

Minutes of Meeting held on September 26th 2013 in the Village Hall

Members present Fred Dale Chairman Sharon Bell Treasurer Jacky Taylor Secretary Sylvia Harper Marion Bell Jim Bell Richard Mann John Graham PC Bob Dixon and Stephen Thompson D&G Council. Also present two members of the public.

Apologies from Tony Thompson Margaret Currie George Muirhead PC John Cowan and Peter Diggle. Tom Halliday not in attendance.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes.

D&G Council have been contacted by the Secretary regarding Dog Fouling Notices for Kirkbank Road and the recent communication regarding the new Waste Collection proposals. No response on either matter, Stephen Thompson to follow up.

Proposer and Seconder

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as true and correct by Marion Bell and seconded by Jim Bell.

Police Report

The written report from PC John Cowan was presented by PC Bob Dixon. On the 2nd of September a report of poachers at Beastockrigg farm was made. Police attended but no trace of vehicles or persons was found. Benmar garage in Moffat has been broken into twice within a week and a large quantity of cigarettes stolen. No crimes have been reported in the Johnstonebridge area. Ongoing initiatives include awareness of bogus callers and tradesmen. Community officers will be available at Moffat Co-op and Lockerbie Tesco over the next weeks with trading Standards and local HANDYVAN services for advice. See press for details. Various discussion to PC Dixon regarding the signage for the weight limit from St Anns to Johnstonebridge. The Community felt that the signage was inadequate as HGVs were on top of the sign from the St Anns side with limited manoeuvrability. It was felt that a warning sign for the weight limit be placed on the A701 would be practical. Fred Dale to speak to D&G Council. There was further discussion regarding the Farm Watch system where some Community Councillors still felt that all relevant messages were not getting through. PC Dixon stated that it was sometimes difficult for the responding officer to decide which areas were to be contacted.

Councillors Report

Stephen Thompson presented Fred Dale with the new Development Plan from D&G Council. There is a new enquiry system being developed by D&G Council. There will be a new logging system for enquiries in which each enquiry made will be given a logging number with a guaranteed written response. Fred Dale reiterated that the amount of emails already generated from the Council was still increasing. There was no formal response as yet from D&G Council regarding the lease of the Village Halle but it was being assumed that the lease would continue until November 2014. Stephen Thompson also stated that he supported D&G Council providing in kind funding for the new Centre by surfacing the Car Park and Footpaths for the Centre. No response yet from D&G Council. Fred Dale requested that Stephen Thompson amended his blog to show that Johnstone Community Council had not been given the land for the MUGA by D&G Council but had purchased it.

Treasurers Reports

Sharon Bell reported that the Community Council account stands at £1369.08 with £21.26 in the cash box. The hall account stands at £781.62 with £72.42 in the cash box. The Fund Raising account stands at £10749.47 all these monies are allocated to ongoing projects and legal fees. Sharon Bell then presented the current situation with the Community Council Lottery from November 2012 to the current date incoming monies stand at £1145 and payments out to prize winners at £979. This matter will be further discussed at the next AGM. Sylvia Harper presented the Fund raising account balance as at £10749.47. This money is fully allocated for the Play Area equipment and legal fees.

Clyde Windfarm

We have been awarded £2000 from Clyde Windfarm to purchase a container to securely house the ride on lawn mower and various other items as required. Also awarded from the Windfarm is just under £12000 towards the play Area equipment. Still awaiting news from Holywood Trust re our application for £10000+ towards the same project. Fred Dale and Jacky Taylor to meet with the Leader funding representative next week.

Emergency Planning

Richard Mann confirmed that our Plan was up to date and that the next meeting in early October would be attended by himself and Tony Thompson. Individual emergency plans were available from the community website.

Land Transfer

The members were asked to approve the transfer of the land from the Community Council to the Johnstonebridge Centre & Community Development Trust when the legal work is completed. This is expected to be done within weeks according to our solicitor. Fred Dale stated that this was necessary for the Stage 2 application to the Lottery, the transfer of the land was to be brought before the council at the appropriate time and that time is now upon us. The members agreed unanimously to the transfer and Fred Dale was instructed to pass the decision to the Solicitor.

Upcoming Events

October Music night

1/11/13 Halloween Night

16/11/13 Christmas Craft Fare at Moffat Town Hall (15 tables already booked)

22/11/13 Quiz with a Difference Night

20/12/13 Childrens Christmas Party

21/12/13 Seniors Christmas Lunch

22/12/13 Christmas Carol Service

Contributions towards raffle prizes/hamper items are needed. Donated items to Sylvia Harper please.

AOCB

Fred Dale informed the Community Council that the Trust Board would be legally required to step down in November 2013. The AGM has been provisionally booked for the November 20th 2013 @19.00 in the Primary School. The Lottery are allowing their business consultant extra time to work on the Trust Budget Plans due to the disappointing results from the DTAS consultant. DTAS have been asked to review their account prior to submission. A draft Stage 2 submission is expected to be presented to The Lottery for review within the next two weeks. There may be some excess funds remaining in The Trust account, this being funds granted but the full amount not required to be spent. With agreement from the funds provider these excess funds could be utilised to assist young people with expenses incurred during apprentices or further education within Johnstone parish. This will be fully discussed at the Trust AGM. There was some discussion regarding a part of the land which is now under the Right to Buy scheme having been gifted to the Community Council in the past. After investigation it was discovered that the land grant never materialised. It was agreed that the Secretary contact Third Sector first regarding free advertising our upcoming events on their website. Fred Dale to contact the garage in Moffat to see if we could advertise on their internal TV system.

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday October 31st at 19.30 in the Village Hall