

## **Community Council & Kirkcowan Trust**

Camy McGregor  
42, Main Street

18<sup>th</sup> October 2019

### **Development Trust**

Can community members see copies of the Minutes of meetings for the KCDT?

If not – why not?

Who is the chairman?

When was the decision to employ a Development Officer made?

What redress do wider members of the community have if the KCDT Board are in breach of the Articles of Association?

There are a number of ‘projects’ that have been undertaken by the KCDT which caused some disquiet in the local community the most visible to date being -

### **Dickie Wood. - Tree Felling & Disposal, Laying of paths, Dyking work**

What was the total cost of this project?

What the cost breakdown of the individual works?

- Presumably there was an inspection of the trees and a report prior to felling the 3 mature trees – may we see the report?
- Cost - Felling & Disposal (2 Beech 1 Scots Pine)
- Cost - Paths.
- Cost - Rebuilding of Drystane Dyke

Who owns the land surrounding the church where the mature trees were felled?

Was there an offer of matched funding or any financial contribution by the land owners towards the costs of this project & works?

## Suggestions

### Future Projects – Development Officer

It has been said that the suggested projects and allocation of the 'Community' fund to date seem to suffer from a certain lack of imagination.

Given that other communities are in the same boat surely it should be possible to request or pool suggested projects to find out which ones

- a) worked
- b) proved popular
- c) didn't work or failed for some reason - so that we can learn from others and direct the funding more efficiently.

e.g. New Luce has a Taxi Card and 'winter fuel' financial support for those that qualify in the village.

Hopefully the new Development Officer will have relevant experience and be able to tap into external resources?

### Community Council Elections

The recent Community Council Elections have highlighted the very restricted franchise available to voters i.e. you have to be in the village between the hours of 16:00 & 20:00 on a specific date.

I would like to request that the CC and the local council members lobby for a change to the voting system to at least allow for a Proxy Vote so that members of the community are able to delegate somebody to vote on their behalf should they be indisposed or working away on the day of the election.

Also – there was very little in the way of communication available for individuals putting themselves up for election to explain who they were, what they stood for and so forth. I would therefore suggest that the KCDT set aside a small amount of money that would go toward printing / publishing an information sheet to include:

- all the prospective candidates;
- with a brief outline (a set amount of words and perhaps a photo?);
- the date and location of the election;
- to be delivered / made available 3 or 4 days prior to the election.