

GARVALD AND MORHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Approved Minutes of Meeting, 4th April 2016
@ 7pm, Morham Village Hall

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Penny Short (Chair), Rufus Bellamy (Secretary), Hazel Clark (Garvald VH), David Murray (Morham VH), Phillip White (Vice-chair), Ian Smith (Member), Kirstie Shearer

Michael Leather
Sylvia Murray

Cllr John McMillan

Apologies

Ian Middlemass (Treasurer)

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

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

3. Concerns about traffic access to Garvald

PS welcomed Michael and Sylvia to the meeting. They explained that they were there to discuss problems relating to large SUVs, lorries and other large vehicles (some traveling at speed) entering Garvald via the corner at The Old Bakehouse and also reversing out of the adjacent lane that runs down to the church. They explained that this corner is totally unsuitable for large vehicles and that they are causing damage to the wall of the house, the kerb and the road.

Sylvia (who lives in The Old Bakehouse) explained that the issue had been happening for quite a few years. She showed photos and evidence that she'd been collecting since 2014 and explained that she had contacted the Council, but that she'd got no real action.

Michael reported a recent incidence when a lorry came round the corner and got stuck. Michael said that he had questioned the driver, who had said 'it's the way my sat. nav. sent me'.

It was noted that the main route into the village (to the west) is passable by heavy/large vehicles.

It was agreed that there is the need for better signage to deter the large vehicles that are causing these problems.

PS reported that she had already spoken to Keith Scott at the Council and shown a suggestion for a new sign that would be placed at the top of the hill leading down to the Old Bakehouse corner – this read: ‘Unsuitable for HGV’s. Use alternative route.’

It was felt that this sign should be re-worded to say ‘Impassable for HGV’s. Use alternative route.’ It was also agreed that another sign should be put up just before the corner to say ‘No entry to HGVs’ (this would allow vehicles to turn at Kirkbrae).

Action: PS will take this forward with the Council.

4. Matters arising from Previous Minutes

Riverbank in Garvald – PS reported that the Local Area Partnership has approved our application for the riverbank maintenance in Garvald – the full amount of £5,200 has been approved. PS said that she subsequently spoke to Stuart Pryde on the 31st March – he said that he will get back to her with timings for the work – hopefully it should be done by early Summer. The work will include the formation of a better ramp down from the gate and tarmacking of this section of path.

Broken bench near the wood – PW reported that he had met with Davie Rutherford – he was please to announce that ELC landscaping will meet cost of the wood and repair for both broken benches in the park.

Website advert about Crystal Rig fund – PW has written this and RB posted it on the web. PW also put a copy up on the Morham noticeboard.

Christmas Tree – PS has researched lights - Lights for Fun do a string of 100 white lights for £250. DM said that MVH had obtained a similar string of lights from B&Q for about £40. Cllr McM said that trees could be obtained from the Council.

Action: PS will go off and look for better deals.

Council website problem - Kirstie’s problem with the ‘broken light’ website was reported to the Council by PS.

Yester Nursery Active Play project – IM has approached Fred Olsen about the Yester Nursery Active Play project – this was agreed in principle by FO. It was agreed to award £5,000 to the Gifford Infant's play area.

Action: IM to let FO and play project team know about decision.

Church roof fundraising – PW has reminded Mairi Neillans that the CC is holding £10,000 for the church roof repair project. Mairi has now taken over fundraising and has said that they are going to be more active at raising the necessary additional funds. It was noted by PW that if Mairi puts in another application it would be favourably looked at.

Action: PW to Marie give advice on how to progress – e.g. hold coffee morning, contact Viridor etc.

Money for work on Garvald Village Hall: HC reported that money has come through for the Hall's secondary glazing (receipt has been sent to IM), but that money has not come through for lighting.

Action: IM to chase up funding for the lighting.

5. Councillors' report

Cllr McMillan reported that he had a series of meetings with various people round the Council about the parking issue in Burnside Court (in Garvald).

He said that it has been decided to remove the 'Keep Clear' signage on the road to allow parking in that area. He said that this should free up parking in Burnside Court.

The Cllr also said that 'something should be done' in the longer term to improve the parking situation in Garvald. He asked neighbours to work together to resolve any issues.

Action: Letters will be sent to residents of Burnside Court and area to let them know of this decision.

Cllr McM said that the Council's budget is being finalised and that everything is being done to try and minimise cuts to jobs, services, etc. He said that £100,000 has been allocated to each ward for educational matters.

He reported that he had had a meeting with Community Broadband Scotland (CBS). CBS promised that a public consultation will be rolled out in the next few weeks to assess demand for broadband. CBS also

promised that by Dec 2016 a project would be signed off that would supply white spots (areas not covered by broadband) with ultra-fast broadband connections.

6. Update from Kirstie Shearer - Council Liaison Rep.

KS reported that nothing significant had come up in the past two months.

DM highlighted the fact that a serious pothole had started near Chesters. Others highlighted potholes around Nunraw.

Action: KS will report potholes to Council.

7. Update from Ian Smith - Broadband Rep.

IS reported that there are moves afoot for a joint East Lothian Council/Community Broadband Scotland (CBS) project (as described in Councillor's report above). Lothian Broadband will certainly bid for any work that comes up under this project.

IS said that 70-80% of Lothian Broadband's work in Humber area has been completed (this is a CBS-funded project).

8. Update from Philip White - Funding Rep.

PW reported that he had put out a letter/web notification asking for applications to help 'non-Olympian' young sportspeople and musicians. He was delighted to be able to say that he had received eight applications. These were discussed as follows:

Daisy Ingram (Garvald) – purchase of a violin - cost £145 – approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Isaac Ingram (Garvald) – purchase of a guitar amplifier, strings and cables - cost £143.23 - approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Rudie Shearer (Morham) and Alastair Easton (Garvald) – both asked for help with their cycling – both have competed at Scottish level in their age categories – asking for £273 each (to cover licenses/coaching/ sports camps/team uniforms/entry fees/ etc) – both approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Alastair Easton (Garvald) – support for learning chanter and bagpipes – asking for £45 for practice chanter - approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Anna Derricourt (Morham) – support for four young runners: asking for £200 for each child. Money will be used to support participation in competitions (club membership/coaching/team hoddies/entry fees/running spikes/etc) - all approved – i.e. £800 in all – approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Anna Derricourt (Morham) – for Garvald and Morham Christmas Theatre trip – 2 buses – cost £1,600 - approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Garvald and Morham choir – asking for funding of next block of this worthwhile project – looking for £675 for next block and purchase of a keyboard. Decided to give £320 to allow the choir to continue - approved (subject to approval). It was decided that the applicant should be invited to apply again later in the year to fund the keyboard. Approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Lucy and Aidan Ballantyne – parents applied asking for money to help support for the children's participation in competitive swimming – it was decided to give them £1,000 each. Approved (subject to approval by Fred Olsen).

Action: PW/IM to process applications, send to Fred Olsen and let applicants know about the decisions that have been made and response from FO.

9. Update from Ian Middlemass – Treasurer

IM sent e-mail that reported: All the previous applications have been paid out and the cheques cashed. The current account balance is £12,390.28, including the £10,000 we're holding for the church. We're into a new financial year as of April 1st, so I'll be getting the accounts audited, hopefully before our June meeting.

Additional monies received:

£387 – Community Council Grant.

£970 – Local Priorities scheme (LPS).

Action: Ian to update all CC members on how much money is in the Crystal Rig account and how much remains in the LPS and the Community Council Grant.

10. Planning Update

PW said nothing significant had come up in the last two months.

11. Update from Haddington & Lammermuir Local Area Partnership

PS reported that the LAP is sending out newsletters. She will send copies of these round to all CC members by e-mail.

Action: PS as above.

Queens 90th birthday – Queens 90th birthday – each LAP has been given £1,000 for distribution to all Community Councils within Haddington & Lammermuir ward. PS asked for ideas on what this should be used for. It was suggested that it should be donated to charity.

Paths for All project – PS reported that community path grants are now available through the LAP.

East Lothian community hospital – productive comments and feedback have been received on the new hospital building. KS questioned why there was no provision for A&E – running cost was the key issue, although the new building has the potential to host an A&E dept. in the future.

Big Nature festival to be held this May in Musselburgh.

12. Neighbourhood Watch

PW reported that everything is ticking over nicely.

KS reported that there had been a huge break-in in Gifford.

PW highlighted the Avocet security system that provides a way for the elderly to deter intruders.

13. Garvald & Morham Updates

Morham: DM reported that the management changes for the Village Hall are well underway, although registration with Scottish Charity register has been slightly delayed. The Team of Trustees has been selected. There will be a meeting in May to decide next steps. The Village Hall has been surveyed to allow decisions to be made about the future of the hall.

Garvald: HC reported that Crystal Rig money has been received for the Village Hall's windows (she passed on the thanks of the Village Hall Committee). She asked when money for the new lights is coming.

She highlighted the fact that an open meeting will be held by Haddington Library in the Village Hall to research local history – this will take place next Thursday (14th April).

Eight wedding bookings have been taken. Hall has therefore stopped taking bookings except for locals.

There have been complaints about the traffic from the work being done on Nunraw guesthouse.

Action: PS to ask community police team to look into traffic.

14. AOCB

PS kicked off a discussion about the draft agreement that had been received for the next phase of the Crystal Rig development (this relates to money received for power generated by new section of the windfarm and is not linked to current turbines). It should see G&MCC receive an additional £21-22k a year.

PW felt that the new reporting/payment structure it set out (six times a year) was better. It was also noted that the agreement will allow the CC to lump money from different years together.

IS gave his view on the agreement. He noted that: CC has to submit details to Crystal Rig of all proposals received, not just ones we approve. The new agreement allows CC to approve funding for projects outside the CC area. It also allows us to club together with other CCs that receive money from Crystal Rig. CC has to provide reports on what past funds (for previous year) have been spent on. We also have to keep records of all past applications/projects.

Action: All CC members were happy to approve the new agreement. PS to clarify a few points then formally approve the new agreement.

PS read out most recent police report (b/w 1st March – 1st April). Anti-social behaviour is the current key focus for police in Haddington.

PS noted that Lynn, the Community Ward Officer, will be joined Lorna Barden who will be covering the GMCC area.

PS reported that she had been on the Lammermuir safari (organised by Lammermuir and the Border's CC) – she said that it was very cold, but very interesting.

PW noted that the CC elections are due to take place this year. KS said that she will not be re-standing.

KS reported that on the road up to standing stones there is a quarry where someone has tried to burn cans of beers and coke.

Action: It was decided that KS should approach Stuart Pryde to get quarry cleared.

DM reported that Morham Village Hall now has a license to use Dunbar recycling facility with a trailer.

It was noted that the Scottish Parliamentary elections and the European referendum are both coming up and that Village Halls will be used for both as voting stations.

15. Date of next meeting

Monday, 6th June at Garvald Village Hall.