

Local Initiatives in New Galloway (LING)

Committee Meeting

26.04.2018

2.00pm, Town Hall, New Galloway

Minutes

1. Present: Ros Hill, Ray Bridgeman, Bob Glaister, Ann Glaister, Debbie Hardy, David Hardy

In attendance: James McCrossan, Ingrid Gemmel. Gerry Cinderby attended for item 9ii)

2. Apologies: Craig Millar, Eleanor Wilson, Sue Vest, Sam Rushton

3. Election of officers: Noted that Craig had not yet indicated if he is willing to stand again as Vice-chair. Agreed to pursue this outside the meeting.

4. Minutes of Meeting of 05.03.18: These were approved.

5. Matters arising: Noted that Ann had deferred reminding Ingrid about sending samples of letterhead logos as we have not had the time to address this yet.

6. Chair's Report: The report had been circulated in advance of the meeting and Ros drew our attention to a few items. Firstly, for the fund-raising concert on 18th May, Julia Brown has offered to dress the tables and chairs in return for the use of the Lower Hall on 9th May. Secondly Ros proposes a repeat of the Dementia Awareness workshop, run at the Catstrand, for LING trustees and volunteers. Thirdly, Ros proposed a repeat of the Love Food: Hate Waste workshop in the Autumn in conjunction perhaps with Kells School and linked with the walled garden plans. It was suggested that Lynsey and NGCE be invited to be involved in planning this as she had been keen the Community Shop play a part in such things.

7. Financial Report: Ros reported that the Bank accounts are now balanced and a final version would be available by the end of the week.

8. Reports and responses to queries from D&G:

i) Re painting the exterior of the Town Hall: Jim suggested, from D&G, that the reference to maintaining the hall as watertight etc in the Management Contract, did not necessarily include re-painting. The uncertainty over cost estimates (between £7,000 and £17,000) was restated by Ros. Agreed that the e-mail that had been drafted to send to Robert Lowther setting out our queries and concerns more clearly, should now be sent **(AG)**.

ii) Energy Performance Certificate: This has to be held by us.

iii) Installation of new kitchen: Agreement to go ahead has been secured.

iv) Timing of clock chime: Jim reported that it has proved difficult so far to pin down any dates when this will be corrected.

Additional updates from Ingrid: on 5th June, D&G will host a 'Community Conversation' to identify priorities for use of resources in order to mesh best with communities' own plans and resources – 6.30pm Kirkcudbright Academy; there will also be a series of Ward Events

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to discuss priorities; Community Spirit plans are envisaged to work with and support community initiatives, eg the flower-bombing of New Galloway. There may be some 'funding appreciation' available.

Ray requested that an area of the park which is very wet should be cordoned off for safety for the day of the Picnic in the Park. Jim agreed this would be done.

(Jim and Ingrid were thanked and had to leave at this point.)

9. Sub-committees:

i) Celebratory events Committee: Ray reported that plans are going ahead for the May 20th Picnic in the Park to celebrate the Royal wedding. Posters have been made and flyers are being distributed through doors throughout New Galloway. A roundabout and slide for children have been arranged. Drinks will be for sale with a BYO bottle arrangement for alcohol. Getting hold of a suitable music system is still a problem. LING will have a stall.

ii) Galloway Glens Landscape Partnership Project: the project is being called Exploring New Galloway, which raised a few queries. Gerry tabled a summary of plans and developments (attached below) and also commented on the importance of clarifying communication arrangements, particularly the use of email lists. It was agreed this needs to be looked at particularly bearing in mind the new data protection laws.

Noted that the structure of this subcommittee has still to be clarified, in terms of who is its chair and whether sub-groups will be needed for the different projects.

10. Report from (Community Engagement Worker: No report from Sam on this occasion.

11. Future Plans for the Town Hall: The previously circulated discussion paper was introduced and welcomed. The paper outlined the three steps that would be involved in moving things forward. Some discussion took place about how to approach building on existing community involvement in the planning process. At the next meeting, we shall address each of the five questions posed at the end of the paper.

In discussing local expertise, Andrew Ward's name was mentioned as someone who now runs a business helping charities with just these kinds of processes. It was agreed this sounded worth exploring. It was also agreed to invite Jamie Ferguson (Community Development and Empowerment Manager), through Ingrid, to meet us for a further clarification of what D&G might want from us. Noted also that Ingrid had offered help with developing a Business Plan.

12. Funding bids and priorities – progress, planning and issues:

- i) car parking space: funding is now in place, but Craig still to take his ID to lawyers (**CM**).
- ii) kitchen installation: estimates are needed to apply for funding. Agreed two local names to be approached (**RH and RB**). Advice on layout might be sought from David Briggs if he was willing. Agreed that we need to clarify what we want to be able to use it for. Ros has a copy of 'House Rules for Voluntary Establishments' and will send this around (**RH**).
- iii) Architectural Heritage and Resilient Heritage: Ann explained that making sense of

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application forms for these was what had led to the discussion paper (see item 11)

iv) Stewartry Area Committee – Noted that a bid had been submitted to cover 50% of LING's core costs. Some initial minor queries had been received.

v) Internet Café Bid: An open session was being run arranged by Sam Rushton the following day for assistance with internet access in relation to benefit enquiries of applications.

Further discussions would be held subsequently.

vi) Leader invitation to bid: nothing further to report

vii) invitation to bid again from Glenkens Charity Shop – deadline possibly end of May – might consider some aspect of kitchen installation or dishwasher **(AG)**.

13. Town Hall activities and events – past present and future:

i) Broadband and laptops – discussed already

ii) Bingo – another Family Bingo scheduled for Saturday evening

iii) Davidson Concert – tickets are on sale through the shop – poster designed and being put up. Will go on Facebook.

iv) Old photographs and paintings exhibition - scheduled for weekend of 9th and 10th June. Agreed - free admission, but charge for teas and coffees and cakes. Invite donations.

v) Ros plans to hold another Swish/Marie Curie fund-raising event. Noted – there may be links to be made with Zero Waste Scotland again as this is about re-cycling clothing **(AG)**.

14. Publicity /Promotion: Agreed that we can still improve. Suggestion of Loch Ken Caravan Park as good place to put up posters. Agreed to have this a main discussion item next time.

15. Volunteer record keeping: Not in place yet but critical for Glenkens Landscape project's need to account for volunteer time as part of LING's 50% contribution.

16. Membership and Friends: Three new friends and therefore members too were approved. Note need to tweak membership form in line with data protection legislation.

17. Supporting new trustees: It was felt that in the meantime informal support was sufficient. Christine Clarke's offer to run a workshop later was appreciated.

18. AOB: 1) A message had been received from Mike Brown about a proposal to plant trees near the war memorial. It was felt this was more Community Council Business.

2) Ann would send a brief note around on the implications of data-protection legislation **(AG)**.

3) Ann would also send a summary of notes from attending the fund-raising workshops **(AG)**.

19. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday June 7th 2.00pm.

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Exploring Glenkens

Objective: Improve local economy by increasing attractiveness to visitors and thereby :

Raise profitability of tourist accommodation, shops and restaurants.

Ensure continuation of local services to residents

Provide jobs

Improve leisure facilities for residents and visitors.

Projects led by LING with GGLP support:

Rescue local footpath in New Galloway Golf Course woods.

Maintain 20 miles of footpaths on a local estate.

Create leisure facility in a derelict walled garden

Projects promoted by GGLP and DG Council with LING support.

Create off road link from Core Path into New Galloway.

Create a long distance footpath linking Carsphairn, Dalry and New Galloway with potential to link to a Core Path to the Raider's Road and Loch Stroan. This path will use Forestry Commission and Forest Estate logging roads and existing Core Paths thereby minimising costs.

(Summary tabled by Gerry Cinderby)