



Minutes of the meeting of the Gatehouse of Fleet Community Council held at 7 pm on Tuesday 8th September 2009 in the Community Centre

Community Councillors Present: Pat Jacques (Provost), Ian McConchie Deputy Provost), Allan Lowden (Dean of Guild), Carol Clark, Alan McCreath, Gerard Macnamara, Mary Cousins, Alison Steel, Ron Forster, Sean Burnie

In Attendance: Chris Walker, Cllr Thomas Jacques

Apologies : Cllr. Patsy Gilroy, Cllr. J. Maitland, F. Bruno, M. Laird, A. Stephenson

1. Motion to co-opt Chris Walker as Community Councillor and Treasurer

Hopedean House, Woodside Terrace, Gatehouse of Fleet, DG7 2JA

Electoral roll number – 891

Proposed by – Mark Laird (on 31/08/2009), seconded by Pat Jacques

2. Public Forum

No members of the public present

3. Police Report

No police representative present

4. Adoption of the minutes

The meeting held 11th August, proposed by R. Forster and seconded by A. Lowden

5. Matters arising

- i. Cally Woods – Recent council drainage work has directed the water from the road up to the dykes creating the possibility of the dyke being undermined.
Action GDI and Cllr T. Jacques
- ii. Mr and Mrs Grieve – Platinum Wedding Anniversary – Provost visited the couple with their family, and handed over a present of Thornton's chocolates, known to be their favourite!
- iii. Rats – Mark Laird had informed the Provost that the rats were breeding in the long grass but have now been dealt with
- iv. Garries Park nets – apparently there have never been a basketball net and the smaller football nets belong to Fleet Star who put them up and down as required
- v. Approach to D and G Council – C. Walker was informed that there is no more monies available for secretarial support other than that already assigned
- vi. Community Centre meeting attended by C Clark – liaison with Carbon Trust on-going and all submissions have been made. It is hoped to start works in November. The problem of overnight parking was raised again and the Community Centre Committee is putting up disclaimer signs.

6. D and G Council Report – Cllr T. Jacques

The pre themed meeting was mentioned and Provost will circulate reminder to all. D and G Chief Executive has taken up post and seems to be settling in well. The education committee report shows good progress with 8/10 new schools from the PPP scheme being completed this year. Total budget £133.6 million for education. There is a £200k provision for extra energy costs. Social work estimated £0.5million overspend on £87million budget.

7. Provost Report

- ❑ The list of "achieved, current and future" projects for the website was circulated and comments noted.
- ❑ Thanks to Mark Laird the outgoing Provost for his 2 years in office.
- ❑ The Riding of the Marches Ball is being held on 26th September and the Community Centre Fundraiser is on the 18th September and it was thought that the Community Council should be seen to support both these events.
- ❑ A number of visitors to the T.I.C. had enquired if the Swing Bridge at Port MacAdam could be replaced but this was apparently tried before without success.
- ❑ There have been 15 nominations for the Council but with a possible withdrawal pending there would be no election.
- ❑ Discussions regarding a Green Playground continue, with the GDI having stated that their original intention was to put a climbing frame and flying fox in Garries Park but this proved too expensive.
- ❑ Gatehouse Community Council is on the list for a refurbished laptop computer.

Correspondence

- ❑ Community Councillor Newsletter
- ❑ Area Committee Minutes and Agenda
- ❑ BT adopt a telephone kiosk
- ❑ D and G Community Planning Report
- ❑ Ambulance Service Survey

9. Planning Applications – Dean of Guild

10 Garden Street, Alderley Fleet Street, Barholm Farm, Drumwalls, Auchenlarie – all alterations and extensions approved

10. Treasurers Report

Account balances – Current account - £1372.82, Common Good account £722.23, Footpaths account £1361.17
Common Good Fund award of £100 Japanese Knotweed Working Group

11. Ron Forster's Report

Bird hut by Spar requires repairs and increase to hard standing

Action Cllr Forster

Fisheries Board have met with Knotweed Group to hear of successes in eradication to date.

Community Centre railings owned by Community Centre

Bus Shelter – our objections have been rejected but Cllr T Jacques to investigate further and take forward our serious concerns over safety with 15 foot drop on other side of wall into private garden. The Community Council feels the relocation of the shelter to the proposed site is a serious threat and in breach of Health and Safety risk assessment.

Action Cllr T Jacques

Sandgreen road flooding has become serious with Cllr Clark reporting that some vehicles are having to be towed out of up to 3 feet of water which in one case caused a brand new car to be declared a write off. This has caused several breakdowns and access restrictions for residents, local businesses and visitors. The peat under the road is causing sinking which is the reason for the increase in flooding.

Action Cllr Forster

GDI – Cally dykes project progressing

Information boards for the Snowdrop Festival are proposed

There is a proposal for a kissing gate at Robbers Gate

12. A.O.C.B.

Climate Change Challenge Fund – Sean Burnie will bring a report to the next meeting

Action Cllr Burnie

Christmas Lights are to be turned on on Sunday 6th December and the Murray Arms Hotel has been booked for this occasion. It was agreed to ask the Gala Queen to join

the Citizen of the Year in turning on the lights as Christmas is for children. C. Walker to discuss arrangements at the next meeting.

Action C Walker

Citizen of the Year nomination cards will be delivered to every home in the town over the next few days.

Action C Walker

Problems with the footpath up to and round the Cape road were raised again

Problem with excessive vegetation growth at the sides of the footpath.

Action Cllr Forster

The problem of flooding at the Mill Pond has been found to be a blockage which has now been cleared.

Meeting closed 9.08pm

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 13th October