

GLENFARG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Monday 11th January 2016
Glenfarg Village Hall

PRESENT: CCllrs Burlison, Horsman, Loudon, Mackenzie, Pilmer, Ponton, H. Taylor, J. Taylor, Warder, Watson

Also George Lawrie from TRACKS and 6 members of the public

APOLOGIES: CCllr Duncan, Cllr Robertson, Police Scotland

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were proposed by CCllr Ponton and seconded by CCllr J.Taylor

MATTERS ARISING:

Vehicle Activated Signs The installation now expected to take place in January

White Lines outside Church The reinstatement has been delayed due to flood work. This will be carried out at the earliest possible opportunity when the surface is dry.

Repairs to wall Duncreevie Road / Wallace Park The Community Payback Team are to be asked to inspect with a view to carrying out necessary repairs. *CCllr Watson*

Damage to Main Street Wall There is some disagreement between BEAR Scotland and Perth & Kinross Roads Dept about responsibility. CCllr Watson reported that BEAR Scotland have agreed to speak to Roads Dept to settle the matter.

Salt Spreader Salt has been purchased and is stored with the spreader in GDIB's shed in Hayfield Road.

Ladeside Junction A local business had expressed concerns that the road safety measures planned for this junction may affect the entry and egress of their large vehicles. CCllr Watson had contacted the Road Safety Officer and could confirm that no plans will be put in place without prior consultation. The CC will be sent the plans. The Road Safety Officer felt that the new plans would actually make it easier for vehicles to navigate the corner.

Request for 20mph Speed Limit at Duncreevie CCllr Watson had approached the Road Safety Department, requesting that this area be added to a trial being carried out in rural areas. This was not possible, and it had been explained that the trial was investigating the effectiveness of such measures as other research had cast doubt on its effectiveness. The CC is to be informed of the outcome of the trial. A member of the public once again expressed concerns about the safety of Duncreevie residents who were forced to walk in the road and could suffer abuse from passing motorists.

Animals in Wallace Park 12 entries in the colouring competition had been received and 2 CCllrs decided the winner. The Community Payback Team to be advised of the colours chosen for the 4 animals.

CCllr Watson

POLICE REPORT

As no police officer was present, the report was read out by the CC Chairman. There had been reports of cold calling. 2 males were checked and warned accordingly. There had been 4 reports of theft – a red Honda quad bike, a scrap generator, a collection of power tools, one tonne of logs – all under enquiry. Following reports of a scrambler bike in Glenfarg, the bike was stopped and one male charged with offences.

PLANS FOR THE AVENUE

George Lawrie from TRACKS presented the Arngask School Travel Plan. This plan involves resurfacing and improving the drainage in The Avenue (the tree-lined avenue linking Greenbank Road near Hayfield Rd to the end of Greenbank Crescent) to make it a suitable walking / cycling route to school. He has consulted The Avenue's owner who has agreed to work being carried out on condition that tarmac not be used. The surface will therefore be the same as the Loch Leven Trail, as it is not damaging to tree roots. It was pointed out that horses also use the path, although not at the times when school pupils would be present. Mr Lawrie said that paths must be for all and no user could be excluded.

The Avenue will still require maintenance, which will not be carried out by the owner or P&KC. The Glenfarg Paths Group should be able to carry out such maintenance as strimming and gully cleaning. Paths For All should be able to offer training and funds for equipment. Dog bins will not be allowed on The Avenue but could be requested for either end of the route.

Secretary

The plan includes a link from the end of the Avenue into Greenbank Crescent – a sealed surface with solar lights. Mr Lawrie has also discussed the possibility of a 'restricted zone' in Greenbank Crescent. This would restrict cars entering the crescent at times when school children would be present – going to / from school and in the lunch hour. P&KC was in favour of a restricted zone for the whole crescent. After discussion, the CC agreed that too many residents would be badly affected by this and requested that the restricted zone be limited to the cul-de-sac off Greenbank Crescent leading to the school car park. School staff and residents with garages would still be able to gain access, but the cars of parents or those wishing to recycle would be banned at these times. A 'sleeping policeman' is planned for the entrance.

There was further discussion about pupils being encouraged to walk to school, and Mr Lawrie was of the opinion that parents may drop off children at the far end of The Avenue. This caused some concern about safety issues as the Greenbank Road / Hayfield Road junction is difficult to navigate already. Mr Lawrie to consult with the Road Safety Officer.

The school is very much in favour of all these plans, some of which will be put in place during the Easter holidays. Mr Lawrie requested that the CC ask P&KC to clear the first drain in Greenbank Road, which has not been coping with extra water

recently, and the gully at the top of The Avenue which is causing water to flow through the garden of the nearest house. *Secretary*

ADOPTION OF CONSTITUTION

It was unanimously agreed to adopt the constitution of Glenfarg Community Council, which was then signed by CCllrs Mackenzie, Loudon, Pilmer. Copy to be sent to Perth & Kinross Council. *CCllr Watson*

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICE BEARERS

Secretary: CCllr Warder, proposed CCllr Ponton, seconded CCllr Burlison.

Data Protection Officer: CCllr Warder

Emergency Plan Coordinator: CCllr H. Taylor, with support from CCllr Pilmer.

PLANNING:

The owner of The Glenfarg hotel had lodged an application with P&KC for change of use and planning application for 12 flats. The CC had hosted a public meeting to discuss the situation, at which The Glenfarg Hotel Action Group was formed from volunteers in the community. 162 Comments have been sent to the Planning Department, including an objection from the Community Council. We have been informed that, as there is a listed building in the immediate vicinity, a site visit is required. This will result in the consultation period being reopened for a further 3 weeks.

A report on any other planning applications in our area has been deferred to the next meeting of the CC.

GLENFARG HOTEL ACTION GROUP FUNDING REQUEST

A Micro Grant request had been received for funding of running costs for this group, which is exploring possibilities for a social hub as previously fulfilled by the hotel. It was agreed in principal to fund necessary costs up to an overall maximum of £250. The group is to be advised to contact the CC with receipts as they occur.

CCllr Watson

TREASURER'S REPORT

GCC Balance on Account £279.65

GCC Newsletter Account £11,238.99

School Fund £541

WALLACE PARK STORAGE

The CC has considered taking over and upgrading the old changing rooms in Wallace Park as storage for fete equipment etc. CCllr Ponton reported that she had approached P&KC and found that there is an asbestos problem. Also A & J Stephen (Builders) had offered to demolish the building at their own expense as it requires access to the electricity supply. It was therefore agreed not to oppose this.

A member of the public suggested the use of a shipping container, which could be positioned on the concrete base in the park, or a site found elsewhere. A 20ft container is believed to cost between £1.6K and £2K. It will be necessary to determine the length of storage required for the marquee. *Cllr Ponton*

A Cllr has contact with A & J Stephen, and offered to sound them out on how they could help the community with this enterprise. *Cllr Warder*

CORRESPONDENCE:

A list of correspondence had been circulated to community councillors prior to the meeting.

AOCB:

Lights A member of the public reported that the sunken lights outside the Village Hall had not been coming on in the evening when people were walking from the car park. He was advised to contact the Hall's Property Convenor.

Cllr Horsman asked if it was known what was happening with the vacant properties at the end of Greenbank Road. One property was becoming dilapidated and the measures to make it secure were falling apart. Since children pass it daily, it was felt that contact should be made with the owner to inform him of the situation. *Secretary*

It was also suggested that our local councillors could advise on whom to contact at P&KC about empty properties. *Secretary*

Newsletter Cllr Watson reported that the Communication Group had met to discuss the newsletter, and had agreed not to offer delivery of copies to subscribers in future. The number of subscribers has dwindled over the years, and it was noted that the residents who subscribed seemed to be people who also visited the shop regularly. A courtesy copy of the February edition will be delivered, with a covering note making it clear that anyone unable to travel to the shop could continue to have the newsletter delivered. *Cllr Horsman*

Old Arngask Cemetery The group working on restoration of this site has been raising funds for stone preservation and now has a shortfall of £250-£300. They have asked if it would be appropriate to reapply to the Lochelbank Fund that turned down their original request. To be advised that funding of survey work was not appropriate but a request for funding to carry out preservation would be supported. *Cllr Watson*

Flooding It was noted that several properties had experienced flooding / potential flooding recently and the community was commended on the way that it had supported those affected.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on 7th March 2016