

## **DRAFT ONLY**

### **GATEHOUSE OF FLEET COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

#### **Draft Minutes of Meeting : 14th February 2006, 7pm : Community Centre**

<b>Present:</b>	Provost	Franca Bruno	<b>Apologies:</b>	D McLeod
	Councillors	Ron Forster		G Macnamera
		Alan Lowden		Councillor A Vaux
		Des McClelland		D Rennie
		Kerr McConchie		PC Bradley
		Alec McLaren		M Cousins
	Secretary	Liz Modrate		A Steel
		PC Neil Cawthorne (acting for PC Bradley)		M Laird
		Mr & Mrs Harris (members of the public)		C Walker
		Carol Graham (Local reporter for the Galloway News)		

#### **ITEM 1 : Appointment of new Secretary**

The Provost introduced Liz Modrate to the Community Council as the new Secretary.

#### **ITEM 2 : Sederunt and Apologies**

Apologies received were given as above.

#### **ITEM 3 : Police Report**

PC Cawthorne gave PC Bradley's apologies. PC Bradley/PC Cawthorne noted that there has been some vandalism in Gatehouse and help from the community could curb this. As there have also been a series of burglaries in the area, the importance of informing the Police promptly should anyone note any suspicious people or vehicles, was stressed. PC Cawthorne left the meeting at 7.15pm.

**Action : PC Bradley**

#### **ITEM 4 : Minutes of Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> January 2006**

Minutes of above were duly proposed by A McLaren, seconded by A. Lowden

#### **ITEM 5 : Matters Arising**

- (a) Missing inspection covers – G Macnamara was not present.  
**Action : G Macnamara**
- (b) Dam (pond at the War Memorial) – A letter was received from Peter Norman (the Bio Diversity Officer) which advised that the Canadian pond weed is good for the pond as it oxygenates the water, and is also a good source of food for the swans. The pond had been dredged about 10 years ago and the cost then was £5K. There was a meeting last Friday between Peter Norman, G Macnamara and the Council.  
**Action : G Macnamara**
- (c) Library Trust : The Provost reported that this was going ahead and there was a meeting in two weeks to finalise with the solicitors and sign it over to the Murray Usher Foundation.
- (d) New Councillor : The Provost proposed that Suzette Harris be asked to join the Community Council; and was duly seconded by K McConchie.

## **DRAFT ONLY**

- (e) New Green Site: New Councillor S Harris had looked into the possibility of a Green Site for Gatehouse. However, the Council have already approved a new Green Site for Castle Douglas which will be licensed at the end of 2006. Until then, the Council have arranged that green waste (in black bags) be uplifted with the normal refuse collection.
- (f) Boundary Changes : R Forster and the Provost met with Willie McKie, Chairman of Kirkmabreck Community Council who had no objections to the proposals  
**Action : R Forster**
- (g) Tourist Board Office : Some of the Community Council had noticed that work on the roof had been carried out on the Tourist Board building. The Provost is to ascertain if any further work is planned for this building.  
**Action : Provost**
- (h) The Finance Sub-Committee  
**Action : Provost**
- (i) Festive Lights :  
**Action : G Macnamara**
- (j) Planning Applications – Newton Farm Cottage : A letter had been received from Ronnie Irvine and the Provost questioned if the weekly list sent to the Community Council should include all applications instead of only selected ones.
- (k) The Conservation Area Booklet :  
**Action : C Walker**
- (l) Road Safety Booklet 2005/6 : A McLaren had read this and had nothing to advise.
- (m) New Surgery : June Watters is Julie White's replacement. No report was received.

**ITEM 6 : Dumfries & Galloway Report : Councillor A Vaux** : Not present.

### **ITEM 7 : Provost's Report & Correspondence**

- (a) Modernising the Planning System :  
**Action : R Forster**
- (b) Community Councillors – Official Recognition : The Provost has had correspondence with Ann Sweetin regarding this coming before the Stewartry Area Committee and is to put forward G Macnamara and A McLaren as Long Servicing Community Councillors.
- (c) D & G Arts Festival : The Travelling Gallery is due in Gatehouse on 29<sup>th</sup> May and permission for use of the car park will be sought from the Council.  
**Action : Secretary**
- (d) Forestry Commission Plans : Notification was received ref. the Sponsored Sale of Surplus Land (office in Cally woods). As the Community Council has no funds, we have no interest to bid.
- (e) Scottish Executive Paper – The Role of Community Councils : The Provost and R Forster attended a presentation at Crichton Hall Campus which proved to be very useful and worthwhile. A discussion paper – 'What can we do to help Community Councils fulfil their role' – was also responded to by the Provost and R Forster and should also raise awareness of the Community Council's work.
- (f) October 2006 Community Council Election : A poster will be on the town's notice board to allow ample time for nominations.  
**Action : Provost**
- (g) Andrew Crosbie Bequest : A letter has been received from the Council regarding an amount of £783.63 being held for the Clock Tower in Gatehouse. As nothing has been paid out of this to date, they suggest that it be paid into the Common Good Account and a letter is to go out to agree this. They also ask if there are any surviving relatives of Andrew Crosbie but it was established that there are none.  
**Action : Secretary**
- (h) Scottish Power : SH is to attend a public meeting with Scottish Power with regard to interrupted power supply and will report back at the next meeting.  
**Action : S Harris**

## **DRAFT ONLY**

- (i) Health & Community Care Planning **Action : Provost**
- (j) Stewartry Area Committee : The next meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 5.30pm in the Town Hall, Dalbeattie.
- (k) Community Council Training – Engaging the Community and Maintaining Links with the Council : The next training session is to be at Parton Village Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006. The agenda for the day is available for anyone interested and names can be put forward at the next meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March – applications for 24<sup>th</sup> April. **Action : ALL**
- (l) Core Path Consultation Presentation : K McConchie and R Forster are to attend meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> February in Kirkcudbright. **Action : KMcConchie/R Forster**
- (m) Local Government Boundary Comm. For Scotland : The meeting discussed the implications of the new boundaries. In essence we would now have three Councillors for the area rather than the existing one. It was generally felt that Gatehouse's rural interests may not be properly represented. Continuity may also be difficult and we would have to have assurances from all three Councillors that there would be complete synergy. The Provost is to report back any further information. **Action : Provost**
- (n) Mill on the Fleet Lighting : The Provost reported that the lighting work was due to start on 13<sup>th</sup> February.

**ITEM 8 : Planning Application** : The Dean of Guild not present.

**ITEM 9 : Mill on the Fleet update** : D Rennie : Not present to give report.

**ITEM 10 : Treasurer's Report** : Treasurer not present to give report

**ITEM 11 : Ron Forster's Report** :

- a) The pathway between Garlies Park and the Town Gardens has been levelled.
- b) R Forster attended the Area Committee meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January. With regard to the public toilets, there is going to be a survey done in Dumfries & Galloway. The Provost pointed out that there was no statutory obligation for the Council to supply public toilets.
- c) R Forster is to apply for additional funding for Port Macadam from the Common Good Fund. The Footpath Fund at the moment stands at approximately £1400.
- d) R Forster was happy to report that the work on the kerbstones for disabled access at Brae Cottage/Brewery Flats had been carried out.

**ITEM 12 – AOCB** :

- a) K McConchie raised concerns about the National Scenic Areas document. **Action : K McConchie**
- b) The Provost confirmed that Charles Clemie (the Principal Road Services Officer) was to attend the next meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March to give a talk.
- c) The Provost asked that any Councillor replying directly on Community Council business, give a copy to the Secretary for the files. **Action : ALL**

The meeting closed at 9.00pm. The next meeting is scheduled for:-

14<sup>th</sup> March 2006 – 7pm – Gatehouse Community Hall.

A Draft Agenda is attached for the members; please submit any additional agenda items to the Secretary no later than 12<sup>th</sup> March.