

# Dunblane Community Council

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## **Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 4 June, 2007, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.**

**Present:** Terence O'Byrne (Chairman), Kirsten Strachan (Secretary), Peter McCusker (Treasurer), Mike Dewar, Lawrie Dewar, Charles McHugh, John Alexander, Alan Booth, Kate Fawcett, Sandy Mackay, Craig French.

**In attendance:** PC Simon Fraser, Councillors Graham Houston, Colin Finlay, Callum Campbell and David Goss, Moira Stewart and Sue Faulkner, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary). The following residents also attended: Mr and Mrs Steele, Mrs Wakker, Mr Helszajn, Mr Sutton and Mrs Krieger. Grahame Kirsopp, Commanding Officer of the Air Cadets, and Ian Howie from the *Stirling Observer*, were also present.

The Chairman suspended the order of the agenda in order to let PC Fraser make his report.

### **9. Police Report**

PC Fraser gave a short report on the crime figures for the previous month. In comparison with the previous year, the number of reported crimes has dropped. PC Fraser is holding weekly surgeries in the Burgh Chambers every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and it was agreed that these will be advertised on the Community Council noticeboard.

The Chairman then welcomed Grahame Kirsopp, Commanding Officer of the Air Cadets in Dunblane, to the meeting. He is building up the number of cadets and wants the community to be aware of their willingness to work on community projects. The Chairman thanked him for attending.

## 1. Apologies

Apologies have been received from Domenico Angiolini and Stella Reid.

2. **Chairman's Remarks:** There was none.

## 3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 30 April 2007

These were approved, proposed by Peter McCusker and seconded by Charles McHugh.

## 4. Matters arising

CCTV Sandy Mackay will arrange a meeting with Chief Inspector Findlater. **Action:** Sandy Mackay.

Zebra crossing Angela McGibbon declined to attend this meeting of the Community Council but intimated that she will arrange a meeting shortly at Springfield Terrace. It was agreed that the Secretary will circulate details of this when known. **Action:** the Secretary.

Parking No correspondence from Stirling Council has been received about this. The Secretary will follow this up with Jim Mullan. **Action:** the Secretary. It was noted that the builders of the new Dunblane Christian Fellowship church have blocked off parking spaces while work is in progress and it was agreed that the Chairman will take this up with the Roads Department. **Action:** the Chairman.

Allanside House Kate Fawcett reported that Stirling Council is to arrange a site meeting with SEPA as the approval of SEPA is required before sluice gates can be installed.

Chinese restaurant There was no progress to report.

Stirling Arms Hotel The original plans for this have been revised and the owners are having a team meeting this week about it. However, no-one has expressed an interest in taking it over.

Community Council Boundaries This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Bridge of Allan Community Council The Chairman is to arrange a meeting to discuss common issues. **Action:** the Chairman.

Grass-cutting Councillors are unsure that the Council's action plan is being followed. It was agreed that the Chairman and the Secretary will look at the grass-cutting map and follow this up. **Action:** the Chairman and the Secretary.

Junction of Smithy Loan with the High Street It was agreed that a longer section of double yellow lines was required at this junction to prevent parked cars from impeding the sight

lines of traffic exiting Smithy Loan. **Action:** the Secretary will write to the Roads Department.

Quaich The Treasurer has had a reply from the High School detailing the impressive achievements of the winner of the quaich and thanking the Community Council for their continued support.

**5. Correspondence:** See attached list.

With reference to the notification of the Community Conference on 16 June, it was agreed that the Chairman, Alan Booth and Mike Dewar will attend.

A letter from Pat Greenhill has been received, thanking the Community Council for the flowers sent on her retirement.

A letter has been received from Hummingbird Nursery seeking support in preventing Orange from putting extra dishes on the radio mast nearby.

A letter from the School Board of Newton Primary has been received thanking the Community Council for its support with reference to traffic problems.

A letter has been received by Lawrie Dewar from the School Board of Dunblane Primary thanking the Community Council for its support.

A copy of a letter sent by a parent of a Dunblane Primary School pupil has been received highlighting that the main focus of solving traffic problems at the school should be child safety.

A letter from Mrs Krieger has been received, complaining that, as a resident of Cathedral Square, she is finding it increasingly difficult to find a parking space nearby and suggesting that resident parking permits should be introduced. It was agreed that the Chairman will write to Jim Mullan supporting this suggestion so that it will be included in any future discussion of parking in Dunblane. **Action:** the Chairman.

The Chairman has written to the owners of Randolph Hill asking that information be made available to local residents about the development.

The Secretary has written to Bob Jack about reinstating the bollard at the Haining but has no reply. **Action:** the Secretary will follow this up.

The Secretary has written to the Council about installing more speed limit signs on the B8033 but has had no reply yet.

Stirling Council's proposals for waiting restrictions round Newton Primary School were to prevent parking close to the junction and across driveways. Councillor Houston advised that the proposals looked reasonable but he will report back after speaking to residents. It was agreed that Lawrie Dewar will follow this up with Newton Primary School Board.

**Action:** Lawrie Dewar.

Letters have been received from High Street traders complaining about a leaflet which was delivered to part of Dunblane with copies of *Community View*, advertising outside retailers who would give a percentage of sales to the Dunblane Development Trust. Alan Booth reported that there had been no DDT Board involvement and he did not know who had delivered the leaflets. However, it was noted that the remit of *Community View* included supporting the High Street traders.

It was agreed that future correspondence to the Council will be copied by email to the four Councillors so that they are made aware of current issues.

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

## **7. Planning Report**

It was agreed to object to the planning application for an extension and sunroom at 4 Kellie Wynd on the grounds that it was an over-development of the site.

It was agreed to object to the planning application relating to 35 Old Doune Road on the grounds that it was out of keeping with existing properties: the proposed finishes were out of keeping and it was proposed to build a 2-storey house instead of a bungalow.

With reference to the application relating to the Dicksons garage site, it was noted that the community council could not object to it on the grounds of a change of use. **Action:** the Chairman will check whether this is indeed the case. However, Craig French pointed out that it was contrary to the Stirling Council's Local Plan for Dunblane which was to nurture the regeneration of the High Street. It was agreed to object to the loss of the only petrol station in Dunblane and a car maintenance facility.

With reference to the application to build a new house at Nether Cromlix, Mrs Wakker addressed the meeting as a neighbour who would be affected by this development. In view of the size of the farm it seemed unreasonable that the new house would be very close to other properties, and where access was difficult. It was agreed to support objections to it and encourage the owners to move the site of the new house.

With reference to the application by SSE and Orange to instal additional phone aerials on the exiting mast near the Hummingbird Nursery, it was noted that planning permission was not necessary. Councillor David Goss, who had attended a meeting earlier in the evening about this issue, was able to report that Orange is willing to consider an alternative site outside the

town if they can find one. He is going to meet Dorothy Irvine to see which sites would be cleared for planning permission and he will report back to the Chairman before the next community council meeting. **Action:** the Chairman will draft a letter to support the objections.

Mr Helszajn, a resident of Keir Street, addressed the meeting on his objection to a resident of Atholl Place wishing to put in a new access to their property from Keir Street. The Roads Department has told him that this would not need planning permission unless it became a road safety issue. As one of the reasons that planning permission for a new house at this site with access to Keir Street had been rejected previously was because of traffic issues, there was concern that the official seemed to have changed his thinking. It was agreed that the Chairman will notify the Planning Department about the community council's objection to access being opened up onto Keir Street and asking them to keep the community council informed about any relevant considerations. **Action:** the Chairman.

Mr Sutton, the resident whose application to demolish and erect a new house at 7 Auchinlay Holdings has been rejected, addressed the meeting. He wished to explore the situation to avoid further objections from the community council. He was advised by Craig French that the community council was not in a position to prejudge individual applications and he urged him to open a dialogue with the planning officer before making any further applications.

## **8. Report of Meetings**

The Chairman and the Secretary have met with Fiona MacLeod to discuss the role of Area Community Planning Forums and their relevance to Dunblane. The feeling of the community council is that Dunblane has little in common with Bridge of Allan and Logie and any common issues could be dealt with, for example, in an annual meeting. The next meeting of the ACPF is on 16 June and it will be decided after that whether Dunblane will withdraw, with a view to setting up an Area Community Planning Forum by itself, which would include all community bodies in Dunblane. Councillor Finlay pointed out that Stirling Council was under direction from the Scottish Executive to set up local forums in order to devolve more powers to local communities. However, the community council agreed that the system at present was not working.

**9. Police Report:** This was dealt with earlier.

## **10. Councillors' Reports**

The four Councillors will be reaching agreement on how they are going to work together, and share out issues and responsibilities. They wanted to know priorities as identified by the community council. The community council expressed its appreciation of their attendance and involvement in its work.

## **11. Community Plan**

Alan Booth brought the attention of the meeting to the Dunblane Community Plan of 2003 and detailed its history: different organisations comprising the old Dunblane Forum were involved; questionnaires were sent to 1,000 households in Dunblane, with different questionnaires for different age-groups; a workshop was also held; with external funding, someone was paid to analyse the results. This was an important method of finding out how different groups saw Dunblane and how they envisaged it in the future, and it carried credibility with Stirling Council. Because of it, the Dunblane Development Trust was set up. It was now necessary to consider repeating the exercise, with community council backing, within the next year or two and this was agreed. **Action:** the Chairman and Alan Booth will meet to discuss how to progress this.

## **12. Community Council Future Activities**

This was deferred to a future meeting.

## **13. AOCB**

In view of the escape of an animal from the slaughterhouse and the subsequent injury of a man in the High Street, it was agreed that the Chairman will write to the Health and Safety Executive not only about safety procedures at the slaughterhouse but also about the storage of waste on the site. **Action:** the Chairman.

It was agreed that the Secretary will write to the Council about the damage to the river wall at Mill Row. **Action:** the Secretary.

A discussion followed about the toilet block at the Laighills which is not maintained and is an eyesore. Although the football club wants to knock through from the pavilion and use the block as a store, it was felt that this is a facility which should not be lost to people at the Laighills, or at the allotments. It was agreed that the Chairman will write to the Council about the provision of toilet facilities in Dunblane and their maintenance. **Action:** the Chairman.

It was agreed that the next meeting, because of the August Bank Holiday, will take place on Monday, 30 July, 2007.

The meeting ended at 10.05 p.m.

Kirsten Strachan

**Mail received since last meeting**\_\_\_\_\_ **30th April 2007**

<b>Date</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>
02.05.07	Stirling Council	Area Community Forum meeting date
02.05.07	Stirling Council	Community Conference 16 June 2007
11.05.07	Stirling Council	B8033 northbound speed restriction
11.05.07	Stirling Council	Agenda for Statutory Meeting of SC 17 May 2007
11.05.07	Stirling Council	Quarterly Licensing Board applications
15.05.07	Stirling Council	Temp road closure A9 sliproad at QVS
17.05.07	Stirling Council	Minutes of ACF meeting held on 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2007 and population numbers
17.05.07	Carers Connection	May 2007, Edition 19 magazine
18.05.07	Stirling Council	Agenda for reconvened statutory meeting to be held 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2007.
22.05.07	Stirling Council	Proposed waiting restrictions, Newton Crescent
25.05.07	Stirling Council	Agenda for special meeting 31 May 2007.
25.05.07	Stirling Council	Consolidation order 50mph B8033
30.05.07	Do it @ your leisure	Community View advertising issues
30.05.07	Well Read Bookshop	Community View advertising issues
01.06.07	Stirling Council	Community Conference 16 June 2007
01.06.07	Stirling Council	Community Conference 16 June 2007 programme and registration paper.

# Dunblane Community Council

## **Treasurers Report**

4<sup>th</sup> June 2007

'Administration Account'	00347702
Expenditure since last report -(30 <sup>th</sup> April)	£25.00
Income since last report	nil
Interest	£0.31
Account balance to date 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2007	<u>£264.59</u>

'Community Fund'	00347753
Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0.17
Account balance to date 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2007	<u>£198.07</u>

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Peter McCusker  
Treasurer

4<sup>th</sup> June 2007

## MONTHLY REPORT –JUNE 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 at 18 Newton Crescent, 12 Newton Crescent, 54 Roman Way, 52 Kellie Wynd and 2 Hillside. Sunroom at 1 Kippendavie Avenue, Garden shed at Blairgarry, Doune Road, Conservatory at 54 Old Doune Road, Electricity Pole near Ardnablane, new flue at 39 Buchan Drive.

There was an application for an extension and sunroom at 4 Kellie Wynd, the Community Council has been asked to consider this application at this meeting.

There have been 2 applications relating to 35 Old Doune Road, this site was given outline approval to demolish the existing house, these new applications are to keep the existing house and extend it and build a new house on the remainder of the plot.

There has been an application to replace the existing Dicksons garage site with a Class 1 retail development with 5 retail units ranging from 3000 to 10000 sq feet and 94 parking places. No hot food would be allowed to be sold in any unit.

There has been an application to build a new house at Nether Cromlix, this is for agricultural purposes, the new house is immediately adjacent to Nether Cromlix whose owners have asked the Community Council for their support in objecting to the closeness of the new house to their existing house given that the farm has almost 300 acres of other land. Part of the agricultural justification is that the farm is 5 miles from Dunblane, it is no more than 4.6km from the farm to the Old Doune Road.

SSE and Orange have applied for permission to put additional phone masts on the existing site in Ramoyle near the Hummingbird Nursery. The owner of the nursery is mounting a strong campaign to oppose this development which does not require planning permission. You will remember that Orange proposed a mast at Barbush last year which met with such opposition that Orange withdrew the application, this new proposal is for the same purpose. The Hummingbird Nursery have asked the Community Council to support them in their campaign, we objected to the planning application but they do not need permission as above.

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

The new UPVC windows at Randolph Hill were refused, the application to convert the front garden to a car park was approved, we objected to both of these applications.

Application to demolish and erect a new house at 7 Auchinlay Holdings was refused

The application for the new house at Gleann Falaichte was approved, we objected to the concrete tiled roof, this was overruled on the basis that the adjacent house is not slated.

Approval has been given for the various alterations at the Museum

No decisions on the Post Office attic conversion, new house at Ash cottage in Ashfield, 6 flats at Millrow, 4 houses at the top of the Glen Road, Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill.

### **Other Planning Matters**

No decision on the proposed fence at Baxters Loan yet, suggestions have been made to make it a simple post and wire fence or no fence at all, discussions are ongoing. Site meeting on Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss.

Letters were sent to the planning enforcement office re the re-instatement of the path at the Laighills and the fence at the new house near the Faery Bridge. Willy Hamill from Stirling Council is dealing with the Laighills, the enforcement officer has noted our concerns re the fence, no decision yet.

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

## DUNBLANE CRIME FIGURES FOR MAY 2007

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DETECTED – 28 crimes of which 16 were road traffic matters. Of the remaining 12 there were 7 Breach of the Peace, 3 Assaults, 1 ASB driving, 1 urinator .

A number of the Breach of the Peace also had other charges listed ie assault and Vandalism.

There has been a drop in the number of reported detected cases in relation to the same period last year however this is in line with the reduction of the total number of crimes reported this year.

UNDETECTED – 17 crimes of which 5 were road traffic matters and have not yet been complied with and as a result are still marked as undetected.

The other undetected crime reports relate to , 2 sheep worrying, 4 vandalisms of which 3 are to cars and 1 is to a fence. 5 reported thefts of which 3 at from residential dwelling houses and 2 are from business premises.

Of the undetected crime reports 2 will be detected in the near future, 1 sheep worrying and 1 vandalism.

In relation to the same period last year there has been a slight increase in the number of reported undetected crimes however on a positive note there has been a 50% drop in the number of undetected vandalisms over the same period.