



# Dunblane Community Council

Sue Faulkner  
Secretary  
37 Buchan Drive  
Dunblane  
FK15 9HW

Tel: 01786 825149

Terence O'Byrne  
Chairman  
3 Argyle Grove  
Dunblane  
FK15 9DT

Tel:01786 823604

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 1 June, 2009, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.**

**Present:** Terence O'Byrne (Chairman), Sue Faulkner (Secretary), Lawrie Dewar (Treasurer), Frederic Gilmour (Vice-Chairman), Kevin Curtin, Alan Booth, Charles McHugh, Kate Fawcett, Craig French, John Alexander.

**In attendance:** Councillor Callum Campbell, Councillor Graham Houston, Moira Stewart, Angela Edgar, Joyce Thomson, Clare Clark, Trudy Whyte, Ingrid Deuling, Denis Frize, Lesley Malkin (Stirling Council, Corporate Asset Management), Lynne McIlroy (*Allanwater News*), Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies have been received from Sylvia Cairns, PC Simon Fraser, Domenico Angiolini and Councillors Finlay and Goss.

### **2. Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman commented on the failure of the Kippendavie Group Trust to acquire SSCI (Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative) recognition. When the submissions of all the applicants to the scheme are published by the Scottish Government, which is expected within the next few weeks, then more information about the application of the KGT will be available. He emphasised that the community council had not been consulted, although community support was mentioned in the application, and it is essential that any future bid by the consortium does not suggest that it has community backing. In appealing to the Dunblane Development Trust to be more open and transparent in their dealings with developers such as the KGT, he commented that the involvement of the DDT has led the

public to become sensitised to future developments, including the gap site in the High Street. Although she felt that people were in favour of the latter project, Kate Fawcett did not think they were aware of KGT involvement in it, and repeated her concern over the DDT and property developers working together.

Trudy Whyte, an ex-director of the Development Trust who resigned from its Board over this issue, stated that very few on the Board had been aware of the situation and those that did were bound by clauses of confidentiality from disclosing information. While stressing that most on the Development Trust worked hard for the good of the community, some went beyond their remit in an unacceptable way and did not represent Dunblane. She asked the community council to talk to the DDT about its remit. Craig French thanked her for her contribution to the discussion. It was agreed that an extraordinary meeting of community councillors be held on 9 June at 7.30 p.m. in the Burgh Chambers for a closed discussion on liaising between the community council and the Development Trust, with special emphasis on disclosure and confidentiality. It was further agreed to suspend the normal period of notice for the meeting. This was proposed by the Craig French and seconded by the Chairman.

The Treasurer, who represents the community council at DDT meetings, reported that at the last meeting of the DDT, in response to the community council's request for a public meeting, it had been decided to wait until after the result of the SSCI application. He felt that some on the Development Trust's Board had, in their desire to achieve things, been carried away by their enthusiasm.

In response to a query from Angela Edgar over whether the DDT had broken the charity regulations, Craig French replied that any member of the public can report any charity to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) if they feel that rules have been broken. Alan Booth also noted that the DDT is responsible to its membership and it will be up to its members at the next AGM to question its actions. He was concerned that a future bid by the consortium might leave little time for consultation and discussion and it was, therefore, important to have a public debate on the SSCI application as soon as details are known.

The Chairman called for the DDT to issue an explanation to the residents of Dunblane on what it did with regard to the SSCI application support, why it did it and what it intends to do in the future to be more open and transparent.

After the meeting on 9 June a letter will be drafted and circulated to community councillors for comment; the letter will let the DDT know the community council's position. The Chairman stressed that the community council wants to work in partnership with the DDT.  
**Action:** The Chairman.

It was agreed that the Secretary will write to Stirling Council requesting that the windows in the Burgh Chambers be repaired so that they can be opened. **Action:** The Secretary.

### 3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 11 May 2009

These were approved, proposed by Charles McHugh and seconded by John Alexander.

### 4. Matters arising

Football pitches at High School The Chairman invited Lesley Malkin from Stirling Council to address the meeting on the situation regarding the all-weather pitch which is locked after school hours and not available for use. She reported that the pitches are still owned by the Council but the management and maintenance of all the pitches is through the school's PPP contract. The school has exclusive use of them from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday, in term time. In addition the Council has purchased an annual allocation of 300 hours at week-ends, plus 20 days of non-term time use. However, because of difficulties in booking them, the pitches were used for only about 20% of this allocation. The Council and Active Stirling have reached an agreement whereby the latter will be taking over the booking and, hopefully, encouraging a more frequent use. At present, FES Ltd is liable for the maintenance of the astro-turf pitch and they lock it to prevent vandalism. However, she is willing to request that they consider leaving it unlocked for a trial period so that it can be used by children outside school hours.

Alan Booth reiterated the history of the all-weather pitch which Dunblane had acquired as community gain from a housing developer. Originally it was to have been built at the development but it was agreed to move it to the High School so that it would be available to all. The results of the Community Plan survey, which he will send to Lesley Malkin, indicate that children want to use it more.

The Chairman thanked Lesley Malkin for attending the meeting and stressed that the pitches at present are too expensive to hire, but that he hoped Active Stirling will do more to make them more easily available.

Access road to pitches at the High School Councillor Goss has reported to the Chairman that he is to discuss this problem with David Cameron, Director of Children's Services.

Revision of ward system The Chairman has written to Stirling Council with the community council's proposals.

Muck-up Day This passed without incident this year. The Chairman has written to David Cameron, Children's Services, about the behaviour of school pupils in the community.

Cycle-lane on B8033 Although the signage is confusing, Charles McHugh has received confirmation that there is a continuous cycle-lane. However, it was agreed that the present situation could be dangerous as the safety-zone markings are absent for a stretch. It was agreed that Charles McHugh will write to Darren Ryan, Transport Team – Stirling Council, to enquire about the regulations covering cycle lanes. **Action:** Charles McHugh.

Laighills John Alexander brought the attention of the meeting to the efforts of lady dog-walkers who pick up litter in the Laighills and deserve recognition for their work.

Christmas lights in the High Street The Treasurer reported that at the last Development Trust meeting, he had informed them of the community councillors' willingness to help, but there is still a delay in acquiring a cherry-picker. He will repeat the offer of assistance at the next DDT meeting.

Insurance for *The Fling* After consulting Helen Geddes, the Chairman had turned down *The Fling* committee's request that the community council cover the event with its insurance, but they had managed to arrange insurance on their own.

**5. Police Report:** See attached.

With reference to anti-social behaviour in the Laighills by young people, Clare Clark felt that not enough information about this was publicised and made known to parents, who should, according to the Chairman, be more responsible for the actions of their children. Denis Frize reported that police action was usually too late and sporadic to have any real effect. It was noted that the bollard preventing cars from accessing the Laighills was missing and vehicles were causing damage to the grass. It was agreed that the Secretary and the Chairman will contact Inspector Sharkey to discuss the need for more community policing. **Action:** The Secretary. While Alan Booth commented on the lack of funding by Stirling Council for outreach workers in the town, Councillor Houston felt that new initiatives involving the school, the Dunblane Centre and youth workers backed by the churches, were having an effect.

**6. Correspondence:** See attached.

With reference to the Council's proposals to extend the 20 mph zones around the High School and the Primary School in order to promote "Safe Routes to Schools", it was agreed that including Montgomery Crescent and Highfields in this was unnecessary. It was also agreed that the Council should look at installing part-time 20 mph lights in Wallace Road, especially where children cross over the road to the steps, and at the top of the Old Doune Road. A letter from Mr Forbes of Doune Road has been received, supporting the 20 mph zoning on Doune Road.

Charles McHugh reported on a letter received from the Council by residents in Smithy Loan in which a 20 mph one-way system from the High Street along Smithy Loan was proposed.

John Alexander reported that children were at risk crossing George Street as cars were parked on both sides of the street. He will let the Chairman or the Secretary know whom to contact at the Council about this issue.

Clare Clark reported that, since the pavement from Kinbuck has been cleared, it is well used by pedestrians and runners, but commented on the speed of traffic on this road.

**7. Treasurer's Report:** See attached.

### **8. Development Trust Report**

The Treasurer reported that two Directors have resigned from the Board and a new one has been appointed.

### **9. (i) Planning Report**

With reference to the fact that two letters of objection from the community council were not included by the Council's planning panel, the Chairman has received an apology. The Chairman and Councillor Houston are to meet to discuss the planning panel. **Action:** The Chairman and Councillor Houston.

### **9. (ii) Local Development Plan**

The Chairman introduced the Local Development Plan (LDP) process which will not be completed until 2012. However, initially the community council has until 26 June to submit comments for the Main Issues Report. It was noted that developers will also be putting in details of their plans for land in and around Dunblane. The Chairman channelled the discussion under the following headings:

- (a) Is Dunblane coping with its current population size?
- (b) What happens if we significantly expand housing (500+ houses)?
- (c) Ideas for Dunblane that do not involve significant housing development.
- (d) Limited housing development requirements.
- (e) Issues arising from the recent Community Survey which support this document.
- (f) What happens next?

There was a detailed discussion under these headings and community councillors raised many points including: the need to link this to the Community Plan and involving the Holmehill Group; the impact on Dunblane of any development at Park of Keir and the traffic disruption of its construction; if large housing developments went ahead increased bus and rail services for commuters would be more viable and there would be funding for a new primary school and improvements in services.

It was, however, felt that there was community support only for small-scale affordable housing, while Sue Faulkner proposed that Dunblane should be kept within its natural geographic "bowl" and satellite developments should not be allowed.

Alan Booth took issue with the following: housing developers dictate where new developments are built ie where they can make the most profit, and community gain is dependent on the number of houses built, regardless of the value of each house. Councillor Houston agreed with him and reported that the issue of community gain is being looked at. It was also felt that not enough bungalows for older people were being built.

It was noted that this is only the start of the consultation process.

## 10. Community Plan Update

Alan Booth reported that the first consultation exercise undertaken during *The Fling*, with people voting on what they considered to be the most important issues, had been very successful. There will be public consultations also at the Dunblane Centre and at Braeport, the latter being more of a discussion event, before the end of June. Results have also been received from pupils at the High School. It was suggested that further consultation could take place outside Marshall MacCallum, Tesco or Marks and Spencer. After the final projects are agreed, the new Community Plan will be given to the Development Trust for them to implement.

## 11. Report of meetings

Alan Booth reported that a meeting had been held at the Laighills to discuss problems there with Council and other interested officials. Unfortunately, due to a misunderstanding, John Alexander was not present.

## 12. Councillors' Reports

Councillor Houston reported that two traffic penalties had been imposed on motorists using Ramoyle as a through road. He reported that the road from the Keir roundabout to Clarendon Place will be closed from 21 to 28 June for resurfacing on both carriageways. He will contact the Chairman with details of traffic restrictions. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Councillor Houston also reported that, under new proposals by the Scottish Government, the Parliamentary constituency boundaries will be redrawn with Dunblane being included with Bridge of Allan and Clackmannanshire rather than with Stirling as at present. Stirling Council are opposed to this change and Craig French encouraged people to object via the boundary commission's website. The Chairman also wanted an article to appear in the *Allanwater News*, and Craig French will contact them. **Action:** Craig French. All the community council was united in opposing this proposal.

## 13. AOCB

John Alexander reported that the pavement on Wallace Road is in need of repair and also reported on regulations covering an up-coming wrestling match in the Victoria Hall.

On the report that the noticeboard in the High Street has been defaced again, the Secretary agreed to follow this up. **Action:** The Secretary.

Charles McHugh reported that the surface at the junction of Smithy Loan is in need of repair and is dangerous to pedestrians. Councillor Houston agreed to follow this up. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Councillor Campbell, in response to a query from Moira Stewart about the availability of housing in Dunblane for the homeless, agreed to report back to either the Secretary or the Chairman. **Action:** Councillor Campbell.

The meeting ended at 9.55 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

Terence O'Byrne ..... Date  
.....  
Chairman

Sue Faulkner ..... Date  
.....  
Secretary

## Correspondence List – 12 May to 1 June 2009

- 1) On 14 May (possibly) from Stirling Council (SC) re: proposed 20mph zone on part of Old Doune Road and other roads in the distant vicinity of the High School – with map.
- 2) On 14 May from NHS Forth Valley re open meeting on 27 May to discuss dental services and elect office-bearers.
- 3) On 17 May from SC notice of SC Meeting on 21 May at 1830 hrs. with agenda.
- 4) On 22 May from the *Association of Scottish Community Councils* seeking Area Representative/s and attaching nomination forms.
- 5) On 27 May from East Stirling Community Forum advertising public meeting at Larbert on 22 June, commencing 1900 hrs (until 2100 hrs).
- 6) On 27 May from *Enquire* (the Scottish Advice Service for Additional Support for Learning) publicising the organisation's agenda and seeking support from Community Councils.
- 7) On 27 May from SC, another proposal to impose 20mph speed limits on specified roads in the built up zone lying between Old Doune Road and (new?) Doune Road.
- 8) On 30 May from SC, notice of Planning Panel meeting on 4 June at 1000 hrs in the Council Chambers, Viewforth.
- 9) On 30 May from SC attaching copy of press notice to be published on 3 June advising the closure of the B8033 between Keir and Clarendon roundabouts on Sundays 21 and 28 June between 0700 hrs and 1900 hrs, to permit road resurfacing works – map attached.

## REPORT FOR DUNBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL – MAY 09

Over the month of May (to date) there have been a total of 20 reported crimes, of these 17 are currently undetected and enquiries are ongoing.

Of the undetected crimes 10 are vandalism and 5 are various reported thefts, of these 2 are houses that were broken into in the Perth Road area overnight last week . There are also an undetected assault and Breach of the Peace.

There are currently 3 detected crimes for this month with 2 thefts of garden ornaments detected and a detected assault.

RTA offences – there have been 3 detected traffic offences with a drink driver caught and 2 motorists caught using Ramoyle as a through road.

There have also been a total of 11 parking tickets issued, these have been issued by both police and traffic wardens and have been for a variety of offences including parking in a bus stop and parking on double yellow lines.

Muck Up day – after work between myself and the school, I am pleased to say that Muck up day passed without a single incident in the town. There were no calls to the police in relation to anti-social behaviour or any criminal acts and the senior pupils had a bbq and again no calls were received to ourselves.

There has been a continued proactive approach to anti-social behaviour, on Friday evening (22<sup>nd</sup> May) there was an operation in conjunction with British Transport Police, Community Wardens and ourselves with various patrols of the Dunblane area. As a result of this, a 13 year old male was taken home well under the influence of alcohol, over 13 litres of alcohol were disposed of, a quantity of drugs were found within the Laighills park after a patrol with the drugs dog and a number of letters will be sent home to parents.

PC 96 Simon Fraser

# Dunblane Community Council

## **Treasurers Report**

1<sup>st</sup> June 2009.

'Administration Account'	00347702
Expenditure since last report	£30.00
Interest	£0.13
Income	£nil

Account balance to date 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009. £410.82

'Community Fund'	00347753
------------------	----------

Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0.02

Account balance to date 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 £200.84

---

Lawrie Dewar, Treasurer, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009.

Lawrie Dewar  
Treasurer

## MONTHLY REPORT – May 2009.

### 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: Extension at 6 Clement Ave. Paint railings at the Hydro

An application to change 3 buildings at the Barbush office site into one larger building was considered by the planning committee. The decision was to neither support nor object

### **Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.**

The stable block conversion at Elmswood has been granted again, our letter of objection was omitted from the weekly planning schedule.

Permission has been granted for the renewal of permission at the golf course owned by Kippendavie Trust.

Outline permission has been granted for the 3 new houses near the cemetery.

The application to convert the garden building at the Grange to a 3 bed house has been recommended for approval despite 14 letters of objection from neighbours, the letter of objection from the community council has been omitted for the second time in two weeks. Councillor Houston has called in the application to the planning panel.

No decisions on the Leisure Club extension at the Hydro Hotel, 3 townhouses at the Stirling Arms, Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill, new house at Mid Cambushinne, 2 new houses at Park Cottage.

### ***Other Planning Matters***

Terence O'Byrne