

# **GARVALD AND MORHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Approved Minutes of Meeting, 2nd June 2014  
@ 7pm, Garvald Village Hall

## **1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence**

### **Attendance**

Rufus Bellamy (Secretary), Hazel Clark (Garvald VH), Ian Middlemass (Treasurer), David Murray (Morham VH), Penny Short (Chair), Phillip White (Vice-chair)

Bernie Haggerty, Pauline Haggerty

Cllr Tom Trotter  
Cllr John McMillan

### **Apologies**

Kirstie Shearer (Member)  
Ian Smith (Member)

## **2. AGM**

Chair was passed to Cllr John McMillan, who opened the AGM and asked for nominations for the Chair.

IM recommended PS as chair; this was seconded by RB  
PS nominated PW as vice chair; this was seconded by IM  
PS nominated RB as secretary; this was seconded by PW  
PS nominated IM as treasurer; this was seconded by RB

## **3. Minutes from Previous Meeting**

These had been approved and subsequently distributed by e-mail/web.

## **4. Matters arising from Previous Minutes**

**Christmas Lights:** PS reported that there had still been no response from the Haddington Festival of Light.

**Gabions:** PS said that she had talked to ELC's Andrew Hogarth about replacing the gabions at Garvald bridge. £16,000 has been quoted as a

ballpark figure and it has been explained that the work could be done mid-summer. Andrew's opinion was that wire gabions would last, but that they would not be an aesthetic solution. As an alternative he suggested that willow hurdles could be used to reinforce the bank. The ballpark cost for this option is £1,000. PS said that Andrew had advised that the willow options should be tried.

PS said that funding for the willow approach could come under the Civic Pride fund (potentially through a retrospective application).

IM suggested another approach that is offered by a company called Filtrexx North (land improvement systems). This involves the use of soil-filled bags which re-inforce the bank. From these bags seeds sprout and the resulting plants bind the bank together with their roots.

**Action:** It was agreed that the willow option should be tried and that PS would approach Civic Pride fund. She would also approach Filtrexx North (land improvement systems) for a quote (as a comparison).

**Crystal Rig:** PS said that she has hassled Hannah Acquokoh at Fred Olsen and has still not got clarification on what money can be spent on – Hannah's line manager has promised a letter providing full guidance on criteria.

However, Hannah has confirmed that all funds can be rolled over for one or as many years as necessary.

**Emergency Planning:** PS has not yet acted on Emergency Planning.

**Lighting:** KS reported via e-mail that "all is well with regards to street lighting".

**Garvald Notice Board:** RB reported that he has got a quote from Barry Rollo for the repair of the notice board (for £54.30). It was agreed that he should contact Lillian re. Local Priority Funding for this.

**Action:** RB as above

**Haddington Area Partnership:** PW attended this meeting and reported that it was interesting with a lot of talk – he hoped that the next meeting would put some "meat on the bones". PS said that she will send round an e-mail to ask what people's priorities are – ie. to find out what is important in our area and what isn't getting done that should be. She will then use this to provide feedback to the Area Partnership.

**Action:** PS as above

## 5. Councilors' report

Tom Trotter reported that he felt that the biggest thing that had happened locally recently had been the Cranston Fiddle show at Morham "Great Show".

Cllr John McMillan reported that he had had a meeting with ELC's Peter Forsyth about reviewing parking in Haddington (dealing with issues such as congestion, deliveries etc) and that he had also had a meeting with the District Business Partnership on the same issue. He said that he hoped that there would be a full-page article in the *Courier* about parking (and whose responsibility it is).

Cllr McM also reported that he was getting to the end of a round of meetings about the commercial roll-out of fast broadband locally. He said that he is still looking at how funding can be provided to Community Broadband schemes such as Lothian Broadband. He explained that he is also looking at how mobile phone reception can be improved.

Both councilors highlighted the fact that they are still running surgeries and that everyone in Morham and Garvald is welcome to come and talk to them.

## 6. Update from Kirstie Shearer - Council Liaison Rep.

KS not present – but she had e-mail to report on progress with issues from previous minutes (see section 4 above).

## 7. Update from Ian Smith - Broadband Rep.

Not present – IM explained that IS was away working on the design of the Humbie broadband service.

## 8. Update from Philip White - Funding Rep.

PW read out an e-mail from Heidi Ingram asking for funding for the annual poetry competition – looking for £210. It was agreed that this would be supported.

**Action: PW to get Heidi to apply to Crystal Rig.**

DH said that the planned refurbishment work on Morham Village Hall (roofs and potentially vertical surfaces) was getting quotes and that it looked as if the cost would be in region of £7,000. He asked whether it

was worth applying for this money over a three year period – this was agreed in principle pending application.

HC raised the issue of funding for Christmas parties and whether this would be provided by the CC this year. This was agreed and she was asked to get figures from Lorraine Hay.

**Action: HC as above.**

RB suggested that a brainstorming session be organized to develop community ideas for the use of Crystal Rig money – PS suggested putting up an e-mail.

**Action: RB as above.**

PW passed round a list of the latest funding applications. He explained that the Garvald Village Hall application for equipment to increase the volume of hot water available for dishwashing etc. had already been approved.

The applications were discussed:

Allan Nicholson asked for money (£2,256) for Papania Bridge Tree Felling Project. As this has strong support from the village (91% support recorded by project team) it was decided to support this in principle; however it was established that the project still needed approval from land owners and it was decided that any decision would be put on hold until these approvals had been obtained.

**Action: PW to ask Allan to alert CC when approvals obtained.**

Lamp of Lothian – looking for money to insulate roof space of the Lamp of Lothian Buildings. Project costs £9412 - £10118 (with Trustees agreed to support this project by 50%). Given the use of this building by many from the local community it was decided to support this project to the tune of £1,500.

Duke of Edinburgh Award - £2,700 requested. Given that this scheme benefits local children (and will continue to do so if it is supported) it was agreed to offer them £700.

Scott Thomson – Sports sponsorship requested to cover various costs including kits, weights and entry fees (£3,548 total requested) – given Scott's high achievements (ranked number one in Britain in his weight category), it was decided to support him to the tune of £2,000.

Garvald & Morham Kirk – funding for major repairs to Garvald Roof requested (project costs of between £23K – £35K, with £6k raised so far). It was decided that this project should be supported in principle, given the role of the church in the community and the importance of the building historically. However, it was unclear what other funding efforts were being undertaken and what kind of funding gap would have to be filled. It was therefore decided to put the decision on this application on hold until this information was available.

**Action: PW to ask for info as above. PS to provide information to the Kirk on whom they should approach at the Council for help with fundraising.**

Gifford play group – asked for money (£1,950 requested) to go towards the running of the group (Hall Rental etc) – as local children use this group it was decided to allocate them £500.

Robbie Murray – asked for sports sponsorship (£469 requested) – given her commitment to judo and hockey it was decided to allocate her £469.

Action: PW to get back to all applicants to pass on decisions, with the proviso that the final “OK” rests with Crystal Rig.

#### **9. Update from Ian Middlemass - Treasurer**

IM reported that the current balance in the CC accounts stands at: £2482.62.

#### **10. Planning Update**

PW reported that there had been no significant planning applications since the last meetings.

#### **11. Neighbourhood Watch**

PW reported that the Neighbourhood watch scheme was going well and that he was continuing to send out updates by e-mail.

RB read out an update from Police Scotland. This stated that “During the period since the last police report there have been very few incidents of note in the Haddington And Lammermuir Ward area.” It also highlighted key police priorities for the ward: Anti-social behaviour, road safety, substance misuse and litter.

#### **13. Garvald Update**

HC reported that:

The date of the Garvald Jumble Sale had been changed to the 15<sup>th</sup> of June and that the Village Hall was looking for helpers.

The Unpaid Work Team are in the process of finishing their painting work.

There had been a proposal put forward to use wind farm money to put in a new bench at head of village. It was suggested that this could also be financed using Civic Pride money.

The benches in the orchard need work. Again it was suggested that this could potentially be funded using Civic Pride funding.

**Action: HC to chase this up.**

HC said that parking was becoming more problematic. She noted that the pavements in the village were in line to be renovated and suggested that the council should look at providing access to the green via lowered curbs for parking for when there is a function. PS asked for any other ideas for how parking in the village could be improved.

RB read out details of the woodland planning meeting that had been organized by Karl and Heidi Ingram and held in April in the Village Hall. The aim of the meeting was to gauge interest and support in felling work above the bridge and in the monoculture on the far side of the burn. It was explained that, at the same time leaflets/feedback forms, had been delivered to houses in Garvald and a request for responses was publicised on the website. There had been 45 responses from 30 households: 91% support for the work above the bridge and 93% support for the conifer monoculture felling.

**Action: RB to send report to CC members by e-mail.**

#### **14. Morham Update**

DM reported that Morham is putting together a plan for major village hall refurbishments – to include the roof and potentially walls as well.

He said that they are moving forward with their Neighbourhood watch plans and are asking around to find out interest.

He concluded by saying that the Hall's front garden has now been planted.

#### **15. AOCB**

RB read out an e-mail from Tim Flynn in which he asked about access to the wood in Garvald and to the grounds of Nunraw guest house. PW said that he had been told that there was free access to the wood and that access at Nunraw would be governed by Right to Roam legislation and that there should be little change.

Action: RB to ask TF to talk to PW.

**16. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at Morham Village Hall.