

ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCUDBRIGHT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Royal Burgh of Kirkcudbright Community Council in the Kirkcudbright Primary School, Kirkcudbright on Wednesday 13th January 2016 at 7.00pm

Present:	Mr B Thomson Mrs L Garbutt (Provost) (Chair) Councillor J Maitland Mr J Johnson Ms K Lowe Mr D Collins (in part)	
In attendance:	Mr S Gillespie Ms D Craig Ms E Allan Ms C Kenny	Galloway News Secretary Youth Representative Youth Representative
Apologies:	Mr L Forbes Mrs P Gilroy Mr C Wyper Mrs M Maxwell	Treasurer Dumfries & Galloway Councillor Dumfries & Galloway Councillor

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting on 9 December 2015** **Action**
These were approved, proposed by Mr Thomson and seconded by Mrs Garbutt.
2. **Business arising**
 - a. **Apologies** – Ms Lowe wished to have her apologies for the last meeting noted.
3. **Reports**
 - a. **Police:** No one in attendance.
 - b. **Dumfries & Galloway Councillors:** Councillor Maitland reported that the Council had been very busy dealing with the matter of the recent floods. She also reported that local government had to find £13 million in the form of savings. Items such as early retirements and reviews had already been considered but she asked if anyone had suggestions then to please get in touch. It had to be from less prioritised activities and health and education couldn't be touched, but she felt that they were 'fishing in an extremely small pool' because as far as revenue is concerned it was very difficult and it would ultimately be areas such as road repairs, sports, the arts that would be affected. Mr McHale said that he thought the sum of £1500 to help each business and home affected by the recent floods was a staggering amount for the government to find. Mrs Maitland said that her main concern with that that householders were going to get the wrong end of the stick when it came to compensation for flooding and it could lead to relying on the local council for compensation. Mrs Garbutt said that she had a suggestion for savings, albeit a small one. She thought that funding free dog bags could be cut and although a small saving, it would be a saving

nevertheless as the bags were not expensive for dog owners to buy.

Mrs Maitland made a note of the suggestion and thought that perhaps switching to LED lights or motion sensors could be considered. Mr Johnson and Mr Thomson agreed.

- c. **Chamber of Commerce:** The issue of the Christmas Lights had been raised and Mrs Garbutt asked for suggestions as the lighting on the trees was proving problematic. Mrs Maitland suggested that perhaps something more *avant garde* could be considered, perhaps along the lines of laser or virtual lighting.
- d. **Kirkcudbright Forum:** No one present.
- e. **Incorporated Trades:** Mr Thomson said the annual Burns Supper was coming up and tickets were available. He also said that the constitution had been changed and that ladies were now allowed to become members of the Incorporated Trades and would be able to attend the Burns Supper if they wished.
Mr Thomson also said there had been further discussion regarding the repair of the Kirkcudbright signs. Since the cost of repairing the signs would only be in the region of £50 it was felt that there was no need for a Common Good Fund application. It was agreed that Debbie Craig would find out who was responsible for the signs first as there was a matter of potential liability.
- e. **Kirkcudbright Community Trust (KCT):** Mr Johnson reported that the KCT had held its last management meeting had been held earlier that evening and it was transferring its assets to the Kirkcudbright Development Trust.
- f. **Kirkcudbright Academy:** Ms Kenny reported that there was to be an Adult Candlemas Ball on 6 February and encourage everyone to attend.
- g. **Community Centre:** Debbie Craig agreed to contact someone again about attending the DC Community Council meetings.
- h. **St Cuthbert's Trust:** Mr McHale reported that members of the board of trustees were discussing the ongoing situation with members of the congregation and there was a meeting planned for the 14th January.
4. **Stewartry Area Committee (SAC)**
Nothing to report.
5. **Common Good Fund (CGF)**
Jazz Festival: Mrs Garbutt asked that everyone consider the application from the Jazz Festival. It was agreed that the amount of £500 should be awarded.
KBT Parish Church: Mrs Garbutt asked that everyone consider the application from the KBT Parish Church. Mr McHale and Ms Lowe declared an interest at this point. Mrs Maitland wanted to know that the church was going to be developed and used for the greater good of the people. Mr Johnson expressed reservations about the application. It was agreed that a decision be deferred until the next meeting.
6. **Planning**
 - a. **General** – Park of Tongland Gold Driving Range. Erection of two holiday chalets.

Wind Turbines – None to report

7. **Correspondence**

Email regarding Queens 90th Birthday Beacon, which DC forwarded 14th January.

8. **Any other competent business**

Signs on Moat Brae – Ms Lowe asked if there were plans to repair these signs as they were in a state of disrepair. Mrs Garbutt agreed to look into this. **LG**

Countryfile Nominations – Ms Craig said that she had received a request from Ms Geraldine Joshi regarding the BBC Countryfile Nominations, asking everyone to vote for D&G as the holiday destination of the year. DC forwarded the email 14th January.

Library move to Daar Road – Mr Collins asked Mrs Maitland if she could expand on the council's decision to move the library to Daar Road as there was an obvious groundswell of opinion that was opposed to the move.

Mrs Maitland thanked Mr Collins for raising the matter and read out her letter explaining her decision. She was worried, she said, that there would not be a representation of the Stewartry in Kirkcudbright and that this was one way to ensure a presence. She agreed that it had been a difficult decision but felt that it was ultimately the right one.

Mrs Garbutt asked Mrs Maitland if she had seen the plans of the library as she was concerned that, having seen the plans, it was not going to be a good facility.

Mrs Maitland said that she had seen the plans and recommended that the Community Council be involved, informed and updated at every stage.

Mrs Garbutt thanked Mrs Maitland, but said that she felt that many council officers were at the root of the delay behind the development of the Johnston School, which essentially lead to the Daar Road move.

Mrs Maitland said that she could not see any chance of the Johnston School having been developed within the timelines, but it was also a case of trying to convince the rest of the Committee. It also didn't help, she said, that it didn't help that the NHS didn't commit to the school either.

Mr McHale said that the enthusiasm of the people for the Johnston School was more important to its success than the complexity of spreadsheets.

Mrs Maitland then said that the decision was not just down to the three elected members and if she and Mr Carson had not mentioned the Johnston School then it would have been overlooked completely.

Mrs Garbutt thanked everyone for their views.

Cannee – Mrs Garbutt said that had received more complaints about the building site and it was agreed to Debbie Craig would find out from planning if the land had been adopted yet.

Queen's Birthday – Mrs Garbutt told the meeting that there was to be a street party on 11th June along the lines of the Jubilee party and bookings were being taken for tables.

There being no other business, Mrs Garbutt thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 8.45pm.

