

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 APRIL 2009

Present: I. Beaton; J. Duncan; C. Macintosh; I. Moreland; B. Pell(*Chair*); K Pollock; P. Rea; C. Riches; E. Smith; D. Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

In Attendance: Councillor A. Berrill; and 16 members of the public.

Apologies A.May; P Campbell; PC D. McNally.

The Chair thanked Jim Fallas for the gift of a gavel made by him for the use of KCC

CC284 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2009 were approved.

CC285 Matters Arising

Well Green The path will be resurfaced in May.

Benches The benches in the recreation ground had been re-sited and a new one installed close to the playpark. Thanks were due to Owen Gallagher for the installation work and the Playpark Group of KCFC who paid the cost. The bench at the top of Beech Drive has not yet been replaced; Peter Rea to enquire about the repair work.

Killearn Book The launch of the book was successful and the Council congratulate the team on an excellent production.

Road Works at Spar Christopher Riches reported that work was about to start on the realignment of the bus stop and pavement outside Spar, to be followed by work on the "bank corner". A number of questions were raised on the need for the changes at Spar. The Chair noted that there had been extensive consultation, that there were serious road safety concerns about the present layout, and that no scheme could satisfy all opinion. Concerns were expressed that Graham Road would be used to avoid the works and it was agreed to alert the police to this possibility. It was also agreed to write to the Roads Department suggesting that advance warning be given before Station Road so that through traffic from Balfron could avoid Main Street.

Fly Tipping Iain Beaton reported that there was considerable fly tipping on the Aberfoyle Road in Dumgoyne close to the old roads depot. It was agreed to report this to Stirling Council.

Beech Drive Traffic Calming. It was reported that the chicanes have not been entirely successful in reducing speed in the road, that the increase in the street furniture is unsightly and that two of the new arrow signs have already been vandalised.

CC286 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £58.75, Number 2 Account balance £1599.23.

The following grants had been received from the *Stirling Council Community Fund*: war memorial refurbishment - £1000; Colourful Killearn - £395; Thursday Club - £395. The grants to Colourful Killearn and the Thursday Club had been forwarded and letters of thanks received from those organisations.

It was agreed to purchase filing cabinets for the storage of KCC papers.

All members were asked to pass expenses claims to the Treasurer as soon as possible.

CC287 Question Time

Road Maintenance It was stated that pot holes in the Fintry Road had been filled but not properly levelled. A communication was received via the website to state that the pavement between Kirkhouse Road and Beech Drive was restricted by a fall of earth from a bank, making passage by pushchairs, etc. difficult. It was agreed to write to the Roads Department on both these matters.

CC288 Police Matters

PC McNally apologised for not being present, but sent a report. The most serious matter was a vandalised car, and a youth had been dealt with. There were two speeding tickets and two charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, neither were local residents.

CC289 Youth Matters

The youth members stated that they had had a meeting with Mrs MacCowan, Killearn Primary Headteacher, and had obtained a list of names of P6 and P7 pupils who would be interested in joining the youth forum. It was agreed that one member of the Council would attend, and that the Secretary would book a room in the school.

Aileen May had produced an excellent booklet, originally intended as a welcome to new KCC members and to explain the working of the Council. It was felt that this would be a useful handbook for all members and it was agreed to circulate the draft for comment. Councillor Berrill said that there was, at present, no Stirling Council formal handbook for Community Councillors, and that this might form a useful format for other community councils to use.

CC290 Planning

Planning Applications Received:

09/00191/FUL Erection of new dwelling house at Land 118 Metres North West of Stilwater The previous application for this site was objected to by the Council and recommended for refusal by Stirling Council, and subsequently withdrawn by the developer. This new application is not materially different to the previous application, except that it tries to take advantage of new rules on planning in the countryside, by claiming it forms part of a cluster. In the opinion of the Council it does not meet the criteria for the new rules. It was agreed unanimously to oppose the applications on the same grounds as the previous application.

09/00228/FUL Extension to cottage at Greenend Cottage, 36 Balfron Road The previous application for this site was objected to by the Council and subsequently withdrawn by the developer. This new application is smaller and more sympathetic to its site. However a number of Councillors had serious reservations as to the size in relation to the original structure to meet the rules for an extension, as a separate shed had been taken as part of the area of the house and a covered play area had not been included in calculating the area of the new build. There were also reservations on the large area of hard landscaping. The Council was split, 2 voted to oppose the development, 3 voted to approve the development and 7 voted to make no comment. It was thus agreed to make no comment, however it was agreed to ask Stirling Council to ensure that the rules on the size of an extension were strictly adhered to, and to question the large area of hard standing on a site in the Conservation Area on environmental grounds .

09/00196/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 4 Rowan Crescent

The Council did not wish to comment on this application.

Planning Applications Decisions by Stirling Council:

08/00118/UNAUTH Siting of storage container - Retrospective planning application approved 12 January 2009.

09/00029/UNAUTH Raising of ground level resulting in land slippage - No breach of planning control.

09/00095/FUL Extensions to dwelling house at Rhuellen Main Street - Decision: Approve with Conditions

09/00061/FUL Erection of front porch at 1 Maple Crescent - Decision: Approve with Conditions

09/00109/FUL Erection of extension to rear of dwelling house at 6 Lampson Lane - Decision: Approve with Conditions

09/00076/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 57 Main Street - Decision: Approve with Conditions

Planning Panel:

09/00045/FUL Formation of access to replace existing access at land between 5 and 7 Main Street The Chair stated that this would be decided at a full meeting of the planning panel and that she would put the unanimous views of the Council. She also stated that if the new access was approved, she would suggest consideration might be given to creating a one-way system using the existing access as entry and a single lane road as exit. It was noted that Planning Officers were recommending approval with conditions.

Consultation It was noted that the Planning Schedule usually stated that *no consultations sent or requested*, even when the Council had been consulted or had requested to be consulted. This gave a false impression of the interest of the Community Council to local residents and the local papers. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council on this matter.

CC291 Reports of Meetings Attended

A report of an NHS Forum meeting was given to the Council by Teresa Prescott as no members could attend. The meeting reported on NHS24 and stated that a hub call centre would be developed at Falkirk to serve this district. Initially calls would go to the main Scottish centre in South Queensferry and then transferred. It was stated that the first call for help should be one's GP, and if urgent then telephone 999. NHS24 should be contacted if the GP surgery was closed and one was unable to wait for it to reopen. A GP out-of-hours service was available, with a surgery, in Stirling Royal Infirmary. A doctor from Stirling would home call if deemed necessary by NHS24. Appointments had to be made by NHS24. There had been some criticism of the NHS24 service such as line busy or failure to call back, and these are being addressed. It also reported on a proposal to expand to the more general population a telephone helpline called *Breathing Spaces*, which was specifically for youth at risk of self harm,

The Chair reported on a consultation meeting on the single outcome agreement between the Scottish Government and local partners such as councils, the police etc. A draft copy of the *Delivery of Service* document would be ready by the end of May.

The Chair and Secretary reported on a meeting of the *Buchanan Society*. It was a meeting attended by MPs and MSPs and other interested parties on the future of the Buchanan Monument. The Society would like it to be in the care of *Historic Scotland* and a decision was taken to press the case with them. The Council would help in any way possible.

CC292 Report on the War Memorial

A sum of approximately £5500 needed to be raised to refurbish the monument. £1000 had already been raised from the *Community Pride Fund* of Stirling Council. The Killearn Trust and Killearn Kirk had given favourable responses to requests for money. It was hoped that the balance of the required sum could be acquired from the War Memorial Trust. The Archive Group of KCFC had prepared a package of information on the history of the memorial to give to prospective donors.

CC293 Correspondence

Correspondence received: Dates for applications to the *Community Pride Fund*; surgery dates of Anne McGuire, MP; NHS Forth Valley newsletter; consultation document – *General Practice, the Way Ahead*; details of *Fintry Energy Enterprises* show on 8th and 9th May.

CC294 Any Other Business

Village Spring Clean There had been a very positive response to this initiative. The Rainbows and 2nd Killearn Brownies had already completed their clean-up and Primary 6 would follow. The Cubs were also going to participate. All participants would receive a certificate from the Council to thank them for taking part.

Email from Pam Campbell Trading Standards Community Safety Group had issued a warning about bogus traders cold calling and asked the public to be on their guard. She also stated that Trading Standards had cinema equipment which they were prepared to loan to youth groups.

Football Club Changing Facilities Donald Beaton sought the help of the Council in obtaining a suitable site close to the pitch to place a portacabin changing facility for the Football Club. It was agreed to give support to the Club in this project.

Free Compost Compost made from the contents of the brown bins is now available at the Stirling Council Waste Collection Site in Balfron during their normal opening hours. The compost is free, but users must take their own bags to collect the compost.

CC295 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 20 May 2009.