



## Meeting Minutes for Mon 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - DRAFT

**Present:** N. Brooks (Chair/Secretary), M. Sanders (Treasurer/V.Chair) up to item 6, A. Christie, D. Ellison A. Emler, J. Wightman, J. Kennett, S. Easson. Cllr Holt, Cllr Lothian. Nine members of the community.

### 1. Welcome.

A new 'PowerPoint style' review of agenda and contents was trialed. Will repeat next meeting to assess success. Very useful for clearly showing pictures and sharing important data.

### 2. Apologies. N/A

### 3. Approval of minutes for meeting 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Approved

### 4. Reports:

4.1 Finances. Funds in bank £7846.36. Brief presentation and discussion about funds continuing to increase year on year. Brief presentation of annual cash flow status with income vs expenditure for next financial year with regular expenses shown. Prior to grant money from Wind Turbine, funds would typically be in the region of £600-£800 at year end.

#### 4.2 Paths Working Group.

4.2.1 Coffin Road: Agreement to continue with light touch accessibility measures as demonstrated in trial section. Drainage measures introduced seem adequate for now but continue to monitor. **A. Christie.**

4.2.2 Quarry diversion path: Now installed and variable quality. Working with Lairds to seek improvements and installation of signage. Gates at end of Coffin Road a concern. Padlocked gate at Burnside is due to be removed shortly. Extension to original diversion installed by Lairds, working to formalise an exit onto Kilwhiss road to form new circular route. **A. Christie**

4.2.3 Core path 185: From quarry entrance towards back of Gaddon Loch. Continuing working with landowner to finalise required minimal works to make this a useable route. **A. Christie**

4.2.4 Expenditure approved in principle of £750 for various gates, stiles, signage etc., but each instance to be brought before committee for approval. **A. Christie**

4.3 Speed reduction/speed awareness. Fife council roads department surveyed B937 for compliance and opportunities to introduce additional measures to control excess speed. Picture of location for 300/200/100 countdown markings to 40mph limit shown and this is in progress for next financial year. 'Your Speed' flashing signs are still work in progress and will be installed asap. **D. Ellison.**

4.4 Road matters. Fife Council are aware of all the issues and communication is ongoing. They are experiencing a shortage of labour and increased demands on their services. Pressure will continue to be applied. **Secretary.**

#### 4.5 Community Resilience Planning (CRP).

4.5.1 Status of plan outlined. Next step is to introduce communications test exercises. **D. Ellison.**

4.5.2 Walkie Talkie. First step in maintaining comms in event of mobile failure. Agreement reached to purchase two walkie talkie radios at cost of £96 and test. If suitable, two more will be purchased. **D. Ellison.**

4.5.3 Fire Risk. CRP team identified fire as a significant domestic hazard. Agreement reached to purchase Fire Safety Kit (ABC powder fire extinguisher and fire blanket) and give to every one of the 90 households in catchment free of charge but with a polite request for voluntary donation. Cost is circa £26 per unit and overall cost is circa £2340.

## 5. Business arising from previous minutes:

- 5.1 Trafalgar junction visibility. Struggling to find a contact For sale sign presents a visual obstruction. **Clr Holt.**
- 5.2 Development at Trafalgar junction. Struggling to find a contact. **Secretary.**
- 5.3 Hedge Maintenance. Letter of thanks to be issued to contractor for supporting community. Next year, we want to insist on invoice. **Secretary.**
- 5.4 Main St Giffordtown flowers. Agreement for low impact, light touch. Sow yellow rattle and wildflower seeds in the coming autumn. **Secretary.**
- 5.5 Solar panels for community. Article in the next Gazette. **D. Ellison.**
- 5.6 Flower tubs for B937. Eight oak half barrels purchased. Topsoil sourced FOC from Kettle Produce. Planting scheme TBC but will likely be mixed and low maintenance options. **J. Wightman.**
- 5.7 Community e-bikes. Agreement reached to purchase two 'step through' e-bikes. Contributions from Rock Solid, Howe Rotary and Supplier means cost to G&DCC is only £349. To be loaned out to community FOC. Details in Gazette. **Chair**
- 5.8 Litter pick confirmed for 10am-12pm on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> march. Meet at hall weather dependent. **S. Easson.**

## 6. New Business:

- 6.1 Parking meter at Birnie Loch. Presentation by Robbie Blyth Head of Operations of Fife Coast & Countryside Trust giving details of rationale, implementation and future plans. Full details will be in Gazette due out at end of March.
- 6.2 Protected trees along U102 (road that runs along beside Ronnie's farm). Some of the mature trees need significant work. The newer trees need TLC. Requires tree survey and permission from Council before touching them. Three quotes received from registered tree surgeons. Discuss with landowner. **J. Wightman.**
- 6.3 Funding of £240 for Gazette spring edition, issue 6, approved. **Secretary**
- 6.4 Succession planning. If you are interested in supporting the community via the CC, please come along. **Chair**
- 6.5 King's Coronation.
  - 6.5.1 Community champion wanted to arrange something suitable. Please let the Secretary know if you want support or assistance.
  - 6.5.2 Look into a suitable fixed tribute: plaque or tree planting or cairn of some kind. **A. Christie**
- 6.6 Posting of agendas and minutes. Keep using existing methods at present. Look into a more sustainable waterproof covering other than lamination for notices displayed outside. **Secretary**

## 7. Correspondence:

- 7.1 Project 'akin'. Planting free oak trees. Requests for 10 trees made. Will contact organiser for availability. **Secretary.**

## 8. AOCB

- 8.1 The hall acquired a grant for essential roof repairs. During these works, additional problems were identified which required more expense not covered by the grant. Request for financial support of £590 to bridge the gap was approved.
- 8.2 A financial plan was shown which illustrated the impact of all of the spending agreed above, plus some proposed allocation of money to future projects. It shows that funds at the end of 2024 financial year (March) is projected to be in the region of £3000 which is still a healthy reserve.

**Local residents are invited to attend, make comments and ask questions at the meeting or submit points via email or WhatsApp.**