

Dunblane Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 6 March, 2006, at 7.30 p.m. in the Burgh Chambers.

Present: Tony Ford (Chairman), Sandy Mackay (Secretary), Peter McCusker (Treasurer), ___Terence O'Byrne, Kirsten Strachan, Duncan Taylor, John Alexander, Domenico Angeolini.

In attendance: PC Linzi Meek, Councillor Pat Greenhill, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

1. Apologies

Apologies have been received from Stuart Hepburn and Craig French.

2. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman thanked the Secretary for chairing the last meeting of the Community Council. Commenting that other Community Councils are struggling to keep going, he has not noticed any interest in people willing to fill the vacancies in Dunblane. Together with Chief Inspector Kevin Findlater, he is trying to organise a meeting with interested parties in the community to formulate a strategy in dealing with anti-social behaviour. The Chairman thanked all community councillors, but particularly the Secretary and Terence O'Byrne, for all their help at a time when he has been especially busy.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 6 February 2006

With the correction of the spelling on page 2 to Simon Field, these were approved, proposed by Kirsten Strachan and seconded by the Secretary.

4. Matters arising

Community Council elections It has been confirmed to the Secretary that elections will not be held until the autumn of 2006, when all community councillors will stand down, but people can be co-opted on to the Council to fill vacancies as required.

Cemetery The Council has written to the Secretary that they will not be adding mesh to the bottom of the cemetery gates, to prevent ingress by rabbits, but they have been putting poison down rabbit holes and back-filling them. It was agreed that the Secretary will look into the cost of rabbit-proofing the gates.

Zebra crossing No decision has yet been made on the siting of this on the Doune Road.

Potholes A survey of the state of the roads in Dunblane was being undertaken and, in the meantime, new road signs and “20” signs have been erected.

Barbush A memo has been received from Councillor Ann Dickson that construction work on the footpath between Barbush and Ramoyle should begin after April but that the path under the road-bridge is not a right of way. Domenico Angeolini, however, has received legal advice that planning permission has to be granted before land can be blocked off, even if it is not a right of way.

Bollard at The Haining The Secretary is to inform the Council that this is missing.

5. Correspondence: See attached.

It was proposed that the cycle shelter will be repaired, and that new cycle racks will be erected on both sides of the railway and at the top and bottom of the High Street.

The Planning Advice Note on Community Engagement was passed to Terence O’Byrne.

Stirling Council’s Parking Strategy was passed to the Chairman.

6. Treasurer’s Report: See attached.

It was proposed by the Secretary and seconded by Peter McCusker that the £1,000 additional grant should be used to replace the vandalised wooden fence around the community garden at the river with metal railings. These would cost approximately £750, plus painting, and a plaque acknowledging that they had been paid for by the Community Council could also be added. This was agreed by all the community councillors.

7. Planning Report: See attached.

It was agreed to support the proposed nursery at Glendaruel but to express concern at the lack of parking spaces, and that there would be traffic congestion at the dropping-off time in the morning.

It was agreed to support the application for a Care Village at Barbush but to express reservations about the access road and the lack of parking spaces.

Councillor Greenhill reported that Stirling Council is formally objecting to the Beauly to Denny powerline, and a public enquiry should ensue.

The Chairman and Terence O’Byrne have invited Mr Stirling Aird and his agent, Raymond Boyle, to the April meeting of the Community Council to open a dialogue with them over any future proposals for building on the site behind the Queen Victoria School. It is understood that they have been trying to gauge community opinion, with a view to influencing the next structure plan of 2017. Councillor Greenhill pointed out that the Community Council was the statutory consultee in the planning process and no future developments in Dunblane could be supported unless certain structural problems were resolved. However, there was scope to change the structure plan and use new developments to solve some of these problems.

8. Report of Meetings

Terence O’Byrne had attended the meeting of the Public Partnership Forum on 15 February on *Your Health – Your Community*, which John Alexander had been unable to attend. He reported that it was important to be involved as it was setting up the mechanism by which information about communities would be passed on to the Community Health Partnership.

A discussion took place about the meetings of the Area Community Planning Forum, the next one of which is due to take place on 29 March. In particular, concern was expressed over the allocation of funds to prevent anti-social behaviour. Duncan Taylor felt that there should have been wider community consultation before it was decided how the money was distributed, with a larger number of smaller projects benefiting. PC Linzi Meek confirmed that the majority of youths causing trouble was in the 14 to 18 age group, with most problems occurring at the weekend. Although it was felt that there would always be a hard core of trouble-makers, more provision could be made for the larger group of hangers-on. It was felt that the costs for the proposed skateboard park were spiralling, while a site has yet to be identified. While the Secretary wanted to pursue the possibility of CCTV cameras in the town centre, it was agreed that discussion should be opened out to the community and should include the Youth Worker at the Dunblane Centre and pupils at the High School.

9. Police Report

PC Linzi Meek reported that most incidents were youth disorder-related. A new initiative has started, by which teams of six officers were available at weekends to deal with disorder as it arose. She reported there would be increased police coverage over the period of the 10th anniversary of the shooting, and Councillor Greenhill added that the main media and Press have been contacted and asked to stay away.

In reply to points raised by the Chairman, PC Meek said she would look at the problem of parking on the zig-zag lines at Dunblane Primary School, and she would be using the community bicycle after training.

The councillors reported on vandalism at the Laighills toilets and at the stair leading to the Leighton Library. PC Meek appealed for more information from the public.

10. Councillor's Report

Councillor Pat Greenhill reported that the council tax has now been set, but there would be various cuts in service, including cuts in youth division work. However, there would be no cutbacks in the Community Planning Budget, which was seen as a priority.

11. AOCB

In reply to a question from John Alexander, Councillor Greenhill reported that, in the light of the proposed housing stock transfer, a survey was in progress to identify who owns roads, such as the back lane behind Anne Street/George Street. She was going to follow this up. It was expected that the housing transfer would go to the Scottish Executive for approval later this year.

MONTHLY REPORT –MARCH 2006.

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 46 Newton Crescent, Craigower Doune Road, 27 Albert St. Decking at the Golf Club, Satellite dish at 104 High St, Flagpoles/sign at 28 Ochloch Park.

The planning subcommittee met on March 3rd to consider the application to build a Care Village at Barbush, detailed plans will be discussed at this meeting. The committee had no objection to this application other than to query the number of parking places and small garden areas on what will be a compact site accommodating in excess of 120 residents. An application to convert a domestic garage with extension to form a nursery at Glendaruel, Perth Road will be considered at this meeting also.

Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.

The application for a housing development at Cairnston, which the Community Council supported, was approved

Still no decisions yet from the Planners regarding the applications at Glen Road, Randolph Hill, Braeport, Provan and Ardnablane .

Other Planning Matters

Stirling Council agreed to object to the Beauly to Denny power line application last week. I detailed submission will be made in the next few weeks by the Council

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.