

GLENFARG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Monday 6th March 2017
Glenfarg Village Hall

PRESENT: CCllrs Arnold, Horsman, Louden, Pilmer (Chair), Taylor, Warder, Watson

Also present - Cllr W. Robertson, Cllr M. Barnacle and 7 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: CCllr Burlison, CCllr Ponton, Cllr Cuthbert, Community Police

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

MATTERS ARISING:

Arngask Old Graveyard Cllr Robertson reported that he had been in contact with the Preservation Society and Kinross Museum about the medieval statue of Lady Margaret in the graveyard. He then introduced Karen McGregor and Wendy MacPhedran of the Old Arngask Graveyard Preservation Group who emphasised the importance of the graveyard in the history of the community. Family members are known to still visit the graveyard when in the area. Over the past two years, professional recording of the stones has continued and the final report will be made available to the CC for the history archive and inclusion in the History section of the website.

Effigy Preservation – an article in the December newsletter had produced no objections to the effigy being moved under cover. As the effigy is large, there is insufficient room for it in the Kinross Museum. Cllr Robertson offered to explore other options with Culture Perth & Kinross. However he was of the opinion that the effigy should be preserved in situ. There could be funding available to encase it in a suitable transparent container. It was agreed to wait the outcome of Cllr Robertson's enquiries.

Stones – it was noted that several large stones / monuments were now lying on the ground in a poor state – some face down and some broken. The Preservation Group members informed the CC that, what had at first appeared to be vandalism, had in fact been carried out by P&KC workers on the grounds that they were in a dangerous state. They also reported that the stones had been recently inspected and in their opinion were not in a dangerous state. Also, the guidelines state that families must be contacted before such action is taken, which had apparently not occurred. Cllr Robertson offered to arrange a meeting with Willie Greig (P&KC) to be attended by Preservation Group representatives, CC representatives and possibly family members affected.
CCllrs Louden, Arnold, Horsman

Social Hub A member of the Glenfarg Community Company was present to give an update on work so far. It had not been possible to progress a possible purchase of the hotel as permission to carry out a survey had been refused. Alternatives being pursued are –

1. Permanent replacement – the Company's committee and the Village Hall Committee are working together towards a possible extension of the hall to

provide both a replacement for the hotel bar / restaurant facilities and improvements to the hall.

2. The possibility of a temporary hub has also been explored – the bowling club, a pavilion in the park, the garage land on Main Street. Extensive work has been carried out on this last option, but planning requirements have made the costs prohibitive for a temporary solution.
3. Funding – the Company has met with the Scottish Land Fund's agents, Highlands & Islands Enterprise. The next step would be to produce a community needs survey, to show that there is a 'need' for a social hub rather than a 'wish'.

The new manager of the Bein Inn was present, and expressed his hope that he could meet some of the community's need for a social meeting place in the interim. Facilities are to be advertised in the newsletter.

Proposed Green Route The CC had received proposals from P&KC to create a green route from Milnathort through Glenfarg to Bridge of Earn via the Wicks o' Baiglie Road. This would involve some reductions in speed limits and some engineering measures in order to improve the infrastructure for cyclists, walkers and equestrians. The CC had posted the details, inviting comments from the community. The CC had no objections to the proposals.

A member of the public objected to the inclusion of some of the Wicks o' Baiglie road, as he felt it a waste of resources to include the southern stretch of road not generally used by cyclists or walkers. By contrast, the roads to the east of the motorway, which form a circular route from Glenfarg via the two motorway bridges, are regularly used by local walkers who would benefit from the protection of a green route. Cllr Robertson reported that he had already written to the Senior Engineer (Brian Cargill) asking for this route to be included. He was also still pursuing the old railway route through the Glen as a possible cycle track.

It was agreed that the CC would write to Brian Cargill in support of the proposals, but would also request the inclusion of the east route. *Secretary*

Vandalism and Anti-Social Behaviour It was felt that this had increased in recent times and was constantly being brought to the attention of the CC by concerned residents. At Cllr Robertson's suggestion, it was agreed that the Community Police should be asked to visit local schools (both primary and secondary) to speak on the subject. *Secretary*

It was also agreed to highlight the issue on the Grapevine and in the newsletter.

Cllr Arnold

Wallace Park Development Group Cllr Horsman reported that a meeting had been attended by 10 local residents (including 3 young people) and a Community Capacity Builder with Greenspace (Diane Cassidy). Diane has experience of working with local communities to improve their open spaces. She reported that the playpark is due for renewal in 2019/20, so preferred options should be in place well before then. Match funding may be available. It was emphasised that there was a need to involve the community in formulating ideas, which could then be worked on by a landscape architect. Ideas so far are a circular path / running track, outdoor gym, flower garden.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

1. GCC – Balance on Account £500.18

Expenditures: Village Hall £24

2. GCC Newsletter Account - Balance £ 12,086.45

This balance is made up of Newsletter £7,501.06, Microgrant £574.39, Nursing Fund £4,011.00.

Income/Expenditures since last meeting:

Newsletter:

Income - £1,199.49 from newsletter adverts and shop donation tin, including a £50 donation from a reader who appreciated receiving the newsletter.

Expenditures – Newsletter printing £190, Newsletter Editor’s hard drive £54.99 and Community Payback to relocate Glenfarg sign £25

Microgrant:

No Change

3. School Fund £441

No Change. CCllr Horsman reported that the school had been asked if, since the fund was dwindling, they would prefer to have access to the whole lump sum. The Head Teacher felt that the annual sum was much appreciated and would ask for it to continue. CC to consider this at the appropriate time.

Total Funds Held £13,027.63

SCHOOL LIAISON:

CCllr Watson reported that, along with CCllr Horsman, she had attended a recent meeting of the Parents and Friends of Arngask at which the main item on the agenda had been proposals by P&KC for changes to the school buildings. The hut to the north of the main building is not fit for use and repairs would not be financially viable. It is therefore proposed to demolish the building, with the loss of a classroom, staff room, side room and toilet.

P&KC plans to spend £150K on renovations to the library to make it into a classroom, wall mounted Smartboards, a disabled toilet, children’s boot boxes. The library would occupy a corner of the dining room. Pupils would need to access the toilets in the main building during break times. Staff would need to use the Parents’ Room in the Nursery area as a Staff Room.

Cllr Robertson, who had attended the school meeting, noted that the parents present had not been impressed by the offer from P&KC, which they felt was a short-sighted arrangement which would not make up for the loss of facilities.

CCllr Watson reported that the school role is presently 87, rising to 95 in 2018.

Capacity is 98. She commented that, with the number of future housing developments in the pipeline, capacity would probably soon be exceeded. The Parents’ Group have written to the Director of Education, Sheena Devlin, requesting a meeting, which CCllr Horsman hopes to attend. It was agreed that the CC would write to Ms Devlin in support of the points made in the letter. *CCllr Watson*

PLANNING REPORT:

CCllr Pilmer reported that there had been no applications / approvals in our area over the past two months. CCllr Arnold asked about the dilapidated state of Smithy Cottage. No action by the owner or agent was evident. It was agreed to send a reminder of our request for action. *Secretary*

POLICE REPORT:

No police officer was able to be present and no report had been received. It was noted that there are now two community police officers covering the Kinross area.

AOCB:

Leaves in Wallace Park. CCllr Arnold noted that these had not been cleared this year. Cllr Robertson to pursue.

Litter in the Glen. This again needs attention. CCllr Robertson to pursue.

Rescue Pole. CCllr Arnold commented that the pole by the pond on Glenfarg Green, which has recently been vandalised twice, is unwieldy. He felt that a throwing line housed in a canister and mounted on a post (as installed at Loch Leven) might be a better option and less likely to be vandalised. To be investigated. *CCllr Arnold*

Defibrillator. CCllr Arnold has taken responsibility for carrying out the regular checks of the PAD, at the same time as he checks the emergency equipment held in the village hall. New weekly visual-only checks on the defibrillator, carried out by a 'PAD Guardian', will start soon. CClr Horsman has volunteered to be the first Guardian. It was agreed that it was time to look at arranging another training session in the village. *CCllr Arnold*

Gala Day. A member of the Gala Day Committee reported that this was being arranged for 24th June.

Tennis Club. A member of the public asked if the CC had been provided with the planting plan for the space by the tennis courts where trees had been removed. Although this had been promised, no plan had been forthcoming. To be pursued. *CCllr Watson*

Newsletter. CCllr Watson reported that the editor wished to run a short story competition. He also planned to speak to the school about printing pupils' stories. Book token prizes would be necessary. The CC agreed to the cost being taken from newsletter funds. *CCllr Watson*

Micro Grant. CCllr Warder reported that a microgrant request had just been received from Glenfarg & Duncricvie In Bloom for the sum of £250 for replacement tyres for the watering machine (total cost £264). GDIB have depleted funds due to the building of a greenhouse. The application was approved.

The AGM of the Community Council will be held on 8th May 2017.