



# Dunblane Community Council

Frederic Gilmour Secretary 74 Menteith View Dunblane FK15 0PD Tel:01786 825025	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, 2 February 2009, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.**

**Present:** Terence O'Byrne (Chairman), Frederic Gilmour (Secretary), Charles McHugh, Kate Fawcett, Alan Booth, Kevin Curtin, Craig French, Domenico Angiolini.

**In attendance:** Councillor David Goss, Councillor Graham Houston, PC Simon Fraser, Inspector Brian Sharkey, Jim McGregor (from Stirling Council, Roads Dept), Martin Little (*Allanwater News*), Angela Edgar, Steve Nevill, Claire Clerk, the following residents from Ramoyle: Lorraine Darwin, Wilma Sneddon, Brenda Reid and Madhu Satsangi; and Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies have been received from Lawrie Dewar (Treasurer), Sylvia Cairns and Sue Faulkner.

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

The Chairman welcomed everyone and expressed the hope that the community council will have another productive year. He suspended the order of the agenda and the police report was considered next.

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

PC Fraser reported that, following the introduction of the new parking regulations, 57 fixed penalty notices have been issued. Parking wardens are present in Dunblane at least once a week, supplemented by police patrols.

Ramoyle residents raised the issue of traffic speeding and parking inconsiderately in Ramoyle. Although traffic should be entering Ramoyle for access only, the volume of through traffic is increasing. Recalling that there had been a traffic survey undertaken by the Council a few years ago, Alan Booth pointed out that most traffic kept to the speed limit and traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, had been an unpopular solution with the residents. After a lot of consultation, cobbled strips had been laid, but it was recognised that these were not a deterrent. Councillor Goss sympathised with the residents and agreed to ask the Council to look at restricting the speed on Ramoyle. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

It was further agreed that the Council should be asked to revisit their previous survey, in consultation with Ramoyle residents, and that the "access only" restriction should be enforced. Councillor Houston agreed to look into this and keep the community council informed. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Inspector Brian Sharkey introduced himself to the meeting as having operational responsibility for the area which includes Dunblane. He gave an overview of the community policing programme (see November 2008 minutes) and stressed that PC Fraser now has more time to concentrate on issues within Dunblane. However, if need be, teams of police officers can be targeted on a problem area. A structure of Police and Communities Together groups (PACTs) will identify problems. For example, PC Fraser has been visiting all the licencees and the High School regularly, both of which are identified as a PACT group, problems are pinpointed and progress can then be assessed and reported. PC Fraser reported that the High School and Stirling Council are going to work together on the problem of litter and, after the last community council meeting, he was more aware of parking issues. The Chairman asked that, at the next community council meeting in March, councillors will come up with issues for PC Fraser to focus on. Priorities will be put on the community website, and progress reports.

The Chairman, using the traffic survey undertaken by the Council on the B8033, informed the police that more than 50% of traffic coming into Dunblane from the Keir roundabout was exceeding the 50 mph speed restriction and at the 30 mph limit 84% was breaking the limit. Inspector Sharkey agreed that this was an

enforcement issue but that the police will have to work with the Roads Department to look at the situation.

The Chairman introduced Jim McGregor from the Roads Department to the meeting. Following the meeting of the community council in October 2008, he had agreed to return with a plan of the junction layout at the new Marks and Spencer store, and the results of a new survey of traffic performing the U-turn in the dip. It is anticipated that, after the opening of the M&S store, approximately 133 cars will be performing the U-turn at peak hours and queues of traffic are not expected. The junction will be realigned and line-marking completed before the opening. Mr McGregor pointed out that over the last 27 years only one accident had taken place in the dip. Established traffic models had been used and the increase of traffic from Bridge of Allan coming to the M&S store had been assessed but there were no capacity issues on the road.

The Chairman felt that the dip needed better lighting and should be gritted. Jim McGregor indicated that the junction was supposed to be gritted at the moment and agreed to look into this and the perceived problem of motorists leaving Dunblane being unaware of the possibility of queuing traffic ahead. A further survey of traffic will be undertaken two months after the opening of the store. When the Chairman pointed out that the carriageway was being narrowed by grass growing on its surface, Jim McGregor promised to look into this as well.

Alan Booth commented that it might still be possible to negotiate with either Marks & Spencer or the developer, KW Properties, to pay for further traffic measures, such as a roundabout.

### **3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 1 December 2008**

These were approved, proposed by the Secretary and seconded by Alan Booth.

### **4. Matters arising**

Scouring burn bridge Councillor Goss reported that, due to budget constraints, nothing will be done until after April. Detailed drawings are required and it is estimated the work will cost £6,000. However, it is dangerous in its present state and barriers and signs are required to prevent accidents. Councillor Goss agreed to follow this up. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

It was also reported that the burn is being restricted by netting, causing it to overflow. SEPA has served a notice and the Chairman wanted to be kept

informed when any action was taken. Domenico Angiolini will check on progress. **Action:** Domenico Angiolini.

Bus timetable Copies of this are now available and Councillor Houston will send a copy to the Chairman to be included on the website. **Action:** Councillor Houston. Charles McHugh will check where it is available in Dunblane. **Action:** Charles McHugh.

Non-attendance of Councillors It was agreed that the Chairman will ask the two Councillors who do not attend community council meetings how many letters and emails they receive from Dunblane residents and which Dunblane issues they are working on. **Action:** The Chairman.

High School facilities The Chairman has received a complaint from Dunblane City 16s Football Club about the cost, £90, of hiring the pitch at the High School for a home game every fortnight. He wished to know by how much the charges have increased over the past three years. Councillor Houston will follow this up. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Alan Booth pointed out that the all-weather pitch had been given to Dunblane by Cala Developments under a Section 75 agreement and should, therefore, be free. Councillor Houston agreed to look into this. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Laighills pitch Councillor Goss is waiting for a reply from the secretary of the Dunblane Soccer Club. In the meantime, the Chairman will contact John Alexander for further information and will pass this on to Councillor Goss. **Action:** The Chairman. Councillor Houston agreed to enquire of the Environmental Services Department when they were going to repair the damage to the Laighills pitch. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Footpath to Ashfield Councillor Goss reported that Network Rail is not responsible for the path, but they were repairing the bridge further on. However, as it is dangerous in its present condition, Councillor Goss agreed to follow this up with Donald Balsillie from Countryside Services. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

Claire Clerk from Kinbuck raised the issue of the pavement running alongside the B8033 from Dunblane to Kinbuck which, because the Council has not been maintaining it, is no longer usable, forcing people to walk on the road. The Council's response has been that they do not have any budget left to repair it.

Councillor Goss agreed that a Health and Safety assessment was required and will follow this up with the Council. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

Alan Booth also reported that Network Rail workers had damaged a path off the Darn Walk.

Hogweed The Chairman will follow this up. **Action:** The Chairman.

Housing at Bogside Alan Booth reported on the history of the site which had been donated to Dunblane in 1942 but the terms of the bequest had been changed in 1955 when the building of council houses had been allowed if it were approved by the heirs of the estate. This building has not taken place and Alan Booth has been informed that approval would no longer be required. After some discussion the Chairman asked the Councillors to find out from the Council's Legal Department about the status of the land and the legal document controlling it. **Action:** Councillors Houston and Goss.

U-turn on B8033 Councillor Houston will follow up on the need for "no U-turn" signs on the B8033 between Beech Road and the traffic lights. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Laighills Councillor Goss has met with Donald Balsillie from Countryside Services who had told him that a detailed survey was required before the Laighills could be designated a nature reserve. However, it could be designated a WIATS (Woodlands In and Around Towns Scheme) which would then be eligible for other funding. However, Alan Booth maintained that in his previous discussions with Donald Balsillie the latter had agreed that the Laighills was suitable for becoming a local nature reserve and that a survey had already been done. If it became a local nature reserve, it would remain under the local authority, but if it became a WIATS then the site would be leased to another body, for example the Dunblane Development Trust. It was agreed that Alan Booth will reconvene a meeting with Donald Balsillie, Willie Hamill, the Councillors, Domenico Angiolini and other community councillors to discuss this. **Action:** Alan Booth and Councillor Goss will organise this meeting.

Windfarm community grant One of the organisations who applied for the grant had complained to Charles McHugh that they had not received any reply. Craig French reported that, following a meeting of the committee on 10 November 2008, recommendations had been passed to the Development Trust which is the body through which funds are distributed. A presentation of cheques had been organised by the DDT, without the prior knowledge of the committee, but it was

recognised that unsuccessful applicants had not been contacted either by the committee or the DDT. Craig French agreed to ask Bob Dale to write to the unsuccessful applicants and it was agreed that a better system will be in place in future. After discussion, it was agreed that unsuccessful applicants will be referred to the website where there will be a list of successful organisations.

**6. Correspondence:** See attached.

A letter has been received from the Royal Air Force, indicating their willingness to give a presentation on low-flying training flights. It was decided not to take them up on their offer.

With reference to the deep-clean of Dunblane undertaken by Streetscape, the Chairman complained that there had been no consultation with the community council before the footpath of the B8033 between the police station and the Keir roundabout had been chosen as the area most needing attention. However, the deep-clean team is due to return and the Chairman informed Councillor Houston that he felt the High Street needed attention.

The Chairman has received a letter from Stirling Council about the Single Outcome Agreement and he asked for responses. In reply to a query from Alan Booth about the future of Area Planning Community Forums, Councillor Houston reported that the Council is reviewing the whole idea of APCFs in the Stirling area, as part of a wider budget discussion.

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

It was noted that the £1,000 community award for the Coronation Garden has been received. £270 has been received to fund the cost of a Minutes Secretary.

**8. Planning Report:** See attached.

It was agreed to reiterate objections to the removal of the beech hedge at Ellenabeich.

With reference to the Park of Keir application, Councillor Goss reported that the Section 75 restrictions will be upheld, together with new conditions: a conservation plan from SNH and an archaeology survey were required, no development is to be allowed within 20 metres of the boundaries; a cycleway and a new traffic survey were required; a survey of the electricity supply would have to be made. It was noted that no work could start without the prior notification of the Council.

## 9. Community Plan Update

Alan Booth reported that, after a meeting in January of the stakeholders (community groups in Dunblane) a report will soon be available and downloaded on to the website, together with a copy of the 2003 Local Plan. The next step will be to leaflet one in three households in Dunblane with a four-question survey. Interpreting the results will be difficult and the offices of a consultant have been retained. After this, there will be a community meeting to agree on the next Local Plan. He appealed for help in distributing the questionnaires and in returning to households to collect them. It was agreed that Kinbuck and Ashfield should use the questionnaire to draw up their own Local Plan, distinct from Dunblane.

**10. Report of meetings:** There was none.

## 11. Councillors' Reports

Councillor Goss reported that, as records were still being kept on microfiche, residents of Bryant Home houses, which have been taken over by Taylor Woodrow, were finding it difficult to check that Section 75 conditions were being met.

The Chairman reported that the access road to the new pitch at the High School was being used as a race-track by some cars and that a car has been observed actually driving on to the pitch along the sidelines. It was the Chairman's understanding that this road was for use by the emergency services and ground maintenance staff only. Councillor Goss agreed to find out how access could be controlled. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

Complaints were made about the new parking restrictions, especially in the High Street on Saturdays. Steve Nevill expressed the view that people did not feel they had been consulted about the new system and asked when the review process of the new regulations would take place. It was agreed that this should be better publicised and the Chairman agreed to put details of the review process on the website when they were available.

In reply to a question from Alan Booth it was noted that the parking penalties went into the General Fund of the Council. In reply to a comment from Kate Fawcett, Councillor Houston was hopeful about the possibility of re-opening Blackford station.

The meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

Chairman ..... Date

.....

Terence O'Byrne

Secretary ..... Date

.....

Frederic Gilmour

## CRIME FIGURES FOR DEC 08 / JAN 09 – DUNBLANE

Over the last 2 months there have been a total of 32 reported crimes in the Dunblane area.

### DETECTED

There have been a total of 10 detected crimes reported, these include Breach of the Peace, Drink Driving, Theft (shoplifting), Assault and Vandalism.

### UNDETECTED

There have been a total of 22 crimes reported that are currently undetected, these include Vandalism, Theft, Assault, Breach of the Peace, a taxi fraud and a urinator. Of these 2 have been classed as Theft by Housebreaking, a house in Montgomery Crescent , Dunblane and a house in High Street, Dunblane.

### PARKING ISSUES

Since the parking restrictions have been in place a total of 57 tickets have been issued by police/traffic wardens. These have been for a number of different offences including parking on double yellow lines (27) , parking in permit holders bay (9), no excise licence (13) and a number of other offences. These have been as a result of foot patrol carried out by traffic wardens and Dunblane based police officers.

### LISCENSED PREMISES VISITS

Over the festive period a large number of visits were carried out to licensed premises in Dunblane, these were carried each weekend over the festive period.

## Correspondence Received after the 1 December 2008 DCC Meeting

### A: December 2008:

- 1) on 4th from Stirling Council: subject – prohibition of U-turns through the central reservation gaps on the B8033 at Sunnyside and Beech Road junctions AND prohibition of waiting in Clarendon Place.
- 2) On 8th from Stirling Council: subject – agenda for SC meeting on 11 December 2008.
- 3) On 11th 2008 from Stirling Council: subject – confirmation of waiting restrictions in Clarendon Place (see item (1) above).
- 4) On 11th from ‘planning aid for Scotland’: subject – introduction and list of forthcoming events during February and March 2009.
- 5) On 12th from Stirling Council: subject – notice of SC Planning Panel meeting on 16 December.
- 6) On 17<sup>th</sup> from Stirling Council Licensing Board: subject – notice of meeting on 14 January 2009
- 7) On 24<sup>th</sup> from Stirling Council: subject – notice of meeting of planning panel on 8 January 2009
- 8) On 24<sup>th</sup> from NHS Forth Valley: subject – issue of *Community News*
- 9) On 27<sup>th</sup> from Stirling Council: subject – notice of the approval of a ‘Petitions Panel’ to facilitate public engagement in SC’s decision-making processes, with dates of meetings and ‘Guidance’.
- 10) On 27<sup>th</sup> from ‘tractran’ = Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership, attaching its annual Report and a summary of the regional transport strategy.

### B: January 2009

- 11) On 8<sup>th</sup> from local MP: subject – constituency advice surgeries at Stirling.
- 12) On 8<sup>th</sup> from RAF Community Relations Officer (Scotland): subject – presentation re low-flying to interested parties in the affected localities.
- 13) On 8<sup>th</sup> from Stirling Council: subject – notification of public procession on 16 August 2009 starting and ending at the Sheriffmuir Inn.
- 14) On 10<sup>th</sup> from Stirling Council: subject – proposed 20mph speed limit in Smithy Loan, Dunblane, with map.
- 15) On 16<sup>th</sup> from Scottish Water: subject – notice of Open Board Meeting at Grangemouth on 18 March 2009.
- 16) On 16<sup>th</sup> from local MP: subject – constituency advice surgeries in the landward areas (not Dunblane).
- 17) On 17<sup>th</sup> from Stirling Council: subject – notice of Planning Panel meeting on 22 January 2009.
- 18) On 22<sup>nd</sup> from Stirling Council: subject – advice about ‘Streetscape’ and open invitation to interested parties to get involved/
- 19) On 30<sup>th</sup> from Stirling Council: subject – agenda for a special meeting of SC on 3 February 2009

# Dunblane Community Council

## **Treasurers Report**

30<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

'Administration Account'	00347702
Expenditure since last report	£50.30
Interest	£0.17
Income SC minutes sec funding	£270.00
SC Community award	£1000.00
Account balance to date 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2009.	<u>£1632.85</u>

'Community Fund'	00347753
Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0.04
Account balance to date 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2009	<u>£200.69</u>

---

Lawrie Dewar, Treasurer, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

## MONTHLY PLANNING REPORT – February 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: Extensions at 20 Bruce Ave, 14 Landrick Ave, 9 Wallace Road, 9 Smithy Loan, 31 Highfields. Amendments to consent at the Gas House Cromlix, Ashley Auchinlay Road. Renewal of permission for a caravan at Mountview Auchinlay Road

An application for 2 new houses at Park Cottage, Glen Road was considered by the committee, it was decided to neither support nor object to the application. Permission was granted to demolish the existing house several months ago.

Revised application for Ellenabeich. Glen Road. Minor changes, we objected to the removal of the mature beech hedge, having discussed this with the planning officer it would appear that this hedge may be cut down at any time without permission as it is not deemed to be old enough to be worthy of keeping.

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

The application for the new house at 25 Ochlochty has been withdrawn

The application to demolish Inverlochty and build a new house was amended to just a demolition. We were not informed of this, the permission to demolish was granted. We tried to get the application on the planning panel but this failed due to administrative delays by the Council. Having spoken to the planning officer it appears that no permission is required to demolish a house unless it is in the conservation area, this begs the question as to why permission was sought in the first instance?

The application to build a new house on St Margaret's Drive was granted.

The application to renew permission for the golf course at Keir was referred to the Planning Panel who have delayed consideration pending further details.

No decisions on the 3 townhouses at the Stirling Arms, Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill, new house at Mid Cambushinne.  
Terence O'Byrne