

Culross Community Council

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Council on 3rd March 2014

Held in Town House

Present:
CCC Cllr Tim Collins (Chairperson)
CCC Cllr David Alexander (Vice-Chair)
CCC Cllr Robert Nelson (Treasurer)
CCC Cllr Diane MacKenzie
CCC Cllr Eileen Laidlaw (Correspondence Secretary)
CCC Cllr Siné Russell (Minutes Secretary)
CCC Cllr Gail Bald
Ex Officio Present:
FC Cllr Willie Ferguson
In attendance:
Kate McDonald, Scottish Diaspora Tapestry
Pamela Geddes, Culross Community Garden
Apologies Submitted:
CCC Cllr Clare Short
FC Cllr Kate Stewart
NTS – Elaine Longmuir

The meeting started at 7.00 with Cllr Tim Collins in the Chair.

Agenda Item	Narrative	Action Owner &
	The Chair welcomed all present.	
1. Apologies for Absence	CCC Cllr Clare Short, FC Cllr Kate Stewart, Elaine Longmuir, NTS.	
2. NTS Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">As EL was unable to attend, there was no NTS update.	
3. Input from Members of the Public Present	<p>Kate McDonald of Scottish Diaspora Tapestry addressed CCC about a sewing project. The artist, Andrew Crummy, who was involved in producing panel drawings for “The Great Tapestry of Scotland”, has designed a tapestry panel of The Palace and imagery associated with Culross. Kate is keen to get the community involved in completing the panel– school, Abbey, NTS. Once completed it will be displayed around the country but will eventually return to Culross, possibly to the Abbey, where it can be viewed.</p> <p>DM advised that the NTS embroidery group met from 10-12 each Wednesday. Also suggested that an article go into the next Newsletter to encourage interest and sewers.</p> <p>Anyone interested can contact Kate on jmcdonald452@gmail.com</p>	DM

	<p>Pamela Geddes, of Culross Community Garden Committee, attended CCC meeting to bring attention to the recent resignation of Pat Rambaut from the Community Garden Committee. Pat has steered the development of the Garden since the late nineties but recent illness has forced her to step down. Pamela and the other members of the Garden Committee are looking for a "Captain" to guide them in the ongoing development and upkeep of the garden, the size of which has increased significantly with the addition of the woodland area. They currently have two projects ongoing, the creation of a Herb Garden and a Shed/Shelter for the Toddler Group who use the garden. Volunteers meet at 10.30am each Thursday to tend the garden and 3 or 4 times a year have 'work days' where heavier work is undertaken with additional assistance.</p> <p>TC suggested that the Garden Committee hold a meeting and representatives from CCC would attend to talk through ideas for helping the Garden Committee. He assured Pamela that the CCC were most supportive of the Community Garden and its volunteers. Pamela to advise CCC when the date for this meeting would be.</p> <p>DM also suggested an article in the Newsletter as a means of communicating with possible gardening volunteers.</p>	<p>PG</p> <p>PG</p>
4. Approval of Minutes of the last Meeting	<p>Amendments to the draft minutes were noted. Following these, the Minutes of 3rd February 2014 were approved: Proposer: David Alexander Seconded: Diane McKenzie</p>	
5. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:	<p>Newsletter</p> <p>Regarding the high costs of publishing/printing, DA suggested that possibly the Newsletter could amalgamate with Kincardine (who currently have no such publication) to share the costs. It would be of interest for both communities who have shared local concerns. Also, there are more businesses in Kincardine who might be interested in advertising in the Newsletter. Cllr WF to attend Kincardine Community Council next Tuesday and will propose this to the Council, also to Scottish Power.</p> <p>DM suggested that Low Valleyfield could be asked for a small contribution towards costs? TC to e-mail the Chair of Low Valleyfield CC to discuss.</p>	<p>WF</p> <p>TC</p>
6. Treasurer's Report:	<p>RN circulated copies of his monthly report: Current Account</p>	

	<p>Opening Balance: £5557.73 Income: Newsletter: £ 220.00 Expenditure: Paths Guide £-67.50 Closing Balance - <u>£5,510.23</u></p> <p>Environmental Account Opening Balance: £1175.68 Income: LBP Outlander £ 1500.00 (Filming) Paths Guide: £ 67.50 Expenditure: <u>£ NIL</u> Closing Balance: <u>£2,743.18</u></p> <p>Note: Balance of Signage Grant at 26.01.14 = £4645, held in Current Account.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RN advised CCC that he was still awaiting the account for the bonfire insurance. • Cheque for Newsletter print costs to come out of Current Account. • Replacement bench costs to come out of Environmental Account. • Christmas Trees (£90 restricted to £60) and hedging costs to come out of Floral Fund. • Tubs – costs for replacement tubs for those stolen/broken are to be investigated. Possibly cooerage at Stirling could supply. Also to look into tubs made from recycled materials. It was noted that there are some of these in Low Valleyfield. 	RN
<p>7. Correspondence Received</p>	<p>Eileen L gave a resume of Correspondence received since the last CCC meeting:</p> <p>External E-mails to CCC on yahoo Scottish Parliament Communications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Empowerment Conference – follow up to Community Empowerment Bill. 6th May, Edinburgh <p>Chris Bone, Stripe Communications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Waste Launch – request to promote the initiative within the community. <p>Wm Walsh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forestry Commission Scotland event – workshop, 10am 11th March, Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan. <p>Karen Banks, NHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointment of non-executive members <p>Wm Walsh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Governement talks on Scotland's future with Mike Russell. Dell Farquharson Centre, Tues 25.02.14. <p>Fiona McLeary, NHS Fife</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruiting on non-executive members <p>Vanessa Ewing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPA Policy Meeting, Rothes Halls, Wed 26.02.14, 1pm. Meet of Board 10-11am. <p>Samantha Anderson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Traffic Warden provision. <p>Police Scotland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Counter provision. <p>Craig Gilbert</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paths for All. Funding workshop. Wed 19.03.14 9.30-4.30, Inglewood House, Alloa. Free to all. • Path Maintenance Action Day, 19.03.14, 9.30-4.30, Scotland's Rural College, Oatridge Campus, Broxburn. <p>Hayley Williamson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind Power drop-in event. Thurs, 13.03.14, 3.30-6.30, Inverkeithing Civic Centre. <p>Gillian Slider, KBS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Spring Clean <p>Paul Daly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unconventional Gas Training Days – various venues. <p>Scottish Boundary Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals for Local Govt Electoral arrangements & boundaries consultation, May 2014. <p>Fife Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Armed Forces Day, Grants available for Sat, 28.06.14. • Info about various funding bodies. <p>NHS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fife Diversity Week, 8-15 March 2014. <p>Other Correspondence</p> <p>Planning Applications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17 Low Causeway – replacement windows and installation of rooflights to front & rear of flat. • The Ridge, Low Causeway – listed building consent for internal alterations, installation of rooflights, windows and door to flat. <p>Diane McKenzie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play Area Application correspondence. E-mail to Andrew Ferguson, Estates and subsequent updates and positioning of commemorative bench. • Culross signage update. • February Clean Up <p>Diane from Pat Rambaut</p>	
--	---	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resignation from Community Garden Committee. <p>Sgt Jillian Neill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request by Sgt Neill to attend CCC meeting to re-introduce herself to the area. To attend April meeting. <p>Tim Collins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCF Development Application and updates. <p>Tim from Betty and Ron McDonald</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing at Newgate <p>Clare Short</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update on Peter's award. <p>Matters Arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RN advised that he had instructed clearing at the top of the Newgate which appeared to be overgrown, but which had caused distress to Betty and Ron McDonald. He will visit them to explain and apologise. Slate Loan had also been tidied up with the hedge trimmer. DM had attended a meeting regarding the Local Plan for Fife Area and produced the document for CCC to see. 	RN
<p>8. Chair's Report</p>	<p>TC advised that he had been chasing up Development Grants for The Stables project, but it now appeared that deadlines had been missed and there were no monies currently available for getting assistance for putting in bids to access main grants. The application process for main grants is extremely complex and requires outside assistance.</p> <p>A lady from 'Keep Scotland Beautiful' is prepared to help with the technical parts of the Grant Forms. This will be a first draft for acceptance to the next level. She believes The Stables is an excellent project and the draft is to be prepared for the April submission, but advised that it is a very tight timetable.</p>	
<p>8. Elected FC Cllrs' Reports</p>	<p>Cllr Willie Ferguson reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Area Committee of West Fife Coastal Villages received £1.2m. This money to be used on road/pavement repairs. Low Causeway "closure" repairs. DA expressed concern for traders in the village with week long "Road Closed" signs being displayed, although it appears that the road will still be open. DM advised WF of large pothole opening up at Kirk Street/Erskine Brae corner. WF to 	WF

	<p>seek an update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A985 – regarding the high number of accidents and speeding concerns, WF has approached BEAR Scotland and is awaiting their response. • Break-Ins – a series of break-ins has occurred from the Hillfoots, through Kincardine, Culross and on to Cairneyhill, etc. There is currently a lot of police activity in place. • WF attended the West Fife Forum. The new Chair took the meeting with the former Chair assisting. • ‘Community Good’ monies are on hold at present. • Development Trusts – much debate over share of wind turbine monies. Devilla wind turbine project on hold at present. 	
10. External Meeting Reports	TC reported that the Lagoons Meeting in February was cancelled due to change of Management Structure.	
11. Planning	<p>Re: Former discussions on derelict properties in Culross, DM displayed a cutting from the Dunfermline Press, 27/02/14, on abandoned and derelict properties in West Fife. The undeveloped land around Orchard View cottage was mentioned in the article.</p> <p>DA advised that he had been approached by a local builder as to who owned the Dundonald? He has passed the details on. DM enquired about the length of Planning Permission left for the proposed house at the bottom of the Dundonald Car Park. It is believed that it will lapse this year.</p> <p>Regarding the other empty properties in the village, it was agreed that TC would ask the Empty Housing Officer back to discuss same.</p> <p>Regarding “Beechwood”, TC to ask Elaine Longmuir of NTS for an update.</p>	<p>TC</p> <p>TC</p>
12. Any Other Competent Business	<p>Adopt A Tub – following last year’s success it was agreed that GB/DA/TC would walk round and invite villagers to take part in the scheme again this year. Also to check on condition of tubs/plants. £180 spent on plants for ‘tub adoptions’ last year.</p> <p>It had been noted that in the East Car Park a tub had been stolen. Agreed that if it is to be replaced, it should be anchored between the road sign posts.</p> <p>DM has a copy of a flyer re: Adopt A Tub, if needed and also Clean Up info - planned May 2014.</p> <p>DM has a quantity of Wild Flower seed. She will have a look round to see where it would be most</p>	<p>GB/DA/TC</p> <p>DM</p>

	<p>appropriate to sow.</p> <p>RN advised that the Floral Grant would be received into the Bank account in April, approx. £400. Monies for plants/tubs could be paid from this.</p> <p>Clean Up – Proposed for May. Anchors to be painted too.</p> <p>It has been noted that the wall at Slate Loan has water coming through it, causing fear of it washing away. RN to check to see if debris is causing the problem.</p> <p>‘Age Concern’ – Maureen Cowell has now given DM a list of residents of a ‘certain age’. It is hoped to have a get together in June for them, at a local venue. Lifts to be organised. Agreed that it would be beneficial to try to restart meet-ups for older residents. TC suggested that a new name for the group should be found. Item to be placed in next edition of the Newsletter advertising the June meeting.</p> <p>Funding from Trusts – WF wondered if there would be monies forthcoming from this source. DM advised they were designed for need and poverty. WF to look into Kincardine Trusts.</p> <p>Play Park</p> <p>DM advised that Scott Wilson, Headmaster of Culross Primary, is seeking to improve communication between CCC and parents from outwith the village as a number didn’t know about the Playpark proposals despite being widely promoted. The new Parent Council meeting is scheduled for 22.04.14 and they would welcome a representative from CCC to attend. Approximately 20 children in the school are there because of placing requests. DM has requested 20 Newsletters to be given to the school for these parents to help keep them up with developments in the village and surrounding areas.</p> <p>The deadline for the 3 companies presenting their designs was today (03.03.14). DM has met with all 3 companies and dealt with Legals regarding common land and Fife Council regarding their standard letter re: funding, implementation, etc.</p> <p>DM then displayed to the meeting the plans of each of the designers. There was a lot of</p>	<p>DM</p> <p>RN</p> <p>DM</p> <p>WF</p>
--	---	---

	<p>discussion on the items of play included by each company and the age ranges that these would satisfy. Also the lay-outs and play surfaces were discussed. WF advised that length of Warranties should be of key importance.</p> <p>The 3 companies bidding for the project are: Russell Play, Scotplay and Play Practice. The budget was set at £75,000 and the theme to be Nautical. Each company brought in their playpark design at either just over or just under this figure.</p> <p>FC have advised having a public presentation of each of the designs, with CCC to have the casting vote. As the deadline date for funding applications is the end of March, it was agreed that Monday, 17th March 2014 would be a suitable date to hold the presentations for the public, leaving sufficient time for finalising plans. After discussion on how to manage the presentations, it was agreed that DM would approach the headmaster to see if he would allow the 3 downstairs rooms in the school to be used – 1 for each company – for an Open Presentation. To be held after school closes and around the time the High school pupils return to the village.</p> <p>The Chair thanked all in attendance and the meeting ended.</p>	DM
<p>13. Date of Next Meeting</p>	<p>Next Meeting – Monday, 31st March 2014 at 7pm in the Town House.</p>	

The meeting ended at: 9.10pm.