

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2014

Members present J Allan, M Burdon, E Cairns, M Harrison (Chair), D Scott, H Wright
Apologies A Donaldson, J Duncan, D Morley, PC D McNally, E Robertson
In attendance Cllr G Lambie, 22 members of the public,
C Bauwens (Minute Secretary)

CC048 – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19 FEBRUARY 2014

Subject to the following amendments, the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

CC042 alter first sentence to read, "It was agreed that the KCC account with the Bank of Scotland be closed and that the bank account be moved to the Royal Bank of Scotland, Drymen Branch."

CC046 alter point four to read £255,000 instead of £225,000.

CC049 – MATTERS ARISING

- **CC037 – Doorstep Crime**

Margery reported that she had spoken to the Thursday Club, alerting members to the increase in Doorstep Crime. Literature was distributed and is also available from the Village Hall.

- **CC046 – AOCB - Firework Display**

Following concern about the recent firework display at an event in the Village Hall, the matter was raised with KCFC. A letter of apology was received from the Chair of the Village Hall Operating Committee. It would appear that the organisers of the event disregarded the terms of agreement. This situation will be rectified and in future, notice of firework displays will be given to residents.

- **CC040 – Question Time - Brown Bins**

SC informed KCC that brown bins will be uplifted from 20 March for all residents.

CC050 – POLICE MATTERS

As PC David McNally was unable to attend the meeting, his report was given by Margery.

It had been a relatively settled and quiet month with the exception of two incidents. In the early hours of 2 March, the bus stop in Main Street near the Co-op was vandalised. A local resident notified the police and two males were traced and charged.

Between the early hours of 2 March and the morning of 3 March, a number of interior tiles were stolen from an agricultural shed at Killearn Home Farm. Anyone with any information regarding this matter should contact Balfron Police Office.

In addition to the above, the closure of B834 from 14 - 17 April for resurfacing was announced. The issue of safety at the bridge near Blane Smithy was raised with suggestions that cutting back bushes and trees to improve visibility would be helpful. It was also voiced that traffic lights or reversing priority to favour downhill traffic approaching the bridge should also be investigated. It was agreed that Margaret write to Brian Roberts of the Road Safety Department, SC and that Cllr Lambie also raise the issue. *(Action MH)*

It was reported that fly tipping had occurred at Station Road. It was agreed that Heather contact SC Environmental Department and Margery alert PC McNally regarding this. *(Action HW and MB)*

The result of the nomination for PC McNally as a baton bearer for the Commonwealth Games is still awaited. The baton will pass through Killearn on Sunday 6 July.

CC051 – QUESTION TIME

Concern regarding contaminated water in the Rowan Crescent area was raised again. A new drain is due to be put in the school grounds during the Easter holidays. This will be of some help but does not address the sewage contamination problem. Cllr Lambie agreed to contact SC Head of Housing Department regarding the situation.

A number of residents spoke to the problem of dog fouling, in particular on the path to the school beside the new housing development. To help raise awareness, it was agreed to highlight the problem via the Killearn Courier and through correspondence from the school to parents. It was requested Cllr Lambie arrange for the Dog Warden to patrol the area again. *(Action HW)*

CC052 – YOUTH MATTERS

Ellie reported that pupils welcomed KCFC offer of study space in the Club Room of the Village Hall. This will be available Monday – Thursday from 4.00 - 6.00 pm for six weeks during the summer term at a cost of £1 per evening.

CC053 – TREASURER'S REPORT

The banking situation has improved with the KCC account now held with Royal Bank of Scotland in Drymen. Over the past month, cheques have been issued to the value of £109.80, leaving the current balance at £1113.29.

As the end of year for KCC annual accounts is 31 March, David Scott informed KCC that he would have a draft set of accounts produced for the meeting in April.

CC054 – PLANNING

- **Valid Planning Applications Received**

14/00086/FUL Proposed change of use of agricultural land to garden ground at land adjacent to West of Kincaple, Jenny Gunns Loan, Boquhan

14/00151/FUL Replacement of previous double garage, doughtaken in 2013 for relocated access at 5 Main Street, Killearn G63 9RJ

14/00154/FUL Erection of dwelling house on garden ground north east of 29 Main Street, Killearn

KCC decided to make no comment on these applications.

- **Decisions of Appointed Officers**

13/00603/PPP Erection of a dwelling house in garden ground of 25 Station Road, Killearn

Decision: Approve with conditions.

13/00721/FUL Proposed shop front alterations... [Co-op]

Decision: Approve with conditions

13/00756/FUL Extend front of outbuilding at side and new pitched roof at 15 Allan Road, Killearn G63 9QF

Decision: Approve with conditions

14/00047/FUL Front entrance porch at Drumtian House, Drumtian Road, Killearn G63 9QA

Decision: Approve

- **Planning Enforcement**

13/00081/UNADV Siting of estate agent signage, land adjacent to east of Beech Drive, Killearn

Case closed - signage removed

- **Stirling Local Development Plan**

The decision of the Reporter can be viewed at www.stirling.gov.uk/localdevplan. Margaret had prepared a summary of the decisions (Appendix to this minute). In discussion the following points were raised:

Unease was expressed regarding the process, whereby the Reporter, who was not democratically accountable, overturned the proposals put forward by SC. Concern was voiced that the views of SC planning team were so different from that of the Reporter. Confidence in the planning process was lessened and members of public felt that the considerable work undertaken by Killearn residents had been ignored and the democratic process sidelined.

Considerable concern was expressed regarding the impact of 30 new houses at Blairessan. It was felt that the proposed roundabout access from Station Road, additional footpath and possible pedestrian crossing together with necessary tree felling, would have a major impact on the village with views of the Glebe and Loch Lomond being totally changed. KCC would exercise the opportunity to comment on the detailed development brief for the site and at every stage of the planning process thereafter.

The Killearn Hospital site was an opportunity to create a high quality design mix of housing, business, leisure and tourism developments. Disappointment was expressed that the Reporter considered that without intervention by an outside agency, no development might take place in the foreseeable future. The site has lain derelict since the hospital closed in the late 1960s and the collapsing buildings are a health and safety hazard. The community wishes action to be taken to clean up this site as soon as possible.

It was noted that the Station Road site was to be removed from the LDP, and KCC welcomed the decision not to build 50 houses on this site.

According to advice from SC planners, the circumstances in which SC may depart from the Reporter's recommendations are very limited. However, Cllr Lambie intended to investigate the possibility of challenging the recommendations, as the Reporter did not agree to hearings for both Killearn and Fintry, despite a request from the full SC.

Following discussion, it was agreed that on behalf of KCC, Margaret would express considerable disquiet about the Blaressan development and access from Station Road, taking into account the views expressed at the meeting. When it comes to planning the detailed development brief for the site, KCC wish to be involved and would try to influence matters at that stage. KCC would also urge the development of the Hospital site as a matter of priority.

CC055 – REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED

Margaret outlined the following points from the meeting attended with KCFC on 20 February:

- Progress reports on KCFC projects
- Discussion on recent firework display
- Update of the Village Plan
- Need to publicise club facilities below the Village Hall

CC056 - CORRESPONDENCE

Margery spoke to the correspondence record, highlighting the following items:

- Changes to Post Office at Main Street, Killearn resulting in facilities being available during Spar opening hours.
- Notification from the Boundary Commission that work has started on the review of local government electoral arrangements.
- Dumgoyne Post Office will open at Oakwood on 7 April.

CC057 – ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- Jim informed the meeting that all councils have now received government guidelines on how to implement the High Hedges Scotland Act which is due to come into force on 1 April 2014.
- He also drew attention to speeding traffic on Station Road. Unlike other local villages, Killearn has no 40 mph signs leading into the 30 mph zone. It was suggested that the 30 mph limit be extended to Lampson Road at the edge of the village, with a 40 mph zone enforced until the roundabout.
- A request was received from a resident that a 30 mph sign be erected on Gartness Road on approach to the village.
- A81 will be closed at Blanefield on Sunday 23 March from 9.00 am - 5.00 pm.
- Work will continue on Main Street from March - August with traffic disruption.

- Heather spoke regarding pothole damage. As SC will only provide compensation for damage to vehicles if they have a record of a formal complaint prior to the incident, residents are urged to report potholes when seen. Please email complaints to stirlingcouncilcrm@stirling.gov.uk and state the following:

Location of pothole, giving name of road and nearest house address if appropriate

Approximate size of pothole – width, length and depth

Include a photograph of the pothole if possible

CC058 – DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on 16 April 2014 at 8.00 pm.

Please note change of venue to Killearn Village Hall (Committee Room).

The meeting ended at 9.55 pm.