

Dunblane Community Council

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Agenda

For meeting to be held on

Monday 2nd April 2007

At 7.30 p.m. in the Burgh Chambers

(Councillors will meet at 7.15p.m.)

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Chairman's remarks
- 3) Minutes of last meeting
- 4) Matters arising
- 5) Community Council future activities
- 6) Correspondence
- 7) Treasurers report
- 8) Planning report
- 9) Report of meetings
- 10) Police report
- 11) Councillors report
 - a) Councillor Ann Dickson
 - b) Councillor Pat Greenhill
- 12) Any other business

Dunblane Community Council

Kirsten Strachan Secretary 4 Atholl Place Dunblane FK15 9AQ Tel:01786 825914	Terence O'Byrne Chairman 3 Argyle Grove Dunblane FK15 9DT Tel:01786 823604
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Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 2 April, 2007, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.

Present: Terence O'Byrne (Chairman), Kirsten Strachan (Secretary), Frederic Gilmour, Alan Booth, Sandy Mackay, Stella Reid, Kate Fawcett, Charles McHugh, John Alexander, Craig French, Mike Dewar.

In attendance: Bryan Grieve (Dunblane Development Trust), PC Simon Fraser, Hugh McCrea (Conservative candidate for Stirling Council), Councillors Ann Dickson and Pat Greenhill, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

1. Apologies

Apologies have been received from the Treasurer, Peter McCusker.

2. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Mike Dewar as a newly elected community councillor for Agyle and Braemar. He also introduced PC Simon Fraser, the new community policeman for Dunblane. PC Fraser, before having to leave, commented on the new on-the-spot fines for adults guilty of minor disorder offences, which will shortly be coming into effect. Finally, Stella Reid was co-opted onto the community council, proposed by Kate Fawcett and seconded by Alan Booth.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 5 March 2007

These were approved, proposed by Sandy Mackay and seconded by Frederic Gilmour.

4. Matters arising

Grass-cutting The Secretary has had a reply from the Council stating that there would be consultation over grass-cutting, in the form of questionnaires and boundary maps which will be available in due course. Grass-cutting started on 19 March and the number of cuts is to be increased from 14 to 16 cuts (approximately every 10 working days). However, it seems that only those areas which were cut last year are going to be cut this year, with the other large areas of grass being cut only once at the end of the season. It was agreed that the Secretary will write to the Council seeking clarification on the status of the areas not cut last year to discover how many times they are going to be cut. Correspondence has also been received regarding grass-cutting at Newton Park and the Secretary will enquire about this as well. **Action:** the Secretary.

CCTV Sandy Mackay and the Chairman are to have a meeting with Chief Inspector Strachan (Force CCTV Officer) and Kenna Troup (Business Development Officer) at the end of April. Kate Fawcett told the meeting of a system which operates in rural areas, where dummy cameras are used, which are sometimes replaced by live cameras. This acts as a deterrent as no-one knows for sure whether they are real cameras or not. **Action:** Sandy Mackay is to organise a meeting with police.

Zebra crossing Sandy Mackay has had an email from Angela McGibbon of Stirling Council in which it is proposed to place the crossing near the bus stop outside Tesco. Agreeing that this would be too close both to the bus stop and the Tesco lorry park, Sandy Mackay is to invite Angela McGibbon to the next community council meeting. **Action:** Sandy Mackay.

Parking Although minutes of the meeting with Jim Mullan have still not been received, it was agreed to wait until the next meeting of the community council before discussing this further.

Allanside House flooding Kate Fawcett has been liaising with the owner, Mrs McLaren and Stirling Council. The Council have suggested that sluice gates be erected at the end of the culvert, to prevent the river backing up there when in full spate, although this will also prevent the burn from flowing down from Ochloch Park. This is a complicated problem, with implications for large areas of the river's banks. Alan Booth reminded the councillors that the gabions placed further upstream at the Springbank development would have a knock-on effect downstream, and Sandy Mackay also pointed out that a minor landslide at the Laighills into the river about ten years ago had caused a lot of debris to be deposited further downstream. The councillors were also aware that there was erosion on the other side of the river, and Bryan Grieve confirmed that Stirling Council has asked Network Rail to repair gabions on the river bank. It was felt that a full survey of both sides of the river bank was required, and it was agreed that Kate Fawcett will continue questioning the Council on a timescale to get things moving. **Action:** Kate Fawcett.

Community council boundaries A map has been provided for the community council to write on their preferred boundaries. Initially, it was agreed to include the new pitches at the

High School with their access road, but discussion widened to cover some farms, which had been included under the old boundaries. Recognising that they were deviating from the Council's multi-member ward boundaries, Craig French felt it would be more acceptable if recognisable boundary lines were chosen, such as a stream. **Action:** Alan Booth will bring a proposal forward to the next meeting.

Atholl Place manhole cover The Secretary has had a reply from the Council, stating that roads were resurfaced only every 80 to 90 years, but that Atholl Place was due to be resurfaced this year.

Cemetery John Alexander reported that, after the gates had been repaired following vandalism, they were not meeting. **Action:** The Secretary will follow this up and will also enquire about keeping the rabbit population down there.

Chinese restaurant and the Stirling Arms In view of the approaching tourist season, these were not attractive sights. **Action:** Kate Fawcett will follow these up.

Policing Chief Inspector Findlater has returned and the Chairman is going to arrange a meeting with PC Simon Fraser, the new community policeman.

5. Community Council future activities

The Chairman asked the councillors for ideas to make the community council more proactive. The following issues were brought forward.

(a) Parking It was agreed that there was a serious problem of parking in Dunblane, with many commuters leaving their cars at the station to travel onwards by rail. Craig French supported those who used the railway, but others felt that the lack of parking spaces this caused discouraged tourists. It was also reported that there is going to be parking restrictions at the Tesco car park.

(b) Town Centre bridge Craig French argued that this should be repaired and restored to two-way traffic.

(c) Signage The need for good signs at the approach to Dunblane, worthy of a historic centre, was proposed by Craig French and supported by other councillors. This could be looked at in conjunction with the Development Trust.

(d) Community wardens Sandy Mackay felt that these should be provided in Dunblane.

(e) Health Centre Discussions over the siting of a new Health Centre had fallen into abeyance and the Chairman was anxious to contact the Health Board to restart them.

(f) Community Council Noticeboard It was agreed that this needed to be resited and a discussion followed on various locations. There was a move towards sharing the Tourist Group's noticeboard at the top of the High Street or sharing the noticeboard at the Burgh Chambers.

At future meetings, one or two of these issues will be added to the agenda for discussion.

6. Correspondence: See attached.

Correspondence has been received about the poor condition of Newton playpark. It received only one cut at the end of the season last year and the machinery had gouged deep ruts in the ground. It has always had drainage problems, exacerbated now by the silting up of the burn. It was agreed that Alan Booth will follow this up. **Action:** Alan Booth.

7. Treasurer's Report: See attached.

The Treasurer has requested that all claims for expenses should be handed in now.

8. Planning Report: See attached.

With reference to the proposed development at Auchinlay Holdings, Craig French objected on the grounds that it was not in keeping with its rural position and the present building could be refurbished, without any need for demolition. It was agreed on a majority to object on these grounds.

With reference to the landscaping of Baxter's Loan, it was agreed that the Chairman and the Treasurer will meet with the site manager and architect to discuss the proposed fence. The community council agreed that a stone wall, instead of a wooden fence, would be preferable.

With reference to the access road to the new skatepark it was agreed that the Secretary will write to the Council to request the replacement of the bollard at the Haining, in order to prevent cars from using this route onto the Laighills park. **Action:** The Secretary.

A discussion followed about the new Structure Plan and the community council's response to it, which has to be submitted by the end of April. However, it was noted that, because of the May Council elections, there will be a delay until the new Councillors were in a position to consult over this. It has been suggested that 1,500 houses be built to the north of Stirling up to Dunblane but Craig French thought this should be challenged from the outset and that there should be a greater density of low-cost affordable housing in the centre of Stirling. If a satellite development were to be built on the outskirts of Dunblane the following would have to be looked at:

- High School capacity;
- Health Centre expansion;
- Dentist provision;
- Parking;
- Sewage;
- Traffic accidents at Keir roundabout;
- Sports facilities.

The following community issues should also be discussed:

- The development would in effect be a dormitory town for commuters who would not come into Dunblane;
- What effect would this have on community spirit in Dunblane;
- The impact on the High Street which cannot be expanded and would no longer be seen as the centre of Dunblane;

A satellite village would be a small town in itself and would have an impact on the cohesiveness of Dunblane;

The semi-rural nature of Dunblane would be eroded;

The young people in Dunblane would become more polarised and split up depending on where they stayed.

It was agreed that the Chairman, Kate Fawcett and Alan Booth, together with consultation with Craig French, will draft out a response. **Action:** The Chairman, Kate Fawcett and Alan Booth.

9. Report of Meetings

Lawrie Dewar has reported on the meeting of the Development Management Panel which had not been significant for Dunblane.

Sandy Mackay reported on the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Dunblane Development Trust which has agreed to take over the lease of the Braeport from Stirling Council. There were plans to upgrade it and to register the Trust's interest in it with the Scottish Executive in case of a future community buy-out. Bryan Grieve pointed out that the Schools Act, which restricted what could happen to the Braeport, was due to be repealed in 2009.

The Chairman has been to a meeting with traffic management consultants for the Stirling area. The main issues have been that complaints to Stirling Council about traffic management were ignored, that it was difficult to get speed restrictions put into place, and that there was no clear consultation process over new roads or when the status of existing roads was altered. A report by the consultants is being prepared for Stirling Council.

The Chairman reported that Dunblane will benefit from a community gain of £12,000 per annum, index-linked for 25 years, from the wind farm at Braes of Doune. As the community council is not a charity it would have to pay tax on this income and the Chairman therefore proposed that the Development Trust, as a charity, should administer this fund. It was agreed that the community council should still have some involvement and that a sub-committee comprising two community councillors, two members of the Trust and one other member from the community should be formed to oversee. There was no restriction on how the money was spent as long as it was for the community. It was, therefore, agreed that the Development Trust would consider signing the agreement with Airtricity at its next Board meeting and that the community councillors who would serve on the subcommittee, in rotation, would be the Chairman and the Secretary.

10. Police Report

As PC Fraser has just arrived in post, no report had been prepared.

11. Councillors' Report

This is the last meeting of the community council for Councillors Ann Dickson and Pat Greenhill, who are retiring. A vote of thanks was expressed for their work in representing Dunblane for many years.

Councillor Dickson reported that Perth and Kinross has agreed to repair the roof at Abbotsford.

12. AOCB

John Alexander felt that the Stirling Rangers football team should clear the football pitch in the Laighills of litter after their matched. It was agreed that the Secretary will write to them.

Action: The Secretary.

John Alexander also reported on the need for pavement repairs and 20 mph speed signs at George Street. The Secretary will follow this up. **Action:** The Secretary.

The next meeting of the community council will be on 30 April 2007.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

Chairman.....Date
Terence O'Byrne

Secretary.....Date
Kirsten Strachan

Mail received since last meeting_____ **5th March 2007**

Date	From	Subject
02.03.07	Stirling Council	Grass Cutting
04.03.07	Stirling Council	Allanside House flooding
13.03.07	Stirling Council	Allanside House flooding
14.03.07	Stirling Council	Grass Cutting
16.03.07	Stirling Council	Notice of meeting of Dev Mgt panel
19.03.07	Stirling Council	Notice of elected community councillor Argyle
21.03.07	Stirling Council	May election posters
22.03.07	Stirling Council	Manhole and road condition, Atholl Place
22.03.07	NHS Forth Valley	Election of Public partnership forum reps
28.03.07	Dunblane High School	Awards Ceremony
04.04.07	SEPA	SEPA view magazine issue 35

Dunblane Community Council

Treasurers Report

2nd April 2007

‘Administration Account’	00347702
Expenditure since last report (March)	£32.93
Income since last report	nil
Interest	£0.00
Account balance to date 2 nd April 2007	<u>£373.28</u>

‘Community Fund’	00347753
Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0.15
Account balance to date 2 nd April 2007	<u>£197.74</u>

Peter McCusker
Treasurer

2nd April 2007

MONTHLY REPORT –APRIL 2007 .

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 9 Kinnoul Avenue, 24 Atholl Place, 22 Kellie Wynd, 33 Braemar Avenue, 46 Montgomery Crescent, Fairmile Keir Street, Conservatories at 22 Grant Drive, 39 Alpin Drive, Porch and Dormer at 21 Strathmore Avenue, Porch at 3 Argyle Park, Stone Wall at the Golf Club.

Detailed application to demolish the existing cottage at 7 Auchinlay Holdings and erect a new house has been lodged, this will be considered at this meeting

Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.

The appeal against the refusal to allow a house to be built in the garden at St Bryde's, Kilbryde Crescent was dismissed on the grounds of no direct road frontage onto Kilbryde Crescent, plot size not in keeping with surrounding plots on Kilbryde Crescent, new building too small in comparison to other Kilbryde Crescent buildings.

No decisions on the 6 flats at Millrow, 4 houses at the top of the Glen Road, Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill, Erect a house in the garden of Inverlochty, Glen Road, Garage/Workshop at the Braeport.

Other Planning Matters

The new skatepark in Dunblane requires litter bins and the access road to be restored to its former grassed state. Litter bins will be installed this week. Stirling Council is of the opinion that the contractor did fulfil their commitments to restore the access road by sowing grass seed in the area. Without fencing off this has not worked. Stirling Council have been asked to rectify the situation by laying turf, they are considering this.

Proposals for the revised Structure Plan to 2025 have been discussed by the planning committee, this included a visit to an open evening at Viewforth in March. A draft response will be discussed at this meeting.

Plans for the landscaping and restoration of Baxters Loan have been received from Ogilvies, these will be discussed at this meeting, one item that is of concern is the erection of a 1.2m high wooden fence running the entire length of the lane alongside the school boundary.

The next meeting of the Planning sub-committee will be called on an as required basis, no firm date has been set.

Terence O'Byrne

