

## Gatehouse Community Council AGM

Minutes of Meeting : 7pm Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2006 : Community Centre

<b>Present:</b>	Franca Bruno – Provost	Suzette Harris
	Allison Steel – Deputy Provost	Ron Forster
	David Rennie – Treasurer	Mark Laird
	Tony Vaux – D & G Councillor	Duncan McLeod
	Kerr McConchie	Allan Lowden
	Liz Modrate – Secretary	
<b>Apologies:</b>	Chris Walker	
	Mary Cousins	

- 1. Sederunt and Apologies:** Apologies were given as above.
- 2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2005:** Minutes were accepted, proposed by M Laird, seconded by A Lowden.
- 3. Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.
- 4. Presentation of Accounts:** The Treasurer presented the Accounts to the meeting (copy filed) and a general discussion took place. The meeting wished to remind the community that applications for the Common Good Fund are welcomed. The meeting agreed to write a letter of thanks to Irvine Hannah, the Auditor.  
**Action : Secretary**
- 5. Provost's Report for the year:** The Provost presented her report for the year 2005/6 and stressed how important the work of Community Councils has become and hoped it would become more recognized throughout the government structure. A copy of the report is filed.
- 6. Election of Office-bearers:**
  - a) Provost :** Franca Bruno was elected unopposed. Although she had indicated last year that she would wish to step down this year, Franca agreed to undertake the provostship for one more year only for purposes of continuity. However, the Community Council must actively take this on board for the coming year.
  - b) Deputy Provost:** A Steel indicated that she wished to stand down this year. Various members were invited to stand but declined. A discussion took place which is detailed below.
  - c) Treasurer :** D Rennie agreed to continue as Treasurer for the coming year and was elected unopposed.
  - d) Dean of Guild :** Although not present, G Macnamara was elected unopposed.
  - e) Secretary :** L Modrate was appointed for the coming year, proposed by R Forster, seconded by M Laird.

The meeting agreed it not acceptable that the nominations of office-bearers – where new nominations were sought – be left until the AGM. It was agreed that in future, the Community Council should have time to consider new nominations prior to the AGM and a letter will go to members outlining this. Therefore, nominations for the Deputy Provost is held over until the 13<sup>th</sup> June meeting. A Steel has kindly agreed to continue in the interim.  
**Action : Secretary**

**The meeting ended at 7.45pm**



g) Car Park Toilets – It has been established that the previous problem of closed toilets had been owing to an employee (covering for illness) locking the two 24hr toilets in error. This was a one-off occurrence.

**5a Provost's Report:** The Provost read out a letter from June Watters regarding the new Health Centre. Planning permission has now been given but the meeting felt that things would still have to be pushed along. Temporary accommodation has been arranged for services during the building work but ownership has still not been transferred from Medical Centres Scotland to NHS Dumfries & Galloway, potentially leading to further delays. The secretary is to write requesting; a) a date for acquisition of the site; b) detailed schedule of works; c) date for the first brick to be laid.

Action : Secretary

The Provost had a publication on Scottish Rights of Way which D McLeod is to read and report back on.

Action : D McLeod

A notice for military exercises on 2 to 24 June is to be posted on the noticeboard.

Action : Provost

A Paper received from SNH for comments.

*D Rennie left the meeting at 8.30pm*

**6. Planning Applications – Dean of Guild:** G Macnamara was not present, although no applications were known.

**7. Mill on the Fleet:** The Secretary stood in for Councillor Rennie. The Board are on the point of signing the lease. Prior interest in the Mill has not been progressed. The Friends of the Mill have several events planned and hope for the support of the town.

**8. Treasurer's Report:** Nothing to add from the AGM report.

**9. Ron Forster's Report:** (i) A meeting is awaited with Chris Hopkin regarding Stage 2 – work on the quayside. One of the new seats is now ready and will be in place soon. The new Interpretation boards are finalised and will take 4 to 6 weeks. The Secretary asked whether there was to be an official opening of the pathway, and R Forster confirmed this would be on completion. (ii) Pricing the landscaping of the Mill pond is ongoing.

**10. A.O.C.B.**

a) Many Councillors complained about the new chewing gum boards recently erected in the town. They thought them unsightly and unnecessary. Both V Nix and R Irving had been unaware who had authorised this and the Secretary is to contact Peter Bulmer, Corporate Director of Planning to find out more. Action : Secretary

b) M Laird wanted it noted that the Stewartry Convention Committee was looking for a Treasurer.

c) T Vaux informed the meeting of a new footpath at Rusko with a signposted walk down to the river.

d) D McLeod advised that the Access meeting was to be on 15<sup>th</sup> June (date to be confirmed) at the Drop In Centre. This is part of the Core Path initiative and is to ascertain which footpaths locals want for the area. D McLeod to report at June mtg.

**The meeting closed at 8.50pm**

Future meetings : 13<sup>th</sup> June, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 12<sup>th</sup> September  
All at 7pm in Gatehouse Community Centre.