

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 JUNE 2009

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

In Attendance: Councillor C. O'Brien; PC D. McNally; P Campbell and 10 members of the public.

Apologies A. May; C. Riches; P. Wilks.

CC308 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 May 2009 were approved.

CC309 *Matters Arising*

Football Club The Chair reported that she had written to three departments of Stirling Council [Corporate Services, Housing and Planning] asking that the section of land known as the "turnip field" and for many years regarded as part of the park, currently designated for Housing should be changed to Leisure and Recreation to protect this amenity for the use of the village and to allow the possibility of a mobile changing facility to be located there. The response to date had been negative but the feeling of KCC was that this should not be accepted as final and that the matter should continue to be pursued.

Well Green & PSVs The path had been resurfaced to general satisfaction. In response to enquiries the Fire Brigade confirmed that they would have no problem with access to houses in this area.

War Memorial Funding commitment had been secured from the War Memorials Trust, the Paul Trust and the Community Pride Fund for the planned refurbishment. It was agreed that Stirling Council should be asked to take over the management of the project on behalf of KCC.

CC310 *Question Time*

There were no questions.

CC311 *Police Matters*

PC McNally reported on various issues, particularly:

Dangerous parking by Group 4 van at the Bank corner had been taken up with the Bank and personally with van drivers

Vandalising of road construction vehicles, rose bushes in Endrick Road and a newly planted tree at the school.

A person had been charged for throwing a missile through a window of a house in Buchanan Road.

Intensive police presence to deter speeding at Dumgoyne.

In conjunction with Pam Campbell he would be staging some activity events to engage children during the school holidays. Iain Beaton also reported that the youth members of KCC were hoping to set up club activities during the summer.

The Chair raised the issue of a resident attempting to report by phone comparatively minor events such as straying sheep and being subjected to lengthy questioning from the call centre. This was proving a deterrent. PC McNally undertook to raise this with his superior officers.

CC312 Youth Matters

The youth members reported on their first open meeting which had been convened on the previous day.

Issues raised included:

- State of repair of the roads
- Provision of more benches in the park
- Lighting at the multi-court for evening activities
- Provision of a café
- Location for a mountain bike track

The Chair suggested that an article should be written for the next edition of the Courier.

CC313 Roads and Traffic Management

Several issues raised:

Spar Car Park On 25 May Christopher Riches wrote on behalf of KCC to Stirling Council about the various issues raised at the last meeting concerning the traffic management work at the Spar. The Chair expressed disappointment that there had not yet been a reply to this letter. Councillor O'Brien undertook to expedite a response. Widespread concern continued to be expressed about the restricted entrance to the Spar Car Park and it had been suggested that the responsible officer from Roads Department be asked to observe the problems first hand and possibly be invited to the next meeting.

Road Signs near the junction of Station Road and Balfron Road had been twisted around; others covered in moss and illegible. These matters to be reported.

Kingdom Pathway It was reported that private shrubs were overgrowing the pathway near Chestnut Avenue. Councillor O'Brien advised that individuals should be encouraged to raise issues such as these directly with the Council Call Centre.

Pavements In response to a question from Heather Wright about the general state of pavements in the village Councillor O'Brien advised that there was a rolling programme to install new non-slip paving in every village. So far this work had been completed in Balfron and Drymen.

CC314 Treasurer's Report

Treasurer advised total net bank balance of £1571.23, noting that £1000 was allocated to refurbishment of the War Memorial.

CC315 Planning

Planning Decisions:

09/00064/UNADV Erection of sign board in garden ground. No breach of advertising or planning control

09/00287/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 3 Greenend Lane. Approve with conditions

Planning Applications Received:

09/00319/FUL Blairgar Change of Use of steading and extension to existing dwelling to create extended dwelling house: There was general support and no objections.

09/00400/FUL Erection of Dwelling House at Land to North of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road, Killearn: Concerns were expressed about the risk of flood damage since the location was near the junction of the Blane and the Endrick rivers. Further concern that the design was out of keeping with other dwellings in the vicinity also that rural cluster development was intended for building conversions rather than substantial new build. Members' votes split equally between support and disapproval and this would be reflected in the formal response.

Other Planning Matters

Local Development Plan – the Secretary reported that details of the review process had been received. Any individual can submit observations and the Council Planning Department will take all expressed views into account in revising the Plan. Submissions had to be made on the appropriate forms no later than 26 June 2009. Following discussion, it was agreed that KCC would submit the following comments:

Rezone the "turnip field" as Leisure and Recreation

Identify locations for:

the construction of affordable housing
recycling facilities

Note that in the wider area there is a request for:

residential extra care accommodation
mountain bike track

CC316 Reports of Meetings Attended

Rural Housing Needs – attended by the Chair – primarily directed at landowners and farmers who were encouraged to regard provision of land and premises as long term investments – opinion expressed that a degree of philanthropy would probably be required.

Housing and the Local Plan – attended by Christopher Riches – widespread concerns over the need for provision of affordable housing. It was noted that housing in the Killearn area was largely generated by the Glasgow conurbation and that Stirling Council were in consultation with East Dunbartonshire in this respect.

NHS Partnership – attended by Heather Wright – largely about the provision of dental services. – a contract for the provision of emergency dental services by local practices was imminent – general shortage of NHS dentists in the region

It was reported that with the opening of the major new hospital in Larbert, Stirling Royal would be refurbished, not rebuilt as previously reported.

Local Area Planning Forum – attended by the Secretary – focus on sustainability, energy saving schemes and climate change. A very ambitious programme to upgrade and extend Mugdock Country Park facilities was reported.

KCFC - Recognising parallel interests between both groups, the Chair keeps in close touch – reported willingness to set up a working group to encourage Youth activities; also interest being taken in support of the Football Club. Bonfire Night is planned for 7 November. A proposal has been made to hold a Gala Day on 12 June 2010.

CC317 Correspondence

Received: Invitation to Stirling City Visioning Exercise on 18 June – Chair will attend; invitation to East Stirling Area Forum on 22 June – Peter Rea will attend; administration grant from Stirling Council for next year advised as £373.35; consultation paper from Stirling Council on *Customer Behaviour Policy* – agreed no action need be taken; messages from Councillors O'Brien and Berrill in support of requesting planning re-designation of the "turnip field"; concern about children playing in the old graveyard - the Chair has contacted the headteacher of the Primary school to advise of the potential dangers involved.

CC318 Any Other Business

Comments by Councillor O'Brien:

Confirmed his support for provision of changing facilities for the Football Club

Commended the interest and conduct of Killearn P7 pupils on a recent educational visit to the Council offices.

Advised that there was a sophisticated system in place for rural housing associations to direct allocation to local residents

Noted that the Park and Ride to Stirling Royal Infirmary was now in operation

Reminded the meeting that with effect from next August, far more planning issues would be determined solely by Officers. Consultation meetings would be required for controversial local developments

Advised that certain planning issues with the development of the Old School site were still unresolved.

The Kingdom - The Secretary reported that the path was still being illegally used by horse riders - PC McNally undertook to investigate. Also that there was still no litter bin there – Chair undertook to pursue this.

Notice Board –The Chair reported that this was in need of repair and that Jim Fallas had offered to undertake the work for £117.70. It was agreed that this offer should be accepted following an application for funding to cover these costs.

Community Planning Forum – The Chair reported that the Local Area Planning Forum had been asked to draw up a priority list of issues to be covered. She circulated a list of topics to members asking that they select their own top three priorities, and advise her at their earliest convenience.

CC319 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in September on a date to be advised.