

Barr Community Council

Minutes

Thursday 12th November 2015 @ 7pm in the Village Hall

Present: Mr Hamish Denham (HD) Chair, Mrs Merlin Corbett (MC) Vice Chair, Mrs Isabel Kay (IK) Treasurer, Mr John Donaldson (JD), Mr James Gracie (JG), Mr Alexander Tait (AT), Mr Matthew Cross (Mcr)

In Attendance: Cllr. John McDowall (JMc), PC Harding, Sgt McKeown, Mrs Jacqueline Logan (Minutes Secretary), Pauline Allison (PA) and Ciara Wilson (CW) guest speakers from SSE: Mrs V Dunlop and Mr J Wilson from Barr Parish (Open Forum SSE).

<i>Item</i>	<i>Minute</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	Sederunt: as above.	
2	Declaration of Interest: None	
3	Apologies: None	
4	Police Report: - No incidents were reported in the Barr Parish. The only incidents were for information only and concerned planned shoots/pest control. Sgt McKeown is in receipt of the petition with regard to seeking a 20mph zone throughout the village. He is awaiting the update from ARA with regards to this and better signage.	
5	<p>Guest Speakers: Pauline Allison (PA) and Ciara Wilson (CW) from SSE - Hadyard Hill wind farm Extension, Barr Community Council update. Presentation notes and maps were distributed to all those present. PA and CW talked through the update and then took questions. If anyone needs a copy of the notes and maps please contact HD. HD asked whether the reduction from 51 to 31 turbines could reduce further due to current capacity only allowing for a further 15. PA said it would likely be reduced further.</p> <p>HD asked about how the power would be transmitted and whether it would require new power lines as the existing poles do not have the capacity. HD also asked about connection to the grid. PA said there was no further update and at present they do not have a grid connection.</p> <p>HD enquired how much benefit the communities would get and how will it be delivered to those most affected. PA confirmed the beneficiaries would be Dailly, Barr and one other. Considerations for benefit calculation are based on the impact it will have on the communities: distance from site; construction traffic and visual/ongoing impact. Benefit will be payable from the start of construction.</p> <p>HD asked about the planned route for turbines and construction traffic. PA said it would likely be via Lanes or Penwhapple although still has to be decided.</p> <p>HD asked whether consideration had been made in respect of the BCC letter to SSE regarding the visual impact of the extension on the valley. PA was not aware of the letter and has asked HD/MC to forward a copy. PA also confirmed that SSE would come and show the final visuals to residents of Barr Parish before the build.</p> <p>MC expressed concerns that the supporting documentation for the extension appeared to be the same as the originals, these include surveys on the environment, wildlife etc. Several present expressed concerns that the impact on wildlife has been dumbed down with JW explaining how the impact on wildlife from phase one is evident. PA said she would check.</p> <p>JD expressed his feeling that saturation point has been reached regarding turbines and personally would not like the extension to go ahead. He also agrees with MC</p>	<p>HD/MC</p> <p>PA</p>

	<p>that the methodology in the report is questionable. He also felt that if the extension goes ahead that the most impact would be from the 5 or 6 turbines on Daljedburgh Hill. He and others agreed that these should be removed. PA said she would put forward the request to remove these turbines from the final build. MCr agrees with JD and expressed his feeling that the community does not really gain. What is gained is a fractured rural landscape with people and wildlife being affected. MCr is expressed his opposition to any extension.</p> <p>VD expressed that she is very much against the extension. She currently sees 2 turbines from her property and the extension would add a further 13 industrial sized turbines having a huge impact on the visuals and noise. VD also had queries regarding performance of existing turbines and whether spring water on the land would be affected during or after construction. PA offered to have a consultation with VD regarding her specific case in order to assess noise and visual impact and to address other concerns or issues.</p> <p>JW expressed his concerns about the increased noise levels from the turbines. He already experiences noise from existing turbines and is concerned about the increase in noise which will be caused by the extension. The turbines are larger and will be a third closer than existing turbines. He is likely to experience 4 times the noise according to calculations. PA explained that the technology of the turbines is more advanced so noise is likely to be reduced. JD pointed out that there is no mention of this in the report. Many pointed out, that in any case there would be noise due to the nature of turbines i.e. constant hum and whooshing of the blades turning.</p> <p>JW also raised the point that with the extension SSE would be breaking the original agreement by putting up more turbines than agreed. He feels the agreement was drawn up to get BCC on board with the original planned wind farm. He feels that the extension will spoil the Stinchar Valley and we don't need any more. IK agreed that the original agreement will be broken if the extension goes ahead.</p> <p>IK being opposite Daljedburgh, will be hugely impacted by the new turbines. They will also have a huge impact on the Stinchar Valley and IK feels the Daljedburgh Hill turbines should be removed from the planned extension, if it gets the go ahead, as they encroach into the Valley. She also said that the residents of Barr Parish did not turn out in force to the SSE presentation regarding the extension because they are fed up and disgusted by their previous experience and have given up hope.</p> <p>HD asked if JMc could send him a copy of wind farm regulations.</p> <p>AT expressed that he was all for the extension and said some villagers feel the same. He agreed that the removal of turbines down the Stinchar Valley would be appropriate, but supports the extension.</p> <p>JG is not against the extension, but agrees with IK that a lot of the villagers are fed up and feel we have enough already.</p> <p>HD agrees that apathy is down to broken promises: no visitor centre; no view points and no road improvements. We rely on our picturesque village to not only attract visitors, but to attract and keep residents.</p> <p>PA to discuss all comments with Martha Lovatt (SSE) and come back with answers to the questions, concerns and issues raised.</p>	<p>PA</p> <p>PA</p> <p>JMc</p> <p>PA</p>
6a	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting: Minutes of 08th October 2015 were accepted as accurate. Proposed by MC, seconded by JG.</p>	
6b	<p>Minutes of meeting of sub committee: none</p>	
7	<p>Matters Arising: <i>Item 5:</i> HD has spoken to Open Reach to find out more about superfast broadband</p>	HD

	<p>for Barr: KA26 9 and KA26 0.</p> <p><i>Item 7(5):</i> HD awaiting Cara Gillespie. Company working on legal agreement.</p> <p><i>Item 8(a):</i> Digital engagement for CCs. MC attended and felt it was basic and not helpful.</p> <p><i>Item 9:</i> AT reported that the dog signs in respect of the play park and fouling have been installed. It was suggested we monitor to see if they help. Concerns have been raised about the mound at the rear of the play park - it is attracting children who are throwing stones. HD and MC to look into getting it turfed or wait until the MUGA is completed.</p> <p><i>Item 9(a):</i> Assel Valley meeting 14 October 2015, update re-road closures. HD attended for BCC.</p> <p><i>Item 9(b)</i> SP Energy Networks winter prepare meeting 27 October 2015. Awaiting report.</p> <p><i>Item 9(e):</i> SAC regarding public transport for Barr Village. Ongoing. MC and HD to meet with Ayrshire Transport 23rd November 2015.</p> <p><i>Item 9(f):</i> Replacement of Barr Cemetery wall along the Gladneuk Cottage boundary. The wall will be replaced along the entire boundary. Work commenced 19 October 2015 and will continue for around 12 weeks. MC to arrange for village skip to be re-sited.</p> <p><i>Item 11(a):</i> Overgrown bushes at Dalgarva. MC has written to Fiona Ross at SAC who is looking into it. ARA have not yet replied. MCr is still awaiting owner details.</p> <p><i>Item 11(b):</i> A meeting has been held with regard to signage for the trails. FCS and SAC support the community with regard to a written partnership to offer us in kind benefits with respect to equipment and manpower. Barr Community to fund materials. Issues and problems reported by residents and walkers are to be reported to FCS via a spreadsheet.</p> <p><i>Item 11(d):</i> JMc will chase up the grip steps for the bridge over the Gregg from the Village to The Clachan.</p> <p><i>Item 12:</i> BCA - MC and IK attended the BCA meeting to improve communications between BCC and BCA. Clarification of the Rules and Regulations for the use of the hall are being sought from SAC. The Hall Keeper is responsible for the Hall on behalf of SAC, not the BCA. The Hall Keeper should be the main key holder for the hall and training should be delivered to additional key holders. SAC have offered to carry out an induction package for new BCA members and key holders.</p> <p><i>Item 14(d):</i> Barr Village Hall Steering Group. JMc has been discussing with senior council members. All parties are now engaging and a meeting in Ayr is to be arranged to progress the issue. Ongoing.</p>	<p>HD/MC</p> <p>MC</p> <p>JMc</p> <p>JMc</p>
8	<p><i>Regular Reports:</i></p> <p><i>Treasurers Report:</i></p> <p>IK reported a correction to the balance given last month, the figure should have been £18,075.85. The balance at 02nd November 2015 stood at £17,545.60 with a cheque for £500 to Barr Teas still outstanding. IK to contact Marie Welsh, Audit Section of SAC at Burns House to arrange to take BCC books in for auditing. HD is still awaiting Cara Gillespie (FS) about requirements and conditions for small grant funding.</p> <p><i>HHCBF:</i> No update. AT to attend meeting on 18th November 2015.</p> <p><i>Carrick Futures:</i> HD now has a copy of the minutes for the last meeting. Please contact HD if you would like a copy. The next meeting will take place in December. Date to follow</p> <p><i>CCCF:</i> Cancelled. No report.</p> <p><i>BPDC:</i> BPDC Consultation. MC outlined where we are in respect of the</p>	<p>IK</p> <p>AT</p>

	consultation. Please contact MC if you would like a copy of her notes. HD and MC will meet with FCS, Kelly Morris and John Morris to discuss Dinmurchie options. It is expected that the feasibility study will be available at the end of November. MUGA - The application for funding to the Weir Trust (£10k) was unsuccessful.	HD/MC
9	Correspondence:	
9(a)	Meeting with Ayrshire Transport re-public transport in Barr to be held 23 rd November 2015. HD and MC attending for BCC.	HD/MC
9(b)	Planning application for 3 Glenginnet Road - Approved.	
9(c)	SAC Community Green Space fund grant fund available. SAC local housing strategy meeting dates on Facebook, website, shop and village notice board.	
9(d)	Diamond fitness. Handed on to BCA	
9(e)	Whithorn has cut Barr out of the forestry trail. Lindy at FCS is looking into the matter.	
9(f)	Verbal complaints have been received about the problems with Barr telephones. Residents have reported clicking on the line and calls falling out. No response from BT Open Reach to date of meeting. HD and MC are on the case and will collate names, numbers and addresses to pass on to BT.	
9(g)	MCr has received a complaint from a resident about dogs running around off their leads and alarming said resident. MCr to check with complainant to confirm the owners of said dogs. JMc to check what action should be taken once MCr has address of owner.	MCr JMc
10	Funding Applications: CF: Girvan and District Entertainment Attractions Association request for £500 for firework display. As funding had already been allocated for Barr Village fireworks on the same evening the application was unanimously Rejected . CF: Alan Ringrose, Barr Bowling Club request for £500 for the upgrade of equipment, sand, top soil and seed - Approved HHCBF: Barr Primary School Parent Council request for £492 for a trip to the pantomime for 3-12yr old pupils: £150 for 2 minibuses plus £342 for tickets - Approved Barr Community Association request for £500 toward the Barr Village firework party - Approved Barr Community Association request for £250 toward the Barr Village notice board to pay for craftsman: total cost £385 - Approved Barr Community Association request for £400 for 2 benches to replace the existing 3 rotten benches at the front of Barr Village Hall - Approved Barr Community Association request for £476.81 to pay for the insurance for Barr Village clock tower - Approved The Wee Whist request £480 for a Christmas Party to be held for VIPs to pay for a meal, entertainment and transport – Approved IK raised concerns that the majority of applications were for CF as people were downloading and completing their forms. IK suggested that BCC compile a new form for both CF and HHCBF so that the funding applications can be split evenly across the two. HD to compile a new form and run it passed Cara Gillespie (FS). HD still awaiting Cara Gillespie (FS) about requirements for groups requesting funding – constitution, providing bank statements and proof of where funding is spent. HD also to check CF guidelines.	HD HD
11	Open Forum: Please see item 5 on the agenda.	
12	AOCB:	

	JG expressed that he has felt for 2-3yrs that the railings around the Village Hall need replacing. It was suggested that this could perhaps be done as part of the Hall redevelopment. Concerns were also raised about the condition of the school gates. MC to speak to Fiona Ross at SAC.	MC
13	Arrangements for next meeting: To be held on Thursday 14 th January 2016, 7pm in the Village Hall. Agenda to follow.	HD
	There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9:00pm.	