

# Culross Community Council

## Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Council on 1<sup>st</sup> december 2014

### Held in Town House

<b>Present:</b>
CCC Cllr Tim Collins (Chairperson)
CCC Cllr David Alexander (Vice Chairperson)
CCC Cllr Robert Nelson (Treasurer)
CCC Cllr Eileen Laidlaw (Correspondence Secretary)
CCC Cllr Ben Cook
<b>In attendance:</b>
Cllr W Ferguson
B Reid
P Foley
<b>Apologies Submitted:</b>
CCC Cllr Diane MacKenzie

**The meeting started at 7.15 with Cllr Tim Collins in the Chair.**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Narrative</b>	<b>Action &amp; Owner</b>
	The Chair welcomed all present.	
<b>1. Apologies</b>	Diane MacKenzie	
<b>1a)</b>	<p>The chair asked for agreement to insert an item in to the agenda to allow B R to address the council.</p> <p>All agreed and BR gave a synopsis of his many and various attempts to regulate traffic on the low road to Kincardine ( C5 )</p> <p>There have been a number of unreported accidents and many "near miss" incidents over the years and most recently during the closure of the top road and when traffic along the C5 was multiplied, he came very close to a serious incident when an impatient driver tried to overtake him as he turned left into his driveway. An oncoming vehicle and the overtaking vehicle had to take violent measures to avoid a head on collision. BR has been in dialogue and correspondence with FC over a number of years to little effect so far.</p> <p>WF agreed that he had prior discussions with BR on this issue and was constantly trying to have measures put in place against opposition from FC rules and budgets.</p> <p>It has been agreed that temporary signage on the low road will be improved when works on the high road lead to diversions.</p> <p>He assured BR that efforts were continuing. TC gave BR a copy of recent CCC correspondence with the road management company who have stated that they will take cognisance of the issue and discuss the matter with FC at their next meeting.</p> <p>RN stated that he was aware of at least one fatality on the road in the last 20 odd years.</p> <p>Imposing a 40 MPH speed restriction along the whole of the road was determined to offer the most satisfactory solution.</p>	WF
<b>2. NTS</b>	PF from NTS introduced himself and gave a brief summary of NTS goals for Culross 2015.	

	<p>The intention is to raise the village profile and more fully utilise the smaller properties in the village. By involving NTS in village activities they would add awareness to a wider audience through their media outlets.</p> <p>The prospect of a pirate week end 8/9 August 2015 in a joint venture with Clanranald and the community is intended to greatly increase the tourist footfall with many and various activities running concurrently.</p> <p>Agreed that CCC would discuss timing with the festival, Gala, farmers Market and other voluntary groups with a view to these groups drawing benefit from the event in terms of visitor numbers.</p> <p>PF was asked about the proposed rent rises for tenants and he made assurances that increases would not be excessive and would be phased in over a period of time so as not to cripple the finances of the tenants. CCC asked that he keep CCC informed on this matter.</p> <p>PF was asked if NTS were in the process of purchasing the cottage opposite the palace / Bessies Bar. He advised that he was unaware of any proposed purchase but would consult with NTS surveyors on the matter and revert to CCC.</p> <p>CCC advised PF that the proposed new play park would attract more visitors and would be an item for NTS publicity.</p> <p>There was a brief discussion about tourist information facilities and it was agreed that more could be done in this regard.</p> <p>PF stated that he would like to involve the school and local children in organised activities.</p>	PF DA
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<b>3. Approval of Minutes of the last Meeting</b>	The Minutes of 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2014 were approved: Proposed: DA Seconded: EL	
<b>5. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes:</b>	<p>RN stated that he expected to have the Xmas trees this week and the community garden and town house trees would require to be erected</p> <p>EL stated that the date for a response from FC on the safety issue at the Dun car park was 2/12/14 and that she would follow up after that.</p>	DA TC  EL
<b>6. Treasurer's Report:</b>	<p>RN gave a comprehensive description of financial transactions since his last report.</p> <p>Both accounts are in credit holding funds for the play park and the signage.</p> <p>It was suggested that the signage account be held when received pending resolution of the spelling error on one sign</p>	DM
<b>7. Correspondence Received</b>	<p>EL gave a summary of received correspondence on the yahoo account and highlighted:-</p> <p>The police report listing reported crime in the area and the new drink drive regulations among other matters.</p> <p>A number of uncontentious planning applications</p> <p>Hard copy mail included the parade application acknowledgement for Hogmanay and the Post Office letter confirming that the mobile post office would operate in the West car park for 2 hours on Thursday mornings.</p> <p>It was agreed that a notice should be posted to make the village aware of the mobile post office</p>	TC EL
<b>8. Chair's Report</b>	The chair report had been delivered at the inaugural meeting previously and was not repeated.	

<b>9. Elected FC Cllrs' Reports</b>	<p>WF advised: that the forum had not had a full meeting due to the recent community council elections. It was generally accepted that CCC should attend forum meetings but that Thursday evenings were a problem for all of the current CCC members.</p>	TC
<b>10. External Meeting Reports</b>	<p>RN gave a synopsis of a recent symposium on fracking. Attended by INEOS, SEPA, Scottish Government, NFU Mutual and members of the public and others Coal gas, Shale bed methane, shale gas are among the many terms used for, essentially the same thing. Fracking, as a process was described and it was revealed that each well head would cover 120 acres with technology available today and projected yields would vary with the strata and so forth. Generally fracking would be carried out on the deeper (1-2 Km) depth measures. Safety measures were outlined among other issues it was stated that old mine workings where the strata is broken would be avoided. Setting light to underground coal by injecting oxygen was not fracking Financial benefits to the land owners and local communities were guesstimated based on 1% of revenue per well head which is an incentive to the local community and land owners to allow the process to take place. Although licences have been issued, no operation can take place without planning consent from the local authority. Planning consent would be withheld if any of the outlined safety measures were not in place or could not be guaranteed.</p>	
<b>11. Planning</b>	There are no new contentious applications	
<b>12. Any Other Competent Business</b>	<p>It was agreed that serious efforts should be made to initiate a senior citizens club. A list of seniors and their addresses should be compiled and then contacted with a list of proposed dates for teas, lunches and events. RN advised that the abbey café would host the club and WF advised that dial a ride should be available in the village to transport people to the abbey and back The mini bus at the castle was suggested as a mode of transport BC raised the rumour that the Stephen Memorial Hall may be closing. WF advised that the hall is a common good asset and therefore there is an obligation to maintain the building in good order. Should any repair necessitate vacating the building during work then alternatives would be available for the duration. Hogmanay arrangements – Ceilidh and torchlight parade Liaise with gala committee</p>	<p>TC DA DM  RN       DATC</p>
<b>13. Date of Next Meeting</b>	Next Meeting – Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February 2015, 7pm in the Town House	

The meeting ended at: 8.45pm