

# GARVALD AND MORHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2012  
@ 7pm, Morham Village Hall

## 1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

### Attendance

Rufus Bellamy (Secretary), Hazel Clark (GVH Rep), Ian Middlemass (Treasurer), David Murray (MVH Rep), Kirstie Shearer, Penny Short (Member), Jimmy Thomson (Vice-chair), Julia White (Chair), Philip White (Member), Ian Smith (Broadband), Garry Galbraith, Hannah Stenhouse

### Apologies

Cllr Broun Lindsay, Cllr McMillan, David Walls

## Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes were passed.

## 3. Matters arising

### Crystall Rigg Fund:

- It was noted that there had been a discrepancy between the amount that Garvald Village Hall had asked for (£3,480) and the amount it had been awarded (£4,176). HC asked whether the CC would be agreeable to give the hall the full £4,176 and that the extra would go towards door replacement and painting. This would mean that less funding would be needed next year. This was OK'd.
- RB has contacted the groups to let them know what money has been awarded.

**Speeding Sign:** Jimmy Thomson has had no joy re. the speeding sign. He said that it was worth following up – Penny said she would follow this up.

**Action:** PS as above.

**Morham bridge:** Damage has been repaired – general note of thanks

given to ELC.

**Garvald and Morham websites:**

Funding has not been passed on.

RB had put up last minutes, but not an abbreviated 'key points'. It was decided that when minutes are next put up, a brief descriptive paragraph should be provide to give people a flavour of what had been discussed.

CC minutes have been placed on Morham website by GG.

**CC Elections:**

JW raised the issue of the CC election. It was generally thought that this was a good sign of local democracy in action. She underlined the fact that Village Hall reps will stay the same (person decided by VH AGM) and noted that Lillian Pryde had suggested asking Cllr McMillan to chair the next meeting prior to the election.

Action: PS to ask Cllr as above.

**Proposed Hopes Road Closure:**

RB was asked by PW to act on this. RB had sent e-mail to Council alerting them of the CC's disquiet over the issue.

**4. Grants and Funding**

Key actions taken on Crystall Rigg fund since last meeting:

- Paperwork passed by RB to IM.
- JW has compiled and distributed table of allocations.
- RB has notified recipients.

JW said that she would contact Fred Olsen and send minutes.

£22,425 available, plus an under spend of £1,214.

It was suggested that in December, Fred Olsen should be contacted to see what is left in 'the pot' and that then a decision should be made on how this should be allocated.

JW reported that GVH had submitted an application for fire extinguishers (£138) and asked if this could come from the Local Priority Fund. It was agreed that GVH should contact Lillian Pryde at ELC directly about this.

DM highlighted the need for fire safety signage in GVH and suggested that this should be included in the Hall's next Local Priorities Fund application.

JW highlighted key jobs associated with the Crystall Rigg Fund:

- Keeping application/allocation chart updated.
- Collating the applications as they come in.
- Deciding who gets what.
- Alerting recipients of decision.
- Distribution of cheques.
- Collation of invoices and proof of what the money had been used for.

She said that she would be happy to provide advice to the person who takes over the job from her (not necessarily the chair).

## **5. Broadband Report**

IS said that the Broadband team had been invited to Skye for the launch of the Government's broadband funding scheme. They are also attending the NextGen conference in London. He said that there was nothing new to report with respect to their funding problems.

PW expressed disappointment that nothing had happened given the positive words of the Chief Executive at the last CC meeting.

IS said that, in order to get funding, the team was looking at a community share issue around East Lothian. He explained that they had the services of a paid advisor to help them search for funding channels.

DM highlighted courses being run by ELC on how to chase funding.

## **Mobile Broadband**

An e-mail was read out from Garvald resident Graham Barns asking whether the CC could do anything to secure mobilephone (3G) connectivity.

There was general agreement that mobile telephone reception could be much improved. JT said that his son used a computer-based system to get reception on his mobile phone. IS said that 3G wasn't a competitor to the broadband.

IS said that the key problem was finding a location to transmit from and that it was not financially viable for the phone companies to invest the necessary money. He said that the broadband had a similar problem. He

suggested that if the broadband team put up a mast then they could ask mobile phone providers to rent space. He said that this would cost about £20,000.

PS said that there are initiatives out there to get coverage across the whole of Scotland.

RB to get in touch with Graham to say it's been discussed and to ask him whether he would be willing to work with one of new CC's to move the issue forward.

Action: RB as above.

## 7. Woodland

JT reported that everything was going OK, but that there had been a delay to the work as the felled trees will need to be taken across a field above the slope and that negotiations to do this were still on-going (and hindered by the weather).

JT said that he would be happy to have a word with the Monks to see what's happening.

Action: JT as above.

## 8. Councillor's Report

No councillor in attendance.

### Local Planning Applications

Philip had distributed a notice about proposed change of colour of proposed wind turbine at Carfrae.

### Garvald Update

HC reported that the Christmas Fair is planned for 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in December. She said that nothing had yet been planned for New Year and that the 'old brigade' was looking for new people to take over the organisation of the New Year event.

PS said that she had asked about the 'missing' bench in the park, but that it had still not appeared. She said she would follow it up.

RB will contact Lillian Pryde re. upkeep of the playpark equipment to see who is responsible with a view to getting it seen to.

## **9. Morham Update**

DM reported that it had been a busy period recently and that the village hall had been attracting people from outside the village for events. He said that the Picts were playing in three week's time and that the Village Hall committee is trying to raise interest in a Christmas event.

He explained that the Village Hall Committee have been enrolled in the SCVO and are moving towards the Keystone Award (quality award on how you run a village hall). The SCVO has already trained a couple of people as mentors for the Keystone Award.

The issue of the location of the broadband facility in Morham Village Hall and its use of electricity was raised. The conclusion was reached that because it is a community facility it is appropriate for the Village Hall to facilitate it. It was suggested that the Broadband Team might make a contribution in-kind (eg. free broadband access). IS said that this was quite possible and that he'd be happy to 'enable' any equipment for use in the hall.

JW suggested that the two village halls put in a joint application to procure the equipment necessary to give a strong broadband signal within the halls.

GG said that there is a scary Halloween walk on the 28<sup>th</sup> Oct and a Christmas party on the 6<sup>th</sup> Dec.

## **10.A.O.C.B.**

An e-mail from Garvald resident Toni Bunch's was read out asking for more to be done about potholes above Garvald Grange.

HC raised the issue of the drain near Garvald Bridge.

GG said that a laptop could be procured for village hall – suggested that this could be done via Local Priorities Fund. To be discussed at next meeting.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

Monday 15th October 2012 at Garvald Village Hall.