

# Dunblane Community Council

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## **Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 3 March, 2008, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.**

**Present:** Terence O'Byrne (Chairman), Frederic Gilmour (Secretary), John Alexander, Alan Booth, Charles McHugh, Craig French, Domenico Angiolini.

**In attendance:** Councillors Goss and Houston, Esther Hutcheson (*Allanwater News*), Bryan Grieve (Dunblane Development Trust), Moira Stewart, Rhys Bulman, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

**1. Apologies** Apologies have been received from Lawrie Dewar.

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

The Chairman expressed his disappointment at the lack of response to the upcoming community council elections. Two candidates have come forward for the Argyle ward but none for the other four vacancies, although it is hoped someone from Kinbuck will be persuaded to put their name forward.

### **3. Minutes of the previous meeting on 4 February 2008**

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

### **4. Matters arising**

Windfarm community grant Craig French has drafted rules for positive and negative criteria which the new committee would look at when considering applications, and an application form. Applications would be sent to the Development Trust which would refer them to the committee. Comments on the draft criteria should be sent to either the

Chairman or Craig French within two weeks, so that proposals can be finalised at the next community council meeting. **Action:** All members.

Parking The Chairman reported that at a recent meeting of the Working Group the responses of those involved in the initial consultation (those who would be directly affected by the introduction of parking permits) had been looked at. Most people are willing to purchase permits. Any unresolved objections from those using the parking spaces in Dunblane would go before a Council committee. The Chairman had also received an email from a commuter living in Dunblane who expressed the opinion that the community council was anti-commuter and did not believe there was a parking problem. The Chairman had replied that the parking situation in Dunblane was deteriorating and that the community council was not anti-commuter. At the next Working Group meeting he is also going to bring up the proposal of another resident who had contacted him with the suggestion that residents of Springfield Terrace should be able to park in the Tesco car park.

A discussion followed as to whether the community council should press for a public meeting about this subject. However, it was agreed that, as little interest has been expressed by the community at large either in attending meetings or bringing the subject up at Councillors' surgeries, the community council will not at present demand a public meeting.

In view of the development at the old Dickson's garage site, Moira Stewart proposed that double yellow no-parking lines be extended at Drumcastle Court.

Health and Fitness Club The Chairman has written a letter of support.

Kilmadock Community Council The Chairman has written a letter as outlined in the previous minutes and has asked for an update.

CCTV The Chairman is to follow this up with Bruce Crawford MSP. **Action:** The Chairman.

Riverside path Councillor Goss reported that this path will be designated a core path in time, but at present the only money available is to put up signage, and no money is designated to maintain the path. Bryan Grieve reported that a Capital Strategy Meeting of Stirling Council is to be held on 7 March, at which the Council would accept responsibility of repairing the hole at a cost of £80,000. The repair is costly because SEPA is insisting on special measures being taken to avoid contaminating the river. Bryan Grieve went on to inform the meeting that a survey of the river has been undertaken, from the Faery Bridge to the Town Centre bridge, and that it has been estimated that £130,000 was required to repair and repoint riverside walls and remove trees. At present, no money has been designated for this project. Bryan Grieve will keep the Chairman informed of progress.

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

PC Fraser explained the anti-social driving legislation which permitted the police to charge drivers who were revving their engines unnecessarily or had modified their exhausts to increase noise. Inspector Sharkey explained that the MOT does not cover the size or type of exhaust on a car, but that drivers modified exhausts to make them noisier. Falkirk Council Environmental Health Department has a device, which he hopes to borrow, to measure the noise from an exhaust. The Inspector wished to make it known to drivers that any modifications to an exhaust not notified to their motor insurance company could result in their premiums being raised or their policy cancelled. At first he wants to give drivers the opportunity to remove the device from their exhaust but would be prepared to notify insurance companies.

As for more serious charges of reckless or careless driving, it was essential that witnesses came forward to report incidents to the police and he emphasised that the police will follow these up.

In reply to questions from Esther Hutcheson, the Inspector confirmed that the Falkirk police have notified insurance companies of exhaust modifications, and that this was a countrywide problem and a challenge for all communities.

Moira Stewart highlighted the problems of youths hanging around on Thursday evenings, when the hall at the Youth Centre is booked by adult groups and is not available for teenagers.

The problems of litter dropped on the Old Doune Road and people parking at the Tesco bus stop were also raised.

The Chairman thanked the police for their attendance.

**6. Correspondence:** See attached.

The Chairman will ask the Council for an extension to the double yellow lines at the junction of Smithy Loan and the High Street.

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

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

With reference to the revised plans for the Anchorscross development, the Chairman reiterated the community council's objections, especially over the single exit on to the Old Doune Road. The number of proposed units has risen to 55, whereas the Local Plan designated 50, and community councillors felt that the Local Plan was being ignored without any good reason. In reply to a question about this, Councillor Goss urged the community council to object to Stirling Council, and it was agreed that the Chairman will reiterate its original objections.

The Chairman has received a new application to build a new house in the garden of 25 Ochloch. It was agreed to object to this on the grounds of over-development.

With reference to the Dickson's garage site, it was agreed to push for a roundabout to be built, together with a pedestrian crossing between there and the roundabout at the Youth Centre.

Alan Booth clarified the issue of change of use of the Dickson's site. Because the demolition warrant was issued before the planning permission, the site was a cleared site before it was considered for a planning application and there was not, therefore, a change of use.

### **9. Report of meetings**

The Chairman and Alan Booth have attended a meeting about the Area Community Planning Forums (ACPF). Alan Booth reported that Dunblane was the only community not represented within the ACPF framework but did not want to divorce itself both from the financial and administrative aid given by Stirling Council to ACPFs. At present, Stirling Council is reviewing the implications of Dunblane forming its own ACPF. The Chairman asked the Councillors for their support in pushing this forward with the Council.

Alan Booth has met with the Biodiversity Officer of Stirling Council to discuss the Laighills being designated a Nature Reserve. However, there has been a delay as Countryside Services have not been kept up-to-date with this proposal. He urged the Councillors to support this.

### **10. Councillors' Report**

Alan Booth queried the workload of the four Councillors representing Dunblane in view of the fact that only two Councillors regularly attended community council meetings. Councillor Houston stated that because of the size of the electorate Dunblane was a four-member ward, but perhaps should have been represented by only three Councillors. However, in other large geographic areas Councillors had a heavier workload. In the Chairman's opinion, only two of the Councillors were working for Dunblane.

**11. Community Council Future Activities:** This was deferred.

### **12. AOCB**

Rhys Bulman raised the question of windfarm capacity within Stirling District with Councillor Goss, especially with reference to landscape and visual capacity, enquiring if there was a public document detailing this. Councillor Goss agreed to follow this up.  
**Action:** Councillor Goss.

Councillor Goss also agreed to find out if there was the Open Space Plan within Stirling District, similar to a Woodland Plan. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

In reply to a question from Craig French about Stirling Council Heritage Fund, Councillor Goss reported that the funding for this was provided by Historic Scotland. Craig French felt that Dunblane should be pursuing this funding.

John Alexander agreed to follow up with the Council the state of the pavements behind Edward Court and the mess at the back of the Victoria Hall. **Action:** John Alexander.

John Alexander reported that other Councils were prepared to evict tenants from council housing if drugs were found there, but Stirling Council was not at present following this policy.

With reference to updating the Local Plan, Alan Booth wished to write to Ashfield and Kinbuck communities advising them to have their own Development Plans instead of being included with Dunblane. He agreed to draft a letter with Lawrie Dewar or the Chairman. **Action:** Alan Booth.

It was agreed, in view of the May holiday, to move the May meeting of the community council to 12 May 2008.

The meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

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

Secretary ..... Date  
.....  
Frederic Gilmour

## Dunblane Community Council

### Correspondence Received after the 4 February DCC Meeting:

On 17 February 2008 the Secretary received from his predecessor the following correspondence: (all dates 2008 UON)

- 0) 21 February from Anne McGuire MP notifying Constituency Surgery dates;
- 1) 13 February from Stirling Council (SC), notice of a meeting of the Planning Panel to be held on 19 February 2008 – agenda included;
- 2) 12 February from SC, notice of Community Council Vacancy Elections 2008;
- 3) 11 February from SC request from the Council requesting an email address to which to send SC material – to cut down on the amount of paper used by the Council; (Secretary's Note: this just shifts the paper used onto recipients)
- 4) 11 February from SC attaching a Notification of Public Processions (lodged by the Margaret J Gordon Art & Craft Trust to proceed on 17 August 2008 from Sheriffmuir Inn *via* Blackford and return)
- 5) 6 February from SC –Notice of Special Meeting of SC to convene on 7 February.
- 6) 28 January including Notice of Re-convened Meeting of SC on 31 January.
- 7) 18 January – Notice of SC Planning Panel meeting @ 10am on 24 January, including agenda;
- 8) 18 January – Agenda of Special Meeting of SC on 24 January @ 7pm;
- 9) 17 January – to advise that SC's *Flooding Biennial Report* can be viewed on the Council's website;
- 10) 15 January – to advise a meeting of SC's *Health and Safety Panel* on 21 January @ 3.30pm
- 11) 11 January from SC including *Prohibition of Waiting Order* for Kilbryde Crescent, Dunblane;
- 12) 13 December 2007 from SC advising a meeting of the Planning Panel on 19 December 2007 @ 2pm including agenda;
- 13) 11 December 2008 from SC notifying error in the Agenda for the 13 December 2007 meeting; (see next)
- 14) 7 December 2007 from SC including the Agenda for a meeting of the Council on 13 December 2007 @ 10am;
- 15) Copy of Forth Valley NHS Board following its meeting on 27 November 2007;
- 16) From SC (undated) copy of *Constitution and Standing Orders of Community Councils*.
- 17) Date unknown (Secy has copy) from the Post Office with list of local post offices on the hit list of The Post Office;
- 18) Catalogue of playground equipment, passed to Bryan (?) for information/use;
- 19) One other item, now in secy's possession;

## CRIME FIGURES FOR FEBRUARY 2008

### DETECTED

Total of 13 detected crimes between 1<sup>st</sup> February 2008 and 29th February 2008. These reports contain a total number of 21 charges and include an incident involving an offensive weapon (knife) which resulted in 2 persons being arrested and kept in custody over the weekend. A number of Breach of the Peace/ Assault reports and a local male who was traced and reported using the Anti-Social driving legislation after a complaint was received about his driving manner in Dunblane.

A number of anti-social fixed penalties have also been issued for minor offences.

### UNDETECTED

Total of 13 undetected reported crimes during the same period, which contained a total of 14 charges.

Of these 10 (5 vandalism & 5 theft) make up the vast majority of the undetected offences and these continue to be targeted by the dedicated enquiry team. The other undetected reported offences are 1 Breach of the Peace, 1 Assault and 1 telecommunications offence. There are names suspects in a number of these cases including the Assault and Breach of the Peace so these will be detected in the very near future.

### ANTI-SOCIAL PATROLS

As stated previously local community officers are now carrying out patrols in their own areas and this has proved successful in the short time it has been running. PC Kerr (Callander community officer) and myself carried out directed patrols a couple of weekends ago and during our patrols we found and confiscated over 10 litres of alcohol and assisted in detecting a number of crimes.

A number of vehicles that were driving round Dunblane were also stopped and their documentation was checked over the same weekend.

### LOCAL POLICING ISSUES

Recently a number of complaints have been received about cars driving around Dunblane with loud exhausts. The noise emissions from these vehicles cannot be checked by the police however arrangements are in hand to have a representative from VOSA attend in Dunblane and along with myself and other officers to check the noise emissions from these vehicles. The traffic department in Stirling has also been contacted to assist when available.

## Dunblane Community Council

### **Treasurers Report**

25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2008

‘Administration Account’	00347702
Expenditure since last report	£13.00
Interest	£0.70
Account balance to date 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2008.	<u>£339.33</u>

‘Community Fund’	00347753
Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0..16
Account balance to date 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2008	<u>£199.72</u>

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Lawrie Dewar, Treasurer, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

Lawrie Dewar  
Treasurer

25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2008

## MONTHLY REPORT – FEBRUARY 2008.

### **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 47 Newton Crescent, 18 Whitecross Ave, High Beeches Kilbryde Crescent, extension and garage at Doodcot Cottage Inverlochty, Garage at Gleann Falaichte, Gates and Pillars at Braehead St Margarets Drive.

Revised plans have been received for the Anchorscross development, these will be considered at this meeting. Points to note:

- There are now 55 units not 54, Local plan was for 50
- Plot 27 now has a different house type further from the fence of 27 Mackenzie Court, we asked for open space here
- The 3 storey house types still on the plan in different locations, we asked that all 3 storey be removed
- Even more landscaping outside the Local Plan Boundary.
- All other objection points not addressed
- Still only one exit onto Old Doune Road for traffic, new high school has generated chaos in the mornings in the Old Doune Road area

Another application has been submitted to build a new house at Cloisters Crofts, the planning committee considered this application and objected on the same grounds as the original application. The building is still 3 storey with even more extensive elevation to the Perth Road, the 3<sup>rd</sup> storey is within the large roof area.

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

The application to demolish the existing house known as Park Cottage on the Glen Road and build a new one was approved, conditions were imposed that a slate roof must be used and all reusable stone in the existing building be used.

The application to demolish Inverlochty and build a 6 flat unit was refused, 25 letters of objection were lodged

An application to convert a barn at Cauldhame to a dwelling house was approved.

The application for a retail unit at the old Dicksons site was approved, Community Council objections were overruled. The Council does not have a policy of retaining petrol stations or garages under its important community facilities policy. The Council does not believe that there will be any detrimental effect on existing High St traders. The dual carriageway on the road frontage will be restricted to a single lane until the exit from the site, the developer had suggested a traffic light controlled exit across the central reservation, this was not considered safe by Roads. A roundabout solution was not proposed by the developer which would have been acceptable to Roads, it is

recommend that this Community Council write to Planning to ask that a roundabout be installed to allow traffic to go back into Dunblane without having to drive out and turn around at the dangerous crossing before the Keir Roundabout.

No decisions on the new house at Ash cottage in Ashfield, 6 flats at Millrow, Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill, 18 Office Units at Barbush., 2 houses at Pisgah Mill, new house at Mid Cambushinne

### **Other Planning Matters**

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