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Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 1 March 2004 at 7.30 p.m. in the Burgh Chambers.

Present: Mike Seal (Chairman), Sandy Mackay (Secretary), Tony Ford (Treasurer), Duncan Taylor, Peter McCusker, Craig French.

In attendance: Councillor Pat Greenhill, PC Graham Love, Caroline Crawford (Community Waste Planning Officer), Moira Stewart, Sue Faulkner, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary); the following prospective community councillors: Terence O'Byrne, John Alexander and Sandy Hall; the following residents from Ochiltree: Peter Withington, Kevin Short, Ron Stewart and Richard Ross; and the following residents from Braeport: Ian Watt and Paul Jones.

1. Apologies: Apologies had been received from Ken Geddes and Gordon Boyd.

2. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman welcomed members of the public to the meeting, especially Terence O'Byrne, John Alexander and Sandy Hall, who were prospective community councillors. However, he did point out that a lot of work had still to be done to fill all the vacancies. He thanked those who had put leaflets through doors to advertise the coming election and acknowledged the prominent position the election was receiving in the current Community View.

3. Minutes of last meeting

With the correction of a typing error on page 3, these were approved, proposed by Tony Ford and seconded by Duncan Taylor.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Waste Awareness Event This is booked for Saturday, 8 May in the Braeport. Caroline Crawford circulated details of what would be happening and would welcome any suggestions from the community council. She will liaise with the Secretary to distribute publicity, ie posters and fliers.

Winter gritting maps The Secretary has not received these.

Drumcastle Court It had been agreed that fencing should be erected, but nothing had happened yet. Moira Stewart complained that Fulcrum, who had been working there

recently, had left a terrible mess and the Secretary agreed to follow this up to ensure they returned to tidy up.

Abbotsford The Chairman had had an indication from Helen Munro that things were moving at Perth and Kinross Council, and a petition was being drafted.

Community Police Questionnaire In reply to the four points raised by the Community Council, the Chairman has received a list of proposed actions by the Community Policing Unit. The Secretary will copy these and distribute them with the next set of minutes.

Inspector Rennie and PC Love have recommended that letters from the police only should be sent out to parents of youths found misbehaving. They advised the Chairman that the Community Council should not send out letters.

5. Correspondence: See attached list.

The Secretary had received two letters from Scottish & Southern Energy about the proposed route of the new Beauly/Denny Transmission Line through Braco. It was agreed that the Secretary will reply, asking Scottish & Southern Energy to keep the Community Council informed and up to date with developments.

The Chairman had received notice from the Scottish Executive Enquirers Unit that the Park of Keir Public Enquiry, was due to start on 10 May 2004 in the Royal Hotel, Bridge of Allan. The planning sub-committee will work together on how the Community Council's case should be presented at the Public Enquiry and will bring this to the next Community Council meeting.

The Chairman had received a courtesy letter from Gilberts, the architects and designers of the Randolph Hill Nursing Home application, indicating their intention to appeal against the refusal of their application.

The Chairman also read out a letter he had sent to Tom Bayne Allan on 9 February 2004, in which he had invited him to attend a specially convened meeting of the Community Council. To date, he has not received a reply.

6. Treasurer's Report: See attached.

The Treasurer confirmed that the £200 grant from Stirling Council has been transferred from the Community Fund to the Christmas Lights Fund, and that £846 has been paid to the Order of Lyon Coat of Arms. Once the final electricity bill for the Christmas lights has been received, the balance of the Christmas Lights Fund will be transferred to the Development Trust. He reminded the Community Council that an audit of the books was due. Sue Faulkner pointed out that £250 of the Community Fund was ring-fenced for signage.

7. Planning Report: See attached.

With reference to the application to build two houses on ground to the north of the

Braeport Centre, the Chairman invited Ian Watt, a Braeport resident and former Community Councillor, to detail his objections.

In writing to the Council, Ian Watt had highlighted the following areas of objection:

- (a) As the road access would be on a bend, with no line of sight, there would be an increased danger to those, including families and children, who used the Braeport Centre.
- (b) This would be a back lot development.
- (c) There would be a loss of natural habitat - the trees there at present should be protected.
- (d) This would be a sensitive site as it is in line of sight from the Cathedral.
- (e) The local impact on neighbours and neighbouring houses.
- (f) The applicant had already built a house on Braeport with scant regard to using a design or materials sympathetic with surrounding houses.

Paul Jones also pointed out that the house in front of the proposed site is Grade 2 listed. On behalf of the Braeport Management Committee, Tony Ford claimed that the development would lead to increased parking within Braeport. As the wall adjoining the property is a listed wall, by building on that site there was a risk that it would deteriorate. In general the Braeport Management Committee felt that the proposed development was not a good idea was insensitive, and would lead to a problem with traffic.

It was agreed that the Community Council would object to this proposal based on the issues raised above. Ian Watt left photos and a copy of his letter to Stirling Council.

With reference to the rejection by the Planning Panel of the proposal to the development at Kilbryde Crescent, the Chairman commended Craig French for his work in co-ordinating the objections of neighbours.

The Treasurer reminded the Community Council that the annual survey for missing road signs will be due after the election. It was agreed that the Secretary will put this on the agenda for the May meeting of the Community Council.

8. Report of Meetings

At the Community Council Conference on 21 February 2004, Stirling Council had made it clear that they wanted Community Councils to take a bigger and more significant role in many areas. For this to work, Dunblane needs a full Community Council. It was also noted that Stirling Council is paying for some Community Councils to employ a part-time administrator/clerk and the Chairman will enquire if this help is available for Dunblane, although Pat Greenhill pointed out that this was a controversial issue.

The Chairman will attend the next Pupil Council meeting at the High School to encourage pupils to become junior members of the Community Council, and to bring up the subject of the youth disturbances at Newton Park.

At a meeting on 19 February 2004 at the Golf Club, attended by residents, police, councillors, and other members of the community, the problems at Newton Park had been

discussed. The Chairman felt this had been a good meeting, with a list of actions being agreed. The police will maintain a greater visibility, while there were four points for the Community Council to take forward:

- 1) Contact should be made to the firms supplying taxis and fast food to those at Newton Park. Although they cannot be stopped from engaging in legal commercial activity, it was hoped that they could be persuaded to co-operate.
- 2) Other local groups should be contacted to increase awareness of these problems. Community View is covering the issue and it will also be raised with the Dunblane Development Trust's Environment Group. Terence O'Byrne agreed to bring it to the attention of the High School Board.
- 3) Two special constables could be recruited for Dunblane, which would be of significant help to the local police. PC Love, while pointing out the training involved, agreed to get information and distribute it.
- 4) The design and use of the play equipment at Newton Park should be reviewed, as at present it affords cover.

The Community Council agreed to pursue these actions.

The Chairman will also raise with the Dunblane Development Trust the problem of clearing out the drainage ditch at Newton Park.

9. Police Report: See attached.

Following extra patrols at Newton Park, there had been only one incident of four youths found in the school grounds. PC Love was still in the process of contacting off-sales and fast-food outlets, asking them for their co-operation in restricting deliveries to Newton Park. As has already been agreed (above), letters from the Community Council will also be sent out. The residents of Ochiltree expressed their appreciation of the increased police action.

The Chairman brought it to the attention of the meeting that Inspector Rennie was recommending that PC Love should go round the community on a bike. As the cost of the necessary equipment was in the region of £700, the Chairman asked the Community Council to give support from the Community Fund. It was agreed, proposed by Tony Ford and seconded by Duncan Taylor, that £500 should be given, and that an appeal will be set up to raise the outstanding £200.

10. Councillor's Report

Councillor Greenhill reported on an application received by Stirling Council for a second taxi licence in Dunblane. The Community Council agreed that the licence should be granted for only a specific period of time, on a trial basis.

The cost of the repairs to the Memorial Bridge is still not known.

The Chairman asked Councillor Greenhill for help in getting the status of the wall at Ledcameroch checked and she agreed to do this. She will also follow up his request to see the revised section 75 on the Ledcameroch land. The Chairman also reminded her

that the Persimmon development at Ledcameroch was going to be used by the Planning Department as a case study and she agreed to check up on this.

11. AOCB

John Alexander pointed out that forms for the Dunblane Development Trust were not easily available and this will be rectified.

The Secretary had drawings for the new cemetery gates, which the Community Council examined without comment.

The Secretary will write to those responsible for the phone mast at Kippendavie as they had not replaced fence wire.

Sue Faulkner appealed for more helpers in distributing Community View.

Tony Ford questioned the status of the pond at Anchorscross but was reassured that it was to remain as part of the new development.

The meeting ended at 9.05 p.m.

PLANNING REPORT – 1st March 2004.

New Planning Applications received since last meeting

It is considered that the following applications have no implications for Dunblane as a whole and it is recommended that we leave it to the neighbour notification system to identify any local objections that there may be: extensions at Iona Perth Road, 2 Hillside, Mill of Keir Cottage and 64 Braemar Avenue: Garage at Rokeby House Doune Road; Conservatory at 35 Doune Road: Alterations at St Blane's House High Street.

We have an application for 2 new houses to be built on waste ground on the North side of the Braeport Centre. There are no significant implications for Dunblane as a whole from this, but there are significant local implications. In the absence of an elected Community Councillor for this Ward, I have asked a previous Community Councillor who lives nearby and Tony Ford, who is the Chairman of the Braeport Management Committee to look at this in detail and present their views at this meeting.

Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.

We attended the Planning Panel on 26th February and presented our case for rejecting the proposed 15 dwellings in two blocks in Kilbryde Crescent. I am pleased to report that the Planning Panel did agree that this application should be rejected.

Following the Planning Panel rejection of the application for a new nursing home on Perth Road, which we had supported with conditions, we have heard that the applicant is to lodge an appeal. Community Services is involved with Planning at Stirling Council to identify potentially acceptable alternative sites. We must keep up the pressure so that we do not end up with no nursing homes in Dunblane in a few years time.

No news yet on the proposal to build 9 new houses around Provan or the one to build a house in the garden of Woodend – we have objected to both.

Planning have rejected proposals for extending the Sheriffmuir Inn and building a Managers house – we objected.

The Park of Keir Public Inquiry starts on 10th May at the Royal Hotel Bridge of Allan. We are meeting with RAGE on 25th March to discuss how we best liaise with them and Bridge of Allan Community Council. I will call a Planning sub-committee meeting before then to discuss our tactics – 22nd March at Ivydene is proposed.

Other Planning Matters

Nothing further to report at this time on the consultations on the proposed traffic calming measures in Old Doune Road and the design options around the junctions with Braemar Avenue and with Wallace Road.

Parking on the dual carriageway is now established and being used. I recommend that we now ask for the stretch between Beech Road and Fourways to be similarly marked-out. I have opened up the subject of how we are going to extend parking restrictions around the Station and Town Centre areas to force all-day parkers to use the dual carriageway in the February edition of Community View. I recommend that we set-up a small consultation group to plan and co-ordinate widespread consultation before we consider our recommendations for this. The options time-limits and parking charges need to be assessed and the needs of Town Centre residents and business employees need to be accommodated. In parallel with this, the Planning & Strategy Group of the Dunblane Development Trust are proceeding with identifying the best plan for extending the Mill Row car park.

No news yet on the outcome of the Stirling Council Local Plan Inquiry held before Christmas.

No further news yet about plans for a bigger Health Centre.