



**Draft Minutes of Meeting of the Gatehouse of Fleet Community Council  
held in the Community Centre at 7pm, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**Present:** Mark Laird (Provost), Chris Walker (Deputy Provost), Alison Steel, Franca Bruno, Ron Forster, Des McLelland, Pat Jacques, Ian McConchie, Allan Lowden, Councillor Jane Maitland, Police Constables, Steele Johnston and Mark Oldridge

**Apologies:** Mary Cousins, G. Macnamara (Dean of Guild)

The Provost opened the meeting with the announcement of the resignation of the Secretary Dawn Hartley to take immediate effect. F. Bruno agreed to take the Minutes.

**1. Public Forum**

There were no members of the public present.

**2. Police Report**

PC Steele Johnston introduced himself as the new Community Police Officer taking over from PC Ian Bradley. He is based at the Kirkcudbright Police Station where he can be contacted or on Tel. No. 0845 600 5701 or Email: [steele.johnston@dg.pnn.police.uk](mailto:steele.johnston@dg.pnn.police.uk)

P. Jacques asked on behalf of G. Macnamara about a complaint from resident in Castramont Road re. speeding cars late at night. More information is required. R. Forster made complaint about bikes being ridden onto the grass in the Car park and causing damage. Could the police have a quiet word.

The Police left.

**3. Adoption of Minutes**

Proposed. A. Lowden Seconded. A. Steel

R. Forster expressed concern at the current system of dealing with and the timing of the Minutes – can it be improved?

**4. Matters Arising**

Discussion took place re. current system of carrying out the Minutes. It was agreed to continue with the present system. The Provost is the final arbiter.

Page 1 – Public Forum - A. Steel thanked Ron, Mary and Mac for their help with the Gatehouse signage.

Page 2 – Provost's Report – A. Steel disappointed with proposals for local paths to be added to the OS map – several important and some new, paths have been omitted. Provost encouraged all CC's to make their own comments and pass onto R. Forster. R. Forster liaising with David Steel GDI to mark and finalise the plans.

Page 3 – AOCB – Voluntary Body list updated.

## **5. D&G Councillor's Report**

- (i) Proposal of new Bus Shelter going East. To be sited approx. 100yds from current position outside Rutherford Hall. Bus Shelter to built for present Bus Stop going West. The meeting had concerns about relocating the one going East mainly on safety grounds. Were happy with the proposals for the West site.
- (ii) Area Committee Meeting 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2009 – themed meeting – agreed to have a Targeted Support Fund match funded with Leader Plus – proposed aims and objectives to support local projects e.g. face lift schemes etc. Will be advertised in April. Ann Sweetin at Council first port of call.
- (iii) Planning – the Gatehouse to Laurieston road to be patched as and when needed due to cost restrictions
- (iv) Letter from Convenor Patsy Gilroy dtd. 27<sup>th</sup> Feb to Trunk Road Manager AMEY re lighting issues at the eastern junction of the town at the A75. Reply dtd. 10<sup>th</sup> March - highly unlikely as there are no records of ‘night time incidents’
- (v) A. Steel asked why when Community Centres are struggling to raise funds should it be so expensive to hire the use of school halls. J. Maitland to supply information on costing of schools.
- (vi) D McLelland raised the issue of local people not being given priority for the allocation of local social housing.

## **6. Provost's Report**

M. Laird that due to personal commitments, he would not be standing again as Provost in May. He also stressed the crucial importance of the Secretarial role to whoever sat in the Provost' seat and that a new Secretary was to be found as soon as possible.

## **7. Planning Applications**

The Dean of Guild was not present but it was reported that Auchenlarie storage area was being extended, a new dwelling at Laggan Farm and a new dwelling and polytunnel at the Milne of Barlay.

## **8. Ron Forster's Report**

- (i) Extra doggy bin in the park.
- (ii) Horse route in Cally Woods – meeting to be held with the Forestry.
- (iii) Cally Landscape – rebuilding of stone dykes – preparation work has commenced to expose the stone
- (iv) Garries Park – slippery slope is being worked upon – area will be stoned.
- (v) Proposal from the Loreburn Housing Association has been received to install/plant bat/bird boxes and trees as part of their Charity Day 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009. R. Forster mtg with rep from D&G Council for the best location.

## **9. Treasurer's Report**

Current Account - £1409.62

Common Good Fund – This year's money not arrived yet – normally arrives iFebruary. Applications for the Fund itself are now being sought. Balance - £1021.38

Footpath Account - £1495.00

A discussion was held re Secretarial expenses

Eco Deco Plant Visit Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March - leaving new Tarff Valley store in Dumfries at 1pm. Back at Tarff 3pm. Lift from the Spar Car Park – 12.15pm

**10. Kirkcudbright Hospital**

Ian McConchie expressed concern re the threatened closure of the Kirkcudbright Hospital. It was agreed that the Hospital should remain open. A letter to be sent to the NHS signed by all CC's.  
Action I. McConchie

**11. AOCB**

I. McConchie raised the matter of small number of lairs left in Anwoth Churchyard and the possibility of all burials moving to Gatehouse. It was agreed to write a letter to the Council expressing concern.  
Action I. McConchie

Apologies for the next meeting – P. Jacques, I. McConchie, A. Lowden  
The Meeting closed at 9.30pm. Next Meeting Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2009 7pm

**APPLICATIONS ARE BEING SOUGHT FOR THE COMMON GOOD FUND. FORMS CAN BE GOT FROM THE TREASURER CHRIS WALKER**