

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 29.5.18 IN BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**1 SEDERUNT:** Mhairi McKenna (MMcK) (Chair); Thomas Davidson (TD); Laura Cunningham (LC)); Frank Maguire (FM); Linden Hunt (LH); Cllr Ian Fitzsimmons (IF); Jeannie Macy (JM); John McIlwraith (JMcl); Gwen Campbell (GC); Lynn Nield (LN); John Campbell (JC); Lynn Young (Minutes Secretary);

**2 APOLOGIES:** Colin McNally; Janette Sloan

**3 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:** Agreed as an accurate record, proposed by TD and seconded by LC.

### **4 MATTERS ARISING**

Speeding in the village – IF reported that a community speeding meeting is being held in Ayr shortly. He has also asked Transerv about flashing lights at each end of the village and zigzag lines outside the school. JM said that samples of the road surface in the village have been obtained this week. There is also work being done on the amount of traffic passing through the village.

IF reported that an enforcement officer will be sent out regarding the refusal of planning permission at 68 Main Street.

Community Benefit Fund and Foundation Scotland have indicated that £5000 has been deposited in the bank account, but this has yet to be confirmed.

MMcK has contacted the appropriate authorities regarding a bus stop at the top of Shore Road.

MMcK has also written a letter about benefits for vulnerable families; no reply or acknowledgement has been received.

JMcl reported that Ardstinchar Bridge is owned by SAC, and BCC cannot apply for funding.

### **5 POLICE REPORT – No report as police not present**

### **6 TREASURER'S REPORT – JMcl**

General account: Balance £321.27; a top-up grant from SAC will be awarded.

Community benefit fund: Balance £1924.96. There is probably another £5000 in the account but this has yet to be confirmed.

Harbour account: Balance £2052.70. Total transactions for one year were the rates of £11, paid in two transactions.

JM asked if the tennis courts could be eligible for funding, and asked who owns them. There have been a number of people using the courts recently. Some work is needed on the hut, the net and the gate. IF thought that SAC may supply a new net. JMcl thought the gate would also be the responsibility of SAC. SAC had wanted to knock the hut down. The scouts are using it for storage at present. JM suggested asking the scouts to move their equipment. LC said that there is no hut at the tennis courts in Girvan. JM said that the nets need to be stored somewhere safely. JMcl said he thought the tennis court hut also belongs to SAC, and the issues need to go back to SAC in the first instance. JC said that a constitution was written when renovations were done in the past, which SAC paid for. JMcl said there is a difference between applying for work to be done and applying for a grant. The organisation needs to be a constituted body or has to be sponsored by a constituted body, eg BCC. IF will speak to Fiona Ross at SAC and will report back.

#### **ACTION IF**

Putting green fence: IF said that an unknown number of people have complained about the prospect of the putting green having a perimeter fence. LH said that at one point £2000 was going to be made available but this has never come through. IF will look into this and discuss with Fiona Ross. The grass is being cut better this year and the new greenkeeper is doing a good job.

#### **ACTION IF**

### **7 COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND**

Two applications have been received from Ballantrae Trust:

£400 for Smugglers' Festival events; approved unanimously.

£500 for summer holiday programme for children; approved unanimously.

### **8 CARRICK FUTURES – LC**

Meeting was held on 9.5.18. 16 applications were received, including 3 from Ballantrae:

Food and Drink Festival: application withdrawn

Scouts: £8700 for summer activities and camp

Parent Council: £6928 for residential trip

The next deadline for applications is 11.6.18. The next meeting is on 8.8.18.

The school had applied for lottery funding, but was rejected – the reason given was not enough community backing.

LN asked about the difference between Foundation Scotland and Carrick Futures. LC said that Foundation Scotland is a professional company who manages the funds and is a totally independent group which is approved by the windfarm companies. Carrick Futures allocates grants under their guidance.

90 applications have been received for funding from Kilgalloch. Ballantrae has applied for funding towards a website etc. A meeting is being held in June.

### **9 BALLANTRAE TRUST – No report**

MMcK apologised as she had not brought the report. She will circulate the report by email.

### **10 BALLANTRAE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION – LC**

Last meeting was on 9.5.18.

Most of the tables have been returned to the hall. A new process for borrowing tables is being put in place. If anyone wants to hire a table they need to pay a £30 deposit for each table, which will be refunded when they return the table. A small hire charge will also be put in place. All enquiries have to be through LC.

The school are moving to the hall on 13.8.18. SAC will be doing preparatory work in June, July and August. Existing bookings will be honoured but no new ones taken.

A new alarm has been fitted and has a code which only a few members have access to.

There have been a few issues regarding bookings and a new process is being looked at.

The craft fair on 28.4.18 raised £306. The stallholders were also happy.

The gala is being held on 7.7.18. Posters are going out shortly. LH had reported at the last meeting that all the groups in the village are to be encouraged to take a table. MMcK said she cannot see any point in BCC booking a table. LC asked that groups not booking a table should donate a raffle, as in the constitution. LH said that some groups give a £10 donation, or a good donation for the raffle. JMcl said there are rules regarding donations from BCC, but this will be looked at.

### **11 HARBOUR COMMITTEE**

It was suggested last month that maybe Ballantrae Trust could be the owners of the harbour. A form will be sent to BT regarding this. JMcl said that BCC is not allowed to hold property. The title deeds have now turned up. RD owns the area to low water and BCC owns the actual harbour.

### **12 ARDSTINCHAR BRIDGE**

Owned by SAC/ARA, as above.

### **13 SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL – IF**

Police are going to be more active in the village.

The building at the bottom of Ayr High Street was refused by planning.

A meeting is being held tomorrow.

Shore Road is still in a bad state of repair, and the potholes are still bad at Glenapp. LH said that both she and MMcK had complained about the stage of the pavements; no reply has been received.

### **14 CORRESPONDENCE – As circulated**

Seafarers' UK are wanting to raise public awareness on the nation's reliance on seafarers by flying the Red Ensign on Merchant Navy Day on 3.9.18, from a prominent building or flagpole in the area. It has been suggested that a flag event be held with Merchant Navy veterans, local VIP's, council officials, etc, attending. This was agreed unanimously. We need to purchase a flag. MMcK will get back to Seafarers' UK. The school will be in the hall on 3.9.18, so it was suggested that the pole be put up on the Sunday ready for Monday 3.9.18. **ACTION MMcK**

Newsletter has been received from Scottish Power Renewables; this will be put on the noticeboard.

## **15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

JC asked about the decision regarding funding for the Food and Drink Festival. Foundation Scotland had recommended giving money to the Food Festival, but the Glenapp Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund had voted against it. He referred to Susan Crosthwaite's letter of resignation in which she stated that the voting procedures should be reviewed – as everyone is a resident of the village, everyone has a vested interest. Therefore there should be an all-party discussion with an open vote. It could be argued that everyone has a conflict of interest as they are all residents. JC said that this system is a backward step. Food and drink raises a considerable amount of money in Scotland, and the Food and Drink Festival brought more people to the village than any other event. If trust funding meetings are not open to the public this is not acceptable and is not democratic. JC said he is withdrawing any support for the Trust. LN agreed with this, and said that she has never heard one person saying they did not think the festival was enjoyable. JMcl said that Foundation Scotland can appoint an adjudicator if there are disputes. JM said she was very disappointed that the Food and Drink Festival is not going ahead, and a significant number of members of the community are also disappointed; 3-4 years of hard work from the group has been swept aside and is tantamount to vandalism. JC said that the public should be made aware of the reasons for the funding not being granted. He said he had spoken to Cara Gillespie and asked if Foundation Scotland would back the Food and Drink Festival, and was told she was not allowed to tell him, and he would have to read the minutes, which he has requested. JM asked where the minutes are; LC said they will be approved at the next funding meeting, which is probably in the autumn. JC said that members of the public should be invited to every meeting regarding funding applications.

JM said that No 4 Main Street has had a retaining wall at the back of the house taken out and dumped over onto the beach. IF will look at this and report back.

LC said that the same building contractor is parking 3 vans on the pavement. IF will follow this up as it is an offence to cause an obstruction, ie if wheelchairs and pushchairs cannot get past. It was agreed that there have been various problems with vehicles obstructing the pavements in the village over the years. **ACTION IF**

LC said that the playhouse in the park has a damaged floor. IF will follow this up. JM said she saw workmen doing a health and safety inspection in the park. **ACTION IF**

LC said that an email had been circulated regarding raising the profile of community councils through social media. We struggle to get younger people onto BCC because they have often do not understand what CC's do. LC will take this on as a project and present bullet points.

FM asked if anyone had looked at the book on Universal Credit. It will become very relevant in the coming months. He urged that a copy of the book be put in the doctors' surgery.

## **16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 26 June 2018.**

MMcK stated her apologies as she was on holiday...Susan Crosthwaite who was the vice chair had resigned so eventually it was agreed that Laura Cunningham will chair the June meeting. MMcK expressed her thanks.