

Giffordtown & District Community Council

DRAFT minutes of meeting - Monday 4th Jul, 19:30 - Village Hall

1. Chair's Welcome.

2. **Present/Apologies:** N. Brooks (Chair/Secretary), M. Sanders (Vice Chair/Treasurer), A. Christie, J. Wightman, D. Ellison, A. Emler. Cllr G. Holt. One, very young, member of the public also attended.

Apologies: S. Easson. J. Kennett, Cllr D. Lothian

3. **Minutes** for meeting 2nd May 2022 were approved.

4. Reports:

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Bank balance stands at £6478.05. Two-month projection: anticipated income from Wind turbine grant is about £2900 and Fife Council contacted for payment. The committee agreed to allocate up to £1000 to help the Hall Committee purchase a shed. Payment for the gazette came to £223.08. Therefore, by our next meeting in September, there will be circa £8155.05 in the bank.

All suggested projects requiring major sums of money will be raised at the bi-monthly community council meetings.

4.2 Paths Working Group:

4.2.1 PWG meeting planned soon. Looking for volunteers for vegetation cutback. Please let Andrew Christie know if you are able to help out. TBA. **A.Christie**

4.2.2 Meeting with Lairds generally positive regarding paths work. No path diversion work will begin until infrastructure and plant is fully installed and operational. Likely to be around September. The 3m width was specified by Fife Council with a view to allowing equestrian and pedestrian usage more easily. **A.Christie**

4.2.3 Sample of signage for quarry path diversion distributed for comment and agreed that it looked good. Green circle about 10cm diameter with large yellow arrow. Giffordtown & District printed at the top. See next Gazette for picture. **A.Christie**

4.2.4 Core Paths: New quarry entrance towards railway line. Landowner happy for this to be used once there is a suitable fence to prevent horses escaping. Discuss at PWG. **A.Christie**

4.3 Speed reduction:

4.3.1 SpeedWatch training planned for July 7th. Five volunteers so far. Ideally 2 from each community. Add your name if you can. **TRAINING NOW POSTPONED**. New date to be advised once we hear back from the CPLO. **D.Ellison**

4.3.2 Share previous Telraam data and technology with Cllr Holt. **D.Ellison**

5. Business arising from previous minutes:

5.1 Compost: Michael Lee, manager at LMWL, has arranged to transport a load of compost from another site which will be left at Jacobscroft. Request for additional loads and drop off points underway. **Secretary**

5.2 Community Resilience Planning. At draft stage. Will be rolled out for further discussion soon. **D.Ellison**

5.3 WhatsApp Groups. Giffordtown 17 up to 20, Edentown 4 up to 5, Charlottetown 5 up to 12, Kinloch 20. This is for ease of communications of all kinds. Usually it's low level communications like picking up parcels etc, but it could potentially also be lifesaving as demonstrated by the recent power cuts at Kinloch. As it turned out, the emergency was averted, but it was reassuring to see the way that the community responded widely and rapidly to an escalating situation. Encourage your neighbours/spouse to join. Please. **ALL**

5.4 Community Engagement: Initial meeting held with N.Brooks, A.Christie, G.Buchanan.

Thoughts are to have informal gathering after summer with some locals to request their help to increase engagement at CC meetings and local events at the hall. Details to be finalised. Cllr Holt suggested that 'Letham Nights' might demonstrate fresh ideas on how to get more

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community involvement. If you have any ideas or want to help out, please let me know.

N.Brooks – giffordtownsecretary@gmail.com **WhatsApp/Text 07938828589**

- 5.5 Request for funds for Issue 4 of Gazette due out at the end of September– circa £215 and prize fund for photo competition of £35 approved. This time there will be a photo competition with first prize of £20, second prize of £10 and third prize of £5. All photos judged anonymously by independent judge. Please give your feedback about this Issue 3 of the Gazette and the Gazette, ideally in one of the follow ways: WhatsApp to Neil on 07938828589. Email to thehamletsgazette@gmail.com, the survey at the back of;
- 5.6 Bulk Buy Logs. Kingdom Firewood are willing to waive the £5 delivery charge. Process: Collect a register of names and delivery details. Once a month, KF would send out a message to say they are delivering. If you want logs that month, respond and pay. Send details to me initially to create register. **Secretary**.
- 5.7 IBA update. Minutes circulated. No particular issues of concern.
- 5.8 Quarry Liaison Committee: Issues of dust reported although quarry maintains it has dust suppression in operation. Wheel wash available when required; using it when not required can cause more issues - according to Laird's representative.
- 5.9 Litter pick: Great turnout of 12 locals. Lots of rubbish collected. Best not to do in summer. Provisional date set for Autumn litter pick of September/October. **S.Easson**
It was found that the majority of the litter was collected from outside the equestrian centre. Send a letter to the manager to highlight this and request that measures are taken to prevent this. **Secretary**.
- 5.10 Roadside sweeping/unsafe condition of pavement on B937 alongside Woodside house. Send details to Cllr Holt. **Secretary**

6. New Business:

- 6.1 Welcome to new Fife councillor - Gary Holt. Cllr Holt gave a short introduction and background and asked what our main issues are:
- 6.1.1 Speeding traffic is number one. He suggested we get together with other communities and form a pressure group. He will liaise and support this. **Cllr Holt**.
- 6.1.2 Condition of roads: When reporting roads faults to Fife Council, copy in Cllr Holt. **All**
- 6.2 It was agreed to support the Hall Committee's storage shed project up to £1000.
- 6.3 How can community funds be used to help the community? Put an article in the Gazette and circulate using the WhatsApp groups. **Secretary**

7. Correspondence

- 7.1 LMWL. Report received. Filling in the last cell. Previous cell now being covered with soil in preparation for planting. Planting scheme to be discussed in liaison with Fife Council and SEPA. Likely to be 2024 before completion. Second IBA processing to take place in August. Dates to be confirmed.
- 7.2 Community First Responders. There is a meeting in Auchtermuchty Community Centre on Monday 20th July 7:30pm where Roy Harrison from St John's will discuss what is involved in becoming a CFR. G&DCC are looking for a volunteer(s) to attend this meeting and then come and tell the committee about it. This does not commit you to becoming a CFR, only to inform the CC. Names to Secretary please.

8. AOCB

- 8.1 Visibility at Trafalgar junction. This is potentially a major safety concern as it is very difficult and dangerous to exit onto the A91 from the B937 due to signs and vegetation obscuring the view. Cllr Holt to look into this. **Cllr Holt**
- 8.2 New housing development at Trafalgar junction. Trees have been removed and ground works undertaken. A view has been expressed that the stability of some remaining trees has been dangerously undermined. In addition, the scope of the works looks to be beyond what was

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originally proposed. In the meantime, the site has been left looking like an unacceptable eyesore. Cllr Holt to talk with the Planning Dept to investigate. **Cllr Holt**

8.3 Drains smelling: Drains outside Giffordtown Villa and just north of Fiveways junction/Charlottetown on B937 have been particularly smelly of late. Contact Scottish Water to investigate. **Secretary**

Meeting closed at 9:15. Next meeting 5th September 7:30pm
All residents are invited to come along.