

Rigside & Douglas Water Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on 22nd May 2025 - 1830 in Rigside Community Hall,
Rigside

1. Present;

Community Councillors – Jim Blair, John Lennox , Andy Wallace, Frances Wallace, Brian Dingle Teresa Dingle.

In attendance;

Joanne Townsley, Cllr Ross Lambie, Cllr Ross Gowland , Mr Bobby Brown
Mr James Baird - Architect, David Taylor of Universal Connections

2. Apologies;

No Apologies ,

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting;

Acceptance of the previous minutes were proposed by Cllr Jim Blair and seconded by Cllr Teresa Dingle

Actions from previous meeting.

Joanne Townsley documents are to be forwarded to the SLC by the Secretary.

Action Complete SLC have formally accepted Joanne Townsley Documentation.

Jim Blair to Chase up Bank to determine reason for Hold ups with Bank Account .

Action Complete Banking issues resolved and Account is up and running

The Chair advised that he would contact Alda Forbes of Bay-wa to establish when the LEDS payment was due.

Action complete. RES have advised the programme in writing – see update below . Item 8

BESS Notices to be posted in Shop, .Dr Surgery, School, Nursery and Hall including Windy Wonders FB page.

Action Complete All notices posted

Andy Wallace discussed his ideas for the FB page and agreed to get one set up ASAP.

Action Complete. FB page is up and running

4. Matters Arising

After discussion with the SLC there was an advert placed to invite individuals to stand for election to fill the 2 current vacancies on the Community Council.

The advert closed on the 25th April 2025

The only interested person was Joanne Townsley and her relevant documents were presented and approved by the SLC.

Joanne Townsley has now been formally accepted on to the Community council.

A new advert will be placed to fill the last vacancy

Action Cllr Lennox (Secretary)

Rigside Nursery.

After the devastating fire which destroyed the Nursery. The Education Authority has approved the use of one of the School classrooms and the Rigside Hall Annex as a temporary solution. The Care Commission will carry out an investigation into the suitability of use regarding these proposals.

There will be various groups impacted by this decision.

The Community Council and the Tenants and Residents Association meetings will either be held in the smaller committee room or the Main Hall.

No further information is available at this time as to when a Rebuild will take place.

It was confirmed that the fire was started by an electrical fault

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5. Police Report

Unfortunately nobody from the Police was available to attend the meeting.

6. Secretary's Report

Since 13 March meeting the following has been noted

On the 3rd April an e mail was received from Ian Mullholland of SLC Asset Transfer advising that the land on the corner of Mountstuart Street and the A70 has no SLC future development plans and it would therefore be considered for Asset Transfer to the Community Council – See AOB below

Formation of SCIO

By the 10 April. All proposed SCIO Trustees identified thus far have signed the required Declarations.

On the 18 April a Draft Constitution for the Scio has been received

Clydesdale 3rd Sector Locality Network Event

To be held on 6th June at Biggar Rugby Football Club 0945-1200.

The Secretary will attend

Notice Boards

The secretary has identified a company who can provide the required size and functionality of notice board required. 1050mm High x 1400mm wide. Twin door for external use with magnetic back. These will cost £616.50 each inc VAT and Delivery Proposal is to procure 4 of these once funding has been identified. .

7. Treasurer's Report

Happy to report that the Banking accounts are now fully operational.

The Main account now has the £515 SLC Grant funds

The Reserve account has the £10,000 Micro grant funding

8. Updates.

Local Electricity Discount Scheme (LEDS)

The Chair advised that he had received communication from Alda Forbes of Bay-wa (the original owners of the Broken Cross wind farm) that the new company ERG/RES have been in contact with the latest information regarding the registration and payments of the LEDS

The advice provided was that there was originally a 30% of uptake of the offer.

Letters have been sent out to all of those houses not registered and now the uptake had risen to just over 50%

Those who have not registered for this year will be given an opportunity to register for the following year.

It was mooted that this year's payment could be in excess of £500 however next year's payment may be lower if more houses join the scheme. The 2nd Tranche is expected to start in Dec this year. .

Payments are made to the House address NOT to individuals.

Battery Electricity Storage System (BESS)

The Community Council have been advised that there is a proposal for a new BESS to be built at High Netherfauld Farm just north of the village on the East side of the M74.

The Chair advised that there was a possibility that the local Community Councils involved could be given a share of a Mini Bus and £30K / year to assist running the vehicle by the Developers.

Coalburn, Douglas, Lesmahagow, Rigside (CDLR)

The chair advised the latest position regarding the formation of the group set up to manage the funds from Scottish Power / Windfarms.

There are 3 representatives from each of the 4 villages on the CDLR committee. The financial respects of the group will be managed by Point North who are well respected in the field. The CDLR group are in the process of obtaining SCIO status and have enrolled the services of a Solicitor

It is expected to manage approx. £968K/yr for the life of the windfarms of which 10% will be invested into an Endowment plan for future use.

There will be a major launch by Scottish Power on 11th June at Hollandbush Golf Course between 7pm and 9 pm All are welcome to attend. Flyers will be posted around the villages. Point North and Trustees will be in attendance.

The CDLR SCIO has been approved

9. Any Other Business

Communications

The Rigside and Douglas Water Face Book page is now up and running and we have our own e mail address:- RigsideDouglasWater@gmail.com.

Newsletter

Lynn Murphy has agreed to produce a quarterly Newsletter for the village. Funding for this has been made available via the Renewable Energy Fund.

It will be a requirement for all of those who have recently received or will receive a Micro Grant from either the Tenants and Residents Association or Community Council to provide information (+photos if available) that can be used in the new letter.

Previous recipients of Micro grants are to be contacted for input

Joanne Townsley has agreed to contact the School/ PTA/ Nursery

Action Cllr Townsley

Trauma Box

The Trauma box sited next to the Defib was found to be open and the medical bag was removed by Kirsty Thomson. We do not know how/who opened the box. The box has been inspected and there is no sign of forced entry and the lock is still functional. Until the medical kit is thoroughly inspected it is not known if it has to be replaced. If it does then it will be funded through the Tenants and Residents Funds

Community Hub/ Mens Shed / Community Centre

A proposal is being actioned to develop the land on the corner of Mount Stuart Street and the A70. It is proposed to start by forming a SCIO and obtaining the land via Community Asset Transfer. This will enable the cabin donated by Patterson's to be sited on the land together with another 2 Temporary buildings to form the basis of the Community Hub and Mens Shed. Longer term it is hoped to build a Community centre c/w parking / gardens etc.

Mr Bobby Brown and Architect James Baird presented a Draft set of plans to the Community Council to enable informed discussions to commence . They gave a brief overview of what the plans included and the various sizes/ /layout etc The councillors thanked them for the information and they left before the start of the Council meeting

The plans will be scrutinised and comments provided to enable other considerations /development to be incorporated .

Youth Council

To assist the Community Council David Taylor of Universal Connections has agreed to discuss with the younger generation the possibility of forming a Youth Council. It is envisaged that we would need at least 8 members across an age group of between 12 to 25 years comprising both Male and Female members.

To give David a better understanding of what the Community Council and the proposed SCIO have in mind it was agreed that he should be sent a copy of the Constitution for each of the Groups.

Action Cllr Lennox

It is intended to hold further discussions, with interested parties, outside of Council meetings to progress this initiative. .

MicroGarant

An application from Douglas water Angling club for an award of £500 was discussed. The monies to be used to support the clubs 100th Anniversary event at the Lake of Monteith.

The application was approved by majority of 6 to 1. The required acceptance documentation will be forwarded to the club secretary and payment made by BACS to their account.

10. Date of Next Meeting;

Thursday 7th Aug at 1830 hrs in Rigside Community Hall , Rigside

11. Close of Meeting;

The chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Please Note : Any items members wish to have placed on the agenda must be with the Secretary at least 2 weeks in advance of the meeting.