

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2009

Present: I. Beaton; J. Duncan; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; J. May; B. Pell; P. Rea; E. Smith; D. Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

Apologies: A. May; Kay Pollock.

In Attendance: Pam Campbell, Stirling Council; PC D. McNally; Councillor C O'Brien; and 11 members of the public.

Pam Campbell in the Chair

CC1 *Welcome and Announcement of Returned members*

This being the initial meeting of the newly constituted Killearn Community Council, Pam Campbell of Stirling Council opened the meeting. She read out the names of and welcomed returned members.

CC2 *Information Exchange*

Each returned member was asked to sign a data protection disclosure form. A set of documents relating to services available to Community Councils, the management structure of Stirling Council and helplines were passed to the Council. Pam stressed the importance of transport and asked that both the Council and individuals respond to the consultation exercise being undertaken by Stirling Council.

CC3 *Election of Office Bearers*

The following officers of the Community Council were elected:

Chairman: B. Pell, proposed by P. Wilks, seconded by J. Duncan.

Vice-Chairman: P. Wilks, proposed by B. Pell, seconded by E. Smith.

Treasurer: E. Smith, proposed by H. Wright, seconded by J. Duncan

Secretary: H. Wright, proposed by P. Rea, seconded by N. Kelly.

Planning Correspondent: P. Rea, proposed by E. Smith, seconded by B. Pell.

CC4 *Adoption of the Constitution*

The Constitution of the Council was adopted.

Pam Campbell wished the Council well and invited Brenda Pell to take the Chair. Brenda congratulated all returned members on their success and welcomed Jenni May and Nigel Kelly.

CC5 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 October 2009 were adopted.

CC6 *Matters Arising*

Roads & Traffic Management Nigel Kelly agreed to take this brief. Correspondence from Alistair Dawson of Stirling Council, answered some of the questions posed by Christopher Riches on behalf of the Council. Double yellow lines at the entrance to Spar car park would have to be undertaken by Spar and could not be enforced. He had requested relocation of the litter bin and would follow this up. Signage at the bank corner was not yet complete. He did not consider drainage a problem but would look at photographic evidence. Power supplies were in place for vehicle-operated signs at the entrance to the village from Balfron. The designation of a partial one-way system at The Square required further consultation. Future works needed to be reprioritised, but he conceded Main Street was a priority. He still believed there should be a physical feature at Beech Drive and in the Balfron Road. In view of the outstanding problems it was agreed to invite Alistair Dawson to a future meeting of the Council.

War Memorial A meeting to discuss the matter raised by Jim Fallas had been arranged between representatives of Stirling Council and the Community Council and Mr. Fallas but this had had to be postponed because of illness.

CC7 *Question Time.*

The Chair asked members of the public if the rearranged layout improved audibility. It was agreed that it was an improvement and would be used for future meetings.

A member of the public asked if the road sign on Balfron Road approaching the bank corner could be repaired. It was agreed to report this to Stirling Council.

It was stated that the remains of old fencing on the right of way to Crosshead Road was a potential hazard. It was agreed to report this to Stirling Council.

It was stated that of section of pavement in Station Road beside the Glebe was almost permanently under water and mud to an extent that pedestrians avoiding this are forced on to the roadway. Councillor O'Brien was not sure if this pathway was adopted, but undertook to find out. He reported that Stirling Council was rolling out a program of upgrading the surface of pavements in rural areas, and this had been completed in some villages. He agreed to find out where Killlearn was on the list.

CC8 *Police Matters*

PC McNally said after a quiet last month, this month had been busy.

There was an incident concerning assault and car damage outside the Black Bull involving white males and Polish workers. Charges are pending.

There had been two housebreakings during the day (New Endrick and Branziert Roads). PC McNally gave a general warning that such crime was most likely in empty houses late afternoon and asked neighbours to be vigilant. He also issued a strong warning not to leave cars with keys in when unattended, for example defrosting windscreens and dropping children off at school.

There had been one incident of car vandalism. There were also three persons charged for speeding in Station Road and one charged with using a mobile phone while driving.

There had been a slow start to the Youth Club on Friday due to teething troubles, but it was hoped that better publicity would increase recognition. There was sufficient funding to run the club until March and a further grant of £9000 from the *Cash Back for Communities* fund was being sought. Active Stirling was involved with the provision of various sporting facilities.

In answer to a question, PC McNally said that he was pursuing inappropriate parking outside the Primary School, and would be tough on offenders.

CC9 *Youth Matters*

Iain Beaton said that he was in touch with Unit 23 Skate Park Project. He hoped that a local landowner could provide an area where biking could take place safely.

CC10 *Treasurer's Report*

Number 1 Account balance - £58.75, Number 2 Account balance £1605.56.

Income on the Number 2 account was £35 reimbursement of Data Protection fee from Stirling Council. Expenditure was £45.80 for a member's expenses.

The Treasurer stated that she was unable to ask for a grant for the Christmas tree as the next application date was after Christmas. The Kirk Session would be donating £75 for the purchase of the tree this year. Councillor O'Brien stated that a grant could have been sought from the Community Grant Scheme at any time.

CC11 Planning

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

09/00634/FUL Proposed ground floor glazed extension to rear with timber deck access to garden and conversion of double garage to study storage area with proposed access link to rear of house at 15 Lampson Road. Decision: Approve.

Valid Planning Applications Received:

09/00715/FUL Covered walkway to restaurant door and to perimeter of outdoor seating area at Beech Tree Inn.

09/00692/FUL Formation of decking at 15 Harpers Road, Killearn.

Planning Panel Decision

07/01050/DET Erection of nine wind turbine generators, anemometer mast, formation of access tracks, borrow pits and electrical substation building at Land At Ballindalloch Muir South Of Buchlyvie And North East Of Balfron Buchlyvie.

Decision: Refuse (unanimous decision)

This Planning Panel was attended by the Chair and Planning Correspondent.

Notification of tree works

Tre 2009\166; Information Bulletin 104 Tree felling only at Main Street, G63 9LF.

Tre 2009\165; Information Bulletin 103(LD\TRE\2-05) Tree felling only at Rowan Crescent, G63 9RZ. The tree was a mature oak and permission had been given to reduce the tree by 50%. The owner was present at the meeting and was allowed by the Chair to present a case for felling and replacement. She said the tree was old, in a poor state and presented a potential risk to the school, telephone exchange, the lane and neighbouring houses. A report by an independent arboriculturalist stated that felling was the best option. Reduction by 50% would ruin the appearance of the tree and might not reduce the risk of falling limbs. It was a source of constant anxiety and she asked for the Council's support in her appeal to fell the tree. Advice was given by the Planning Correspondent on how to proceed, and it was agreed that KCC should write to the Council in support of the owner's request. It was noted that, if consent is given for felling, she has a young tree prepared for planting as a replacement.

CC12 Reports of Meetings Attended

NHS Forum Heather gave a report on the NHS Forum meeting she had attended on transport arrangements for the new hospital at Larbert. There would be a regular shuttle bus service from Larbert Station and the 38 bus from Stirling would be increased in frequency and rerouted into the hospital grounds with a stop at the front entrance. Car parking was still problematic as the main car park was shared by visitors and staff, except for a visitors only period during the afternoon. No decision had been taken on whether visiting would be closed (fixed times) or open. Open visiting would avoid congestion at peak times. There are few buses serving the western villages with disabled access, although Councillor O'Brien said that as buses reached the end of life, they would be replaced by accessible buses.

Heather stated that there was a visual display of the hospital on the NHS Forth Valley website, and she also had brought along plans for all to see.

The Chair reminded the public that, although these meetings were open and any members of the public could attend, Heather is the KCC representative on the NHS Forum and she would raise at the meetings any questions or concerns of the public, if these are given to her in advance.

Scottish Association of Community Councils Jenni May stated that she and her mother had attended the SACC AGM. She found the meeting interesting with a number of topics covered including planning and the protection of Rural Scotland. Her mother would report more fully at the next meeting.

CC13 Correspondence

Correspondence sent: Additional comments on Stirling Council Local Plan concerning proposal for 20 affordable houses on recreation area (*turnip field*).

Correspondence received: Bruce Crawford MSP on traffic management; BT Adopt a Phone consultation re Dumgoyne phone box; invitation to attend Planning Panel; invitation to attend BBC Trust meeting; cancellation of Rural SW Area Forum meeting; poster for Aberlour Children's Charity; Digital UK, *Digital TV Switchover Community Outreach Pack*; Environmental Health on Welsh E Coli enquiry findings; Anne Maguire re surgery.

Circulars received: Stirling Council Minutes; NHS Forth Valley *Community News*; *Stirling Focus*; *Connect* (Scottish Health Council newsletter).

CC14 Any Other Business

KCFC The Company had successfully reduced the size of its quorum at the EGM. The Council agreed that Brenda Pell should continue to serve as the Council's nominated director.

Local Councillor Councillor O'Brien stated that food waste collection will start in January. Parking charges are to be rationalised in Stirling City, most have been reduced a little. He stated that he was still pursuing facilities for Killearn Football Club.

When asked about bus services, he stated that First Bus received approximately £800,000 in subsidy from Stirling Council, and 85% of the fare from a concession journey. He said that taxi buses were a possibility and were being tried in Balquidder.

Appreciation The Chair thanked Pam Campbell for chairing the Inaugural meeting so competently and for all the work she puts in on behalf of Killearn and the other rural Community Councils; the effort she makes on behalf of the Council is invaluable. The Chair thanked the local councillors, Colin O'Brien, Alistair Berrill and Graham Lambie for assiduously attending meetings and liaising with Stirling Council. She stated that our Community Police Officer, David McNally, was doing an excellent job explaining in a very clear manner the work of the police, being a presence in the community and working sympathetically with the youth of the village, particularly the drive required to get the youth project started. This was much appreciated. She also thanked members for undertaking the responsibilities that were required by the Council.

Christmas Gifts It was agreed to provide Christmas gifts as in previous years.

CC15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place in Killearn Primary School at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 16 December 2009.