

Culross Community Council

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Council on 4th March 2013

Held in Town House

Present:
Cllr George Connelly MBE (Chair)
Cllr Robert Nelson (Treasurer)
Cllr Diane MacKenzie
Cllr Clare Short
Cllr Jeanie Carwardine
Ex Officio Present:
Cllr Willie Ferguson
Cllr Kate Stewart
In attendance:
Scott McMaster NTS
Elaine Longmuir NTS
Apologies Submitted:
Cllr Tim Collins
Cllr Alice Callaghan

The meeting started at 7.00 and Cllr George Connelly in the Chair.

Agenda Item	Narrative	Action & Owner
1. Welcome and apologies	The Chair welcomed all present.	
2. Declarations of Interest	Nil.	
3. Approval of Previous Minutes	Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 th February 2013 were approved with one minor amendment. Proposed: Robert Nelson Seconded: Diane MacKenzie	
4. Matters Arising	DM advised that the title deeds of The Stables were being examined to determine how best the Trustees could take forward the aspirations to modernise this facility.	
5. Treasurer's Report	Statement of account as at 22 February 2013 was circulated and is appended to these Minutes. It was agreed that £150 would be set aside from the Environmental Fund to cover the annual cost of Hedge Cutting that cannot be undertaken by Fife Council.	RN/All
6. Correspondence List	1. DAPL. Drug and Alcohol Project Ltd (DAPL) had written requesting they attend a CCC meeting to discuss the opportunity of offering their services to the community. It was agreed the DAPL representative, Sheila Mair, would be invited to the next meeting.	Chair

	<p>2. Meeting 21 March 2013 – Blair Castle. Rev Jayne Scott had written inviting representation from CCC at a meeting to discuss the proposed “Pilgrims’ Way’ and other opportunities for development within the Village. As the meeting was taking place in the afternoon it was regretted that no Community Cllr could attend however, a full brief has been provided to JS inviting her to represent CCC’s input outlining our ongoing projects and aspirations for the Village.</p>	GC/DM/JS
7. Chair’s Report	No substantive issues to report.	GC
8. Cllrs’ Report	<p>1. Cllr KS advised (1) She would continue to follow up with Fife Council (FC) and DM, the decline of the walled area at Hagg’s Wynd and Erskine Gardens (2) She and Clare Short attended a meeting to decide the future strategy of Fife Schools and a list of schools recommended for closure would be submitted to FC on 16 April (3) There would be a review of the usage of all Community Halls/Centres on 19 March and the lack of use of Stephen Memorial Hall Culross would be a topic for further discussion (4) The ‘Fife Plan’ consultation period ends 10 March {CCC has subsequently submitted a number of comments}</p> <p>2. Cllr WF advised (1) A new protocol for the ‘Fire Service’ wef 3 March would mean that fire appliances would now be dispatched from Alloa and this would reduce the time to deploy to Culross (2) The Kincardine block of flats would be demolished on Sunday 10 March. (3) He agreed to submit a further request to FC to repair the fence at the West Car Park recycling centre and to ascertain whether wire mesh could be introduced to stop debris being blown into the bushes (4) Note: Cllr Ferguson was thanked for responding swiftly to local concerns regarding the maintenance of roads and paths. He further advised that although a monthly inspection programme had been introduced, future maintenance could be an issue with a reduced Fife Council budget.</p>	All
9. External Meetings Report	<p>1. Ranger. The future funding of the Ranger post was being discussed by Scottish Power.</p>	All/WF
10. Input from Members of the Public	<p>1. NTS. Elaine Longmuir (Interim Property Manager) advised that ‘Beechwood House’ (adjacent to the Red Lion pub) would be sold on the market to fund the renovations for 6/7 The Cross (2) That NTS planned to engage with Culross Primary School to approve a design for the gates of 6/7 The Cross (3) Future NTS events would include (a) Fri 29 Mar – Mon 1 Apr Easter Egg Trail (b) Sun 12 May Scotland’s Gardens Open Day at Culross Palace (4) Another Witches & Wizards Night in October as last year’s was a sell out.</p> <p>2. CCC thanked EM for her very impressive and proactive start in her new role and looked forward to her attendance at future meetings. Scott McMaster was</p>	All

	<p>also thanked for all his support and advice during his tenure representing NTS in Culross whilst he was also heavily involved in the new Bannockburn Project that would open on 2014. NTS was also thanked for their very kind contribution of £100 to the Culross signage Project.</p> <p>3. Culross School. A telephone query had been received from a resident (outwith the Culross post code area) requesting CCC's support to him lobbying agencies regarding the future of the School. It was agreed that CCC would retain their status quo of fully supporting the PTA and locally elected Cllrs which offers more substantive support to this major concern.</p>	
11. Planning	1. Nil.	All
12. Parking	West Green. Advice was still awaited from Cllr Ferguson and NTS (Scott McMaster & <i>now Elaine Longmuir</i>) regarding the legal title of this land ie whether it belongs to Fife Council or NTS. GC has also applied to the ROS (Land Registry) for a copy of the title deeds to clarify ownership. <i>Afternote: title deeds now received and will be forwarded to FC legal branch for perusal/advice.</i>	GC WF EM
13. AOB (Any Other Business)	<p>1. Village Newsletter. Duncan Woods representing CDT (Culross Development Trust), with the assistance of a student sourced by DM, has agreed to revive the Village Newsletter and it is hoped that the next publication would be distributed end of April.</p> <p>2. CCC Minutes Sec. The position remains vacant, as does a vacancy on CCC and this has been advertised on local notice boards.</p> <p>3. Fencing West Green. DA and DM agreed to inspect the broken fencing and advise options.</p> <p>4. Dunimarle Castle. The local Minister had engaged with the new owners and it was thought that the Castle would now be used solely for private use as opposed to weddings, conferences etc.</p> <p>5. Recycling Facilities – Erskine Brae Car Park. A request from 1 x resident was considered and CS agreed to discuss options with Fife Council.</p> <p>6. Culross Walking Guide. DM discussed an idea to promote a Culross Walking Guide to encourage tourists to discover the less well known but interesting parts of the Village. Information sheets would be placed in the E and W Car Parks and in local businesses and walkers could take a picture of the leaflet by mobile phone or borrow a hard copy of the leaflet. The project was enthusiastically endorsed.</p>	<p>CDT DW DM</p> <p>DA DM</p> <p>CS</p> <p>DM</p>

	<p>7. Funding Repairs to Public Structures. All were reminded of the availability of the FC 'Locality Budget' that had generously supported previous projects in the Village.</p> <p>8. Planting and Replacing Tubs. DA agreed to source a supplier and cost replacements for broken Oak Barrels. Support would then be requested from residents to position the items and plant bulbs etc.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>DA DM</p>
<p>14. Dates of Next Meetings</p>	<p>Next Meetings. Monday 8th April, Monday 13th May and Monday 10 June 2013 at 7.00m in the Town House.</p> <p>Agenda to be circulated to Cllrs for comment/input prior to being displayed on notice boards</p>	<p>All</p>

The meeting ended at: 9.15 pm