group

Gargunnock to Stirling path

GP explained he had met David Hopper Head of Active Travel at Stirling Council to discuss the path between Gargunnock and Stirling. It was explained that the Council were intending to treat rural based projects differently to those in urban areas. The urban based projects had been funded largely by the UK Government Leveling Up funding and City Deal monies. New Active Travel funding will in future be distributed differently with Councils and TACTRAN rather than SUSTRANS taking a lead.

Mr Hopper had explained that the standards being applied to rural projects would now not have to be as high as those applied to urban projects making them more affordable. In the same vein the Council intended to redesign the Gargunnock to Stirling route to try and make it more affordable.

GP was thanked for persevering with the project and it now appeared that real progress could be a real possibility.

Beeches Path

SO noted that he was arranging some additional tree planting along the path with John More's permission.

d. Defibrillators

GB explained that she had been in contact with the electrician recommended by Trossachs Search and Rescue, however they had not responded so it was agreed that an alternative should be sought.

Action: GB to follow up with an alternative electrician to address the issues with the defibrillator installed in the telephone box.

e. Telephone box

SB indicated that he was looking for volunteers to help refurbish and repaint the telephone box.

Action: SO to contact Roddy Chambers to find out his availability to refurbish the door.

f. Ne*wsletter (Bugle)*

Latest edition recently produced and circulated was complimented thanks to the work of Louise and Shona Crawford.

12. AOB

SO noted that he had been approached by Mike Buckley of the Community Council to see whether the Trust would be interested in having a reciprocal arrangement with the Community Council so that a trustee will attend Community Council meetings and a Community Councillor would attend Trust meetings. It was agreed that this would be discussed further when there was a full complement of trustees in attendance.

13. Dates of meetings in 2025

Thursday 15 May 2025 (Garden Room)
Thursday 28 August 2025 (Garden Room)
Thursday 30 October 2025 (Garden Room)
Thursday 27 November (Garden Room) - AGM

Meeting closed at 8.45pm