

New Cumnock Community Council Minutes of Meeting Wednesday 24th September 2014

1. Sign in by members and visitors.

2. Roll call for community Councillors.

Associate members:

(minute secretary)

3. Apologies: (Chair)

4. Welcome (Vice Chair) welcomed Members and Visitors to the meeting

5. Police Report No Police attendance or Report

6. Approval of Minutes of last Meeting Agreed: . Seconded: .

7. Introduction of Minute Secretary has agreed to do a 3 month trial. It was proposed she become an Associate Member. Proposed: . Seconded: .

8. Treasurer n has agreed to return as Treasurer .

9. Reports Minerals Trust – . No Report as there was no news.

10. Reports: Steering Group –

New Cumnock Community Action Plan. There will be an update on the Community Action Plan by means of a booklet. Own Hall: planning issues have been resolved. There is a meeting at Dumfries House 25/09/2013 and the Steering Group is attending for an update. When the Town Hall opens next year plans are in place to demolish the Community Centre and the Games Hall.

Some of the ideas considered on the old site were:

a) Use some of the ground to build a car park to help with congestion at school times, and access a pathway to the school. This would reduce the school parking problem.

b) An area could be landscaped as a picnic area. This would hopefully encourage visitors to stop and see what New Cumnock has to offer.

c) A building could be constructed for use as an Information Centre with facilities to cater for young and old. Just a small place with toilets, tea making facilities, to use as a meeting place.

d) There would also be room to develop an outside space for games such as Putting, Badminton, Netball. Anyone with any ideas for low cost ventures, please contact any member of the Steering Group. Or hand them into the Community Centre.

e) Youth organisations will be visited and asked for any ideas for what the town hall could be used for.

EAC officer stated that the Steering Group should be reporting to the CC every month.

11. Community Turbine The proposal needed to be assessed and would cost £141,000 to explore further. A loan could be arranged but if the project was refused, the loan would have to be repaid regardless. This would be a joint venture with a local land owner and would require the setting up of a Special Purpose Vehicle. Half would belong to the community and half to the land owner.

a) Improving New Cumnock Auld Kirkyard project was officially opened a week past on Sunday.

b) Trotter's Building Work progressing. Full planning permission for 2 retail units plus 1.

c) Swimming Pool 2014 saw lots of events and visitors from all over the country.

Anyone willing to help please contact any member of the committee or directors.

d) Games Hall No Interest was shown to take over the building, hence it will be demolished. The Steering Group and Glen Afton Athletic are progressing plans to build a "state of the art" sports hub. Funding has been secured from Prince's Foundation to offered help in drawing up plans.

Updates to follow.

e) Town Hall A leaflet will be compiled giving details of holiday cottages, bed and breakfast facilities which will be displayed in the Town Hall. Ideas will be examined for signage and interpretation boards. Arts and crafts workshops and meetings will be encouraged along with a local market day, and a Micro-Brewery.

f) Job club The Glens are considering a Job Club and an Astro turf playing field which would provide facilities for an Outdoor Recreational Centre. A volunteer has offer to help to set up the Job Club.

Please contact Mary Harper on 01290 333982 if you have any ideas.

g) Theme 4. The Heritage Outdoor Group is being supported by the Wildlife Trust, Onshore Services and Kirkonnel Heritage.

The priority is to develop and promote walking, cycling, horse riding and canoeing. There have been 2 organised walks around the lagoons. The first one was to celebrate the Queens' party visit to our village, and the second one was a sponsored walk and to date £1228 collected to go to the Swimming Pool funds. The third walk (Hangover Walk on January 1st 2015) is being planned and support would be appreciated. They want to reinstate the walk on the left hand side of Afton Dam. Keir Mining was being negotiated with for the restoration of the opencast area to incorporate walks, bridle paths and possible water sports.

a) Glen Afton litter dumping 3 truckloads of litter were taken out and disposed of. Many thanks to all those who helped.

b) The Village Heritage Trail Is now complete, which covers the cemetery walks.

c) Discovery Award group There is a possibility of setting up a Discovery Award group within New Cumnock. The Discovery Award is similar as the Duke of Edinburgh Award but over 50's.

d) New Cumnock Care home There is no Care Home in New Cumnock. According to the Chief Executive of Scottish Care it would be very difficult. There would need to be a minimum 25/30 residents for this to be economical especially as most local homes are having a tough time filling up the vacancies. Currently the emphasis is on the care for elderly people to stay at home if there

is sufficient support. The group should approach our local councillors and ask them to find out the councils attitude to care homes in New Cumnock. We will have to find out if the EAC has a care policy. It was suggested that we could support a care group in the village. A leaflet will be produced at the end of November

e) Hall's Factory It is understood a local young man is trying to buy the land, to start a training centre for drivers and the like. The auctioneers are asking for £ 1m.

12. Reports: Scottish Power Renewables.

Hare Hill Extension.

Mr Sam Pettifer (project manager) and a colleague (Tracey Kennedy who is the community liaison officer) briefed the Community Council regarding Hare Hill extension The application is for 13 wind turbines- they range in size from 70 – 91 metres and the reason for this is so that they can fit into the landscape. Because we are using an existing Wind farm access all the stone is going to be sourced on site. Additional information will be available by 10 October 2014 followed by a 4 week public consultation period. They assisted in setting up a training course for young people at Ayrshire College. Help to travel to course and bursaries are available. Hare Hill has generated over £250,000 and Scottish Power Renewables (SPR) have committed to paying £5000 per installed MVV per annum in total. £2,500 per installed MW per annum will be paid to the REF managed by East Ayrshire Council. It is understood that EAC would like to manage the total community benefit value on behalf of communities.

Logan CC has written to New Cumnock CC to seek their views on REF. will be formally requesting EAC to attend a meeting to explain the advantages of the REF scheme. stated that no correspondence about the REF consolation had been received during his tenure. stated that he had had seen that document and the terms and conditions laid down by East Ayrshire having taken the full £5000/mw are very onerous. Scottish Power renewables are committed to source locally but can't put figure on it. Absolutely committed where possible to source locally wherever possible. We are reluctant to put figures on it at the moment because we just genuinely don't know.

13 Reports: Opencast Liaison Groups.

House of Water.

Last liaison meeting took place on 5/09.14. The Public consultation on 2nd Class restoration took place today (24/9)

a) New site manager (HOW) –

b) Rock – Tappet Hill/rock extraction stopped mid-August as rock had too many fines and was rejected by SPN. They were due to restart rock extraction 9th September until 25th September (end of permitted time) 10,000 tons to be extracted.

c) Single shift – Burnston Remainder working on single shift until of end 2014. Hargreaves having difficulties recruiting suitably experienced/trained staff. Opportunities there for work. Hargreaves looking at starting a Training Scheme as well.

d) Restoration Masterplan for House of Water (HOW). Consulting today about House of Water (HOW) proposed restoration scheme.

e)Future – possibility of extension opencast next to Tappet Hill and B741

f) Complaints – 2 Haul Road – 1 dust, 1 speed of vehicle, 1 noise.

suggested if NCCC ask Hargreaves if the site would be gifted to the community when restored so that we can derive some long term community income, and if so had anyone any ideas?

mentioned renting it out to farmers but it would require fencing which could be costly but could be done by Hargreaves as part of restoration. Hargreaves maintains in the press that restoration will be completed on time and to a high standard and on time. commented on this saying the standard was not very high and wondered if fencing was to be included and if so, how much?

Cllrer agreed with and said it was important to find out from East Ayrshire Council that the restoration is of a high quality and get a report from the independent monitor on that and not just an email from East Ayrshire Council. to write and ask.

also to ascertain full land ownership at HoW.

Greenburn Liaison meeting took place yesterday. has not had time to write a report and wondered if anyone else would do so.

Netherton Due to coal being sent from Netherton to Crowbandsgate it was agreed by NCCC to request a member of the NCCC to attend the Netherton Liaison meetings so that New Cumnock could be kept informed of coal traffic. There was a member of Netherton Liaison Group that did not want NCCC involved with their meetings, so this was refused. As an alternative Hargreaves suggested that a member of NCCC attend then Garleffan liaison group which also covers the Rottenyard Processing Facility and the Crowbandsgate Railhead. JH is the NCCC representative at this liaison group.

Glenmuckloch stated So far, the existing members of the Glenmuckloch liaison group have responded positively and Hargreaves will respond formally to our request with more detail.

Crowbandsgate raised an issue about the noise at night if the railway workings at TamO'shanter were still in operation?

There was so much bright lights and noise. also said that the Coal stockpile level very high not a good look for new Cumnock. Gary Ward (Hargreaves) stated that there is no increased operations at Crowbandsgate but he would look into it.

14. Reports: Windfarms:

New Cumnock Windfarm Trust

and

stated there was a meeting on 27/8/14. Present were

who is an independent monitor. There was an opening balance of £9689.69. An award was

made for printing of the quarterly magazine of £1000 and there was a closing balance of £8689.69. The Christmas Lights comes out of this fund too. Date of next meeting 26th November.

CARES (Grant funding for legal and financial advice on wind turbine equity buy in advice) The application has been lodged for funding to employ a specialist to investigate the feasibility of going for an equity share to see if the Community Council could borrow money to buy a share in an Equity Share programme. This has been lodged and we should know shortly if that funding is available and then we will have access to independent financial funding and planning advice.

Windfarm map. Copies of the current Windfarm Map were handed out and comments asked for. Cllr BC commented the secretary map as it actually shows the activity going on around New Cumnock.

Garleffan (Peel) Equity Share New Cumnock Community Council (NCCC) is investigating if the community can borrow money in order to buy part share of a turbine development and to see if it makes long term economic sense.

High Cumnock (Banks) 5% Equity share option? stated that it was going to planning committee on 10th October. He asked if there was a liaison group and if so anyone attended? No liaison group. Does NCCC support or object to this application?

Enoch Hill (E.ON) Liaison Group meeting was attend by and the developer has scaled back the number of turbines as well as setting them back away from properties. There is a public exhibition planned on 7th October in Dalmellington and 8th October in New Cumnock to show the results of the consultation.

Lethans (Banks) asked if there is a liaison group? Has anyone from the council been to the meetings? Does NCCC support or object to this application?

Harehill Extension (Scottish Power) asked if there is a liaison group? Has anyone from the council been to the meetings? Does NCCC support or object to this application?

Pencloe (North British Wind) asked if there is a liaison group? Has anyone from the council been to the meetings? Does NCCC support or object to this application?

Afton (E.ON) asked if there is a liaison group. The application is in with the SG and that NCCC supported this application.

Monquhill (Wind prospect) asked if there is a liaison group? Has anyone from the council been to the meetings? Does NCCC support or object to this application?

Ashmark (N Power) This application was rejected by East Ayrshire Council (EAC). There is still an option for N Power to appeal to the Scottish Government within 3 months from 8 September. Cllr ER stated that there was no Liaison Group but wondered if it would be worth setting up a Liaison Group and that it would be useful to see the minutes of the meeting

Kyle South (Vattenfall) East Ayrshire Council did object to this development and it is to be decided upon by the SG. Presumably now will go to a public enquiry? The Council had written to the developer previously regarding setting up a liaison group but met with no response.

15. Reports: News Letter Group It was agreed that the cumulative Windfarm map should be published in the newsletter next month. As the Community Council would be held responsible for any mistakes, it was agreed that members of NCCC newsletter group will approve content and layout prior to printing.

Report: wrote a letter to *Fiona Lees* and copied it to the local 4 councillors about a shelter at New Cumnock railway station and is still waiting on an answer. He received a letter from Sandra Osborne M.P. informing that one would be provided when funds become available. The tenders are out to demolish the Games Hall and a contract is also out to repair the entrance to the Old Graveyard at Afton Road. Trans Serve needs to be contacted about the defects on the A76 through the village. There are two gratings needing repaired north bound and 6 south bound. Would it be possible to get the 20mile sign at the chemist shifted to where people driving by can see it? We need one at Afton Bridgend between the roundabout at the Club and the Nursery School to slow the traffic down.

16. PPF Private Partnership Forum she has been attending the meetings and they are tailoring the needs of the person and are really are intending to keep them in their own home and to employ people to look after them and that is their policy at the moment.

Cllr BC Confirmed the policy is throughout Scotland at the moment. He expressed concern that we have moved ever closer to Health and Social Care integration. He was also extremely concerned about the inequality of provision of aids and adaptations into homes and the difference between private and council housing. Discussion ensued of good and bad outcomes of individual's experiences. BC stated that the problem is that the RFL's do not know what their funding from the Scottish Government is until probably the beginning of June of the financial year, so it can take to April/May before they know what funding they are going to get from the Scottish government. offered support by means of formal letter from NCCC and BC will report back if it is necessary

17. Reports : EA SPA Boundary Changes met Professor *Russel Griggs* (SMRT) and *Mr Bob Mackintosh* SNH&SFC about re-zoning of the Special Protection Area (SPA) also known as SAC = Special Area of Conservation in order to take the areas that have been damaged by open casting out of the protected zone. This gives the community an opportunity to suggest what new areas can be identified as 'compensation'. One suggestion was the lagoons.

18. Communication with wider Community: Community Councillors are being emailed all correspondence and matters on a regular basis. There is very limited response so far. suggested setting up a public mailing list for non-members to receive updates and information direct from NCCC. This could be in addition to the Facebook page.

19. NCCC Facebook Page (Derek Rush) had just recently put some updates on.

20. East Ayrshire Councillor reports Barney Menzies; BM stated how EA council prioritise monitor and scrutinise the police. Local members should actually be involved in setting out what the priorities for the police should be. What is demonstrated in the report is that we are very much the bottom of the pile rather than being involved in enforcing what has already been done by other organisations. It's an important document and we are now at the stage where there is one single police force, it's important that the levels of scrutiny are in place so that communities can drive the agenda. Because he was not aware that every council ward has a local police plan and was surprised as he had never been involved in setting out what the priorities were for this ward. He is also concerned and that it is done on a ward basis as what is required in New Cumnock is maybe not what is required in Cumnock and vice versa. Concerned how that is done and he attend lots of meetings and never have the police actually given an annual report as to what the local plan is and what the outcomes of this plan has been on an annual basis. This is something he has been working on to try and open up as to how we deal with setting the priorities at a council level and a local level. It's not just new Cumnock that they don't turn up to, its most of the wards. And he is trying to address this. There was a police liaison group where they invite members of the public to attend. He attended one at Rothsay House, and was the only member of the public to attend and when he questioned how he could access the police local priority plan to help develop it, and the only place he was directed to was the police Scotland web site.

asked how he know meeting was on, and he confirmed that as a member of the SPA since the Ayrshire Division is to be inspected in October. Asin his role as chairman of the Governance and scrutiny gets to meet with the people who are doing the review. They advised him that that members' of the CC should be involved in developing the plan as each village is different in its needs. Local members should set out priorities and be involved in setting out the priorities for our area. NCCC should be involved through the community action plans. There is a Public meeting on Monday 6th October – if you are really concerned you should be there.

Kathy Morrice: Kathy was contacted and confirmed that she had not attended since May and would not be attending any in the future due to her health condition. She confirmed she is willing to meet during the day and can contacted by email or by phoning Members Services Headquarters on 01563 576566/576056.

Cllr ER stated that there is not an onus on Clls to attend CC meetings. When they attend they are councillors for East Ayrshire council and it does not matter what political party we are from.

21. AOB: Allotments. Meeting on 1/10 at 7.

22. Community Councillors Training Meeting on 25/10 London road. and to attend.

23. Flood Defence: General concerns were voiced about support and matters to be raised at the next flood meeting 6th of October.

24. Young Engineers: No representation made.

25. Miners Memorial stated that things seemed to have come to a halt with the funding for this. He said it would cost in the region of £50,000 for a marble stone. Cllr grant explained that it would need a Public Consultation for a grant of this size and that it would entail someone knocking on every door in New Cumnock. Perhaps this could be discussed at the next Events Meeting and a smaller grant required.

Date of next public meeting 29/10/2014 @ 1900

The Chair declared the meeting closed