

Glenfarg Community Council Business Meeting Monday 9th January 2023
7:30pm

Glenfarg Village Hall

Agenda

Welcome

- 1. Apologies**
 - 2. Approval of last Business Meeting Minutes**
 - 3. Action Points**
 - 4. Virtual Meetings**
 - 5. Village Inn Update**
 - 6. Glenfarg Transport Group**
 - 7. Glenfarg.org website updates**
 - 8. Planning**
 - 9. Police Report**
 - 10. Finance Report**
 - 11. AOCB**
- Date of next meeting**

Welcome

GCC Chair CClr Fraser welcomed everyone present to the first meeting of 2023.

Attendance

CClr Fraser, CClr Christie, CClr MacLeod, CClr Pilmer, PKC Cllr Robertson, PKC CClr Watters, PKC CClr Cuthbert and six members of the public.

1. Apologies

PKC Cllr Freshwater, CClr Ponton, CClr Murray, Mr D. Smart (CTG) and Police Scotland Community PC Samson.

2. Approval of last Business Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the 7th November 2022 Business Meeting had been approved and seconded by CClrs Fraser and Christie on the 10th November 2022.

3. Action Points

i) GCC committee positions agreed: Vice Chair and Planning - CClr Christie. Secretary, Lochelbank Wind Farm Panel, Data Controller and Emergency Plan - CClr Pilmer. Finance - CClr Murray and CClr Macleod. Binn Wind Turbine Panel - CClr Ponton.

ii) Warm Space Topic. CClr Pilmer confirmed that the Village Hall Trustees Secretary had responded to an GCC enquiry regarding the Village Hall's availability as a *Warm Space*. The response was that the Village Hall was on the PKC Register for Warm Spaces. Presently two public sessions were in place as of November 2022 and they were the Monday Lunchtime Soup with Roll and Thursday Morning Coffee all run by volunteers. Should there be a demand for further *Warm Space* then the Village Hall is available for bookings. Information to book the Village Hall can be found on the dedicated website at www.glenfarg.org

4. Reports for Virtual Meetings

CClr Pilmer reported on the Lochelbank Wind Farm Panel (LWFP) meeting that took place in November 2022 when two Glenfarg submissions for funding were considered. The first was funding for flooring for the Village Hall Schoolhouse c/o the Village Hall Trustees and the second was for transport funding c/o the Community Transport Group. Decisions for both submissions were returned for further financial clarification and to be agreed at the next LWFP Meeting in the first quarter of 2023. CClr Fraser requested his fellow CClrs to take ownership of the following committees: Kinross Action Partnership, Community Investment Panel, Kinross Local Committee, Kinross- shire Transport Group. The committees may hold their meetings in virtual or physical formats in 2023. Details to follow in due course.
Action CClrs

5. Village Inn Update

Cllr Fraser reported that an online survey was carried within the Glenfarg Community using the village Facebook media website and Glenfarg Grapevine email system. The survey, consisting of five questions plus a comments section, closed on the 31st December 2022.

There were 174 responses representing 462 residents with the results as follows:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| Q1. Would the village benefit from a Village Inn? | Yes 99%, No 1% |
| Q2. Would you bring friends from outside the village? | Yes 92%, No 8% |
| Q3. Is the Community Centre a good location? | Yes 85%, No 15% |
| Q4. Would you like the Village Inn to serve food? | Yes 83%, No 17% |

Q5. Which days of the week would you prefer? Number of personal responses collated for preferred day.

Monday 20, Tuesday 23, Wednesday 52, Thursday 62, Friday 148, Saturday 146, Sunday 98.

Behind these responses there were a number of comments which will be summarised in due course. *Action Cllr Ponton*

The results were welcomed by the PKC Cllrs and Cllrs present. PKC Cllr Cuthbert requested that he be issued with this information as part of the co-ordination activity that he is carrying out as an independent Chair between the parties of the Village Hall Trustees and the Village Inn pub group. *Action Cllr Ponton*

6. Transport Group

Cllr Fraser explained once again about contracts for various bus routes that will/may have an impact on Kinross-shire therefore, at this stage it is unknown as to what will happen for our community. Cllr Fraser explained about the community's funding activities that had been raised for operational requirements (to be confirmed but estimated at circa £30k) and the potential for future funding to secure a full operational Community Bus (to be confirmed but estimated at £140k). There is a funding application in to Smarter Choice Smarter Places that is still pending.

Ten volunteer drivers have been recruited with eight trained and the rest to follow as necessary. Presently the use of the Community Education Services Bus is being utilised on a Thursday for Coffee Mornings and that it has been block booked for that day a week over a three-month period.

Press coverage in the Courier and Perthshire Advertiser newspapers including the Kinross Community Magazine has taken place with a further newspaper article pending by the Guardian Newspaper's Scottish correspondent.

A discussion took place with the PKC Cllrs and Cllrs present about the benefits to the community and the potential impact that may happen should our present public bus service be reduced. PKC Cllr Cuthbert and Cllr Fraser discussed the topic of

Stagecoach's support to communities following CCllr Fraser's notification that there is a planned meeting with a Stagecoach representative in the short term.

Mr D. Smart who is working with CCllr Fraser on this project, stated by letter, that for the No.55 and No.56 bus contracts that local bids for Contracts are not allowed although a *shadow tender* was submitted. Presently the GCC is awaiting news on who the successful operator shall be for the current Bus services for our area. A transport group known as Community Transport Glasgow c/o a Mr G. Dunn has been engaging with the Community Transport Group and has been able to provide valued input to the local community project. Updates to follow. *Action CCllr Fraser, Mr D. Smart*

Following the decision by the owners of Earnside Coaches to cease trading in the first quarter of 2023 those in attendance at the meeting extended their best wishes once again to the owners and their family for the future.

7. Glenfarg.org website updates

Website topic is being managed mutually by two members of the public and the CCllrs thanked them for their agreement and willingness to support the community.

8. Planning Report

CCllr Christie reported the following:

Reference	Date	Applicant	Details	Action / Decision
22/01772/FLL	21/11/2022	Binn Skips	Installation of 990KW Biomass Boiler and Flue (In Retrospect)	Awaiting Decision
22/01582/FLL	25/11/2022	Rymell Binn	Erection of garage at 6 Hayfield Road, Glenfarg, PH2 9NP (in retrospect)	Approved
22/01780/SCRN	04/01/2023	Skips	Thermal processing of primary and permitted secondary biomass feedstocks	Awaiting Decision

9. Police Report

CCllr Pilmer reported the following from Community Police Officer (CPO) PC Samson.

Crimes of note (1 month period)

DATE	OFFENCE	RESULT
16/12/2022	Theft by shoplifting (Glenfarg Village Shop)	1 x charged & reported to the Procurator Fiscal

Traffic Statistics

Community officers are aware of regular areas where there are complaints about speeding in and around Glenfarg. These have all been added to our speeding matrix and we will continue to make efforts to carry out speed checks across the area during our patrols.

Officer comments

From 9th December 2022 there have been 13 calls to Police from the Glenfarg area and 4 crimes recorded on Police systems.

Community Team Activity

We often post on our Twitter page @PerthKinPolice with updates on what we are doing out and about in the local area under #KinrossCPT. Please feel free to follow us!

10. Finance Report

Cllr Macleod advised those in attendance that a topic remains to be resolved following the departure of the previous Cllr for Financial matters. Principally the topic relates to: Bank account signatures, bank account transactions and information moving over to an on-line modern accounting basis all to be completed as soon as practically possible. In the short term it was agreed that the previous Cllr, Mr Horsman, be contacted to assist with matters and that a Treasurer Report for the period November 2022 to January 2023 is to be issued as soon as possible to the Chair and Secretary.

A GITS Microgrant is impending and requires payment to be confirmed.

Action Cllrs Murray and Macleod

11. AOCB

Glenfarg Oil Buying Syndicate (GOBS)

Mr T. McAulay the present administrator and organiser for GOBS is retiring at the end of January 2023. He has made a public announcement requesting that the GOBS requires a new replacement and at the GCC meeting it was noted that two members of the public had stated a notification to take over however, this requires confirmation. Cllr Fraser thanked Mr McAulay on behalf of the GCC and the community as a whole for the outstanding work and contribution he has made that has resulted in the GOBS members making savings for home heating oil. Presently with the cost of energy volatile it's a benefit to householders to benefit from the worthwhile necessity of GOBS. The GCC is to keep in contact with Mr McAulay to be notified of a successful outcome. *Action Cllr Fraser and Cllr Pilmer*

Flooding long/short term measures

Cllr Fraser raised the matter in relation to the events of early December 2022. The discussion led to the suggested inability of the present "drainage pipe" system (9" dia) unable to cope with the amount of waste and rainfall water in times of extreme

heavy rain. It was found that water was coming out of man holes and that further water was coming out of the fields adjacent to The Avenue thus affecting The Avenue, particular houses and their garden with the resultant excess water flooding on to Greenbank Crescent, Greenbank Road and the Main Street. Unfortunately, a property, situated on Greenbank Road, was affected and flooded resulted in damage. This flooding damage although not stopped was lessened in some respects after a call for help from volunteers to assist with removing/stopping water and assisted by a Bilge/Sump Pump. Councillor Fraser suggested that a number of Bilge/Sump pumps be purchased and held in storage at the Village Store's garage for use in an Emergency.

A discussion/email is to be held with the necessary contacts from Scottish Water/PKC/Scottish Government's Flood prevention department or contact. Also, the name of the person from whose land the water was coming off the fields onto The Avenue be contacted to be alerted about the matter. Action Councillor Christie.

Scottish Water Glenfarg Water Treatment Plant upgrade

Councillor Fraser reported that as a result of the Public Meeting held on Wednesday 16th November 2022 and that the event had been well attended publicly. Scottish Water's Community Relations had shared news of the event with the Village Newsletter and the GCC. Councillor Fraser emphasised the necessity of the GCC to keep in contact with Scottish Water and that a liaison group should be set up between the two parties. Councillor Christie reported that there have been no official notifications from PKC Planning to date. Nonetheless, Councillor Fraser requested the Secretary to keep in correspondence. *Action Councillor Pilmer*

Scottish Access Code

Councillor Fraser raised the matter in relation to Councillor Pilmer having been contacted by a number of residents and a member of the public in regard to visiting members of the public accessing the Glenfarg Reservoir, via the Glenfarg Water Treatment Plant, and believed to be for recreational activities.

He was asked by Councillor Fraser to explain what is/has taken place in relation to access, why has this come about, what if any issues were arising and what would be a constructive and best way forward for visitors?

In response, Councillor Pilmer gave a brief explanation of why the number of visiting members of the public had increased, in essence relating to the Pandemic, and that members of the public (some with dogs) in general were taking exercise in the countryside leading to access issues arising when they, members of the public, are not/may not be familiar with the Scottish Access Code and its guidance/instruction. Councillor Pilmer explained further about the Scottish Access Code's three main principles including the Signage that has been erected as a result of visitors walking through the Glenfarg Water Treatment Plant and adjoining land thereafter, accessing the reservoir via the Dam Head and the old filter beds' concourse.

Further important points were stated in relation to access and safety: *Instruction* Signage that is displayed at various points on the Private Access road route, Scottish Water Glenfarg Water Treatment Plant sign of *No Unauthorised Access* in accordance with the Scottish Access Code, the landowner's sign of *No Dogs Ewes in Lamb*, further and comprehensive Scottish Water signage at the Dam Head advising about *Tips and Advice*, its relevance to the Scottish Access Code and *General Restrictions* (two of which relate to the exclusion of access (public) on Built

Structures and Public Health) including the point that *access for swimming was not encouraged in a Public Water supply*. A debate took place with the PKC Cllrs, CCllrs and six members of the public including the highlighted concern of a local landowner in relation to livestock, particularly those that may be nervous or very inquisitive and the resultant impact.

The topic of access and concerns was discussed amicably with all those present. CCllr Fraser explained that the GCC cannot police the Scottish Access Code matter and it was down to members of the public to be seen to be *acting responsibly* and to *stay safe* in areas of the countryside and open water.

A further discussion took place about an alternative route to the reservoir avoiding the Scottish Water Glenfarg Water Treatment Plant including its Dam Head and this was accepted with all participants mindful of the Scottish Access Code.

CCllr Pilmer was asked by a member of the public about access in adjoining land and he confirmed that he had contacted Scottish Woodlands with respect to their perceived purchase of the adjoining land and public access northwards of Scottish Water's premises. In addition, he confirmed that he had been in written contact with Scottish Water's Community Relations manageress requesting prominent No Access notification/other information signage at the Scottish Water Glenfarg Water Treatment Plant entrance to be erected for all visitors.

CCllr Fraser thanked all those present for their contributions, emphasised the need for safety, their appreciation and respect of the Scottish Access Code and instructed CCllr Pilmer to contact Scottish Water about improving signage/information for all.

Action CCllr Pilmer

Mapping Tool for Community Councils

The website-based tool was discussed and it was agreed not to participate, Glenfarg has its own successful website with lots of information about our community.

Speed limit measures and traffic signage

CCllr Ponton has notified the requisite information to PKC. The GCC understands fully that the village is on a list for action to have new/altered signage although as to when it will become a physical reality for the village remains unknown.

Cost of living Fund

An application was made on behalf the Community Transport Group to secure funds and this was successful. £500 was secured and is to be used as road fuel purchase for the Community Bus that is being operated on a Thursday. This means that the Community Bus can offer a free service presently.

Tayside Contracts Community Fund

GCC Chair CCllr Fraser had notified the Village Hall Trustees about the availability of funds and in particular that they could be used to reconstruct the parking facilities within the grounds of the Village Hall. To date there has been no official feedback from the Trustees.

Glenfarg Village Newsletter - Archive and Storage

The Glenfarg Village Newsletter has had copies of its publications archived over the years with them being stored and held securely in the Arngask Church Hall. However, as a result of the Church due for closure in 2023 and its eventual sale, the Archive requires to be rehomed. Therefore, a discussion took place as to where it could be stored and who would carry out the future archiving task. It was suggested that the Village Hall could accommodate the Archive and as such the Village Hall Trustees (VHT) are to be contacted to confirm an acceptable solution thereafter, a responsible person to be recruited to carry out the activity of archiving. It was noted further that Mr Alex Johnston, who has been in charge of the archive for many years, be thanked publicly for his endeavours. The Secretary to write to the VHT and Mr Johnston. *Action CCllr Pilmer*

Meeting closed 9.15pm

Date of next GCC Meeting

Monday 6th March 2023 at 7:30pm. Agenda to be confirmed and published nearer that date.

Proposer of Minutes: CCllr Christie

Seconder of Minutes: CCllr Fraser

12/01/2023