



Dunblane Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 6 April, 2009, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.

Present: Terence O'Byrne (Chairman), Frederic Gilmour (Secretary), Lawrie Dewar (Treasurer), Sue Faulkner, Charles McHugh, John Alexander, Alan Booth, Kate Fawcett, Craig French, Domenico Angiolini.

In attendance: Councillor David Goss, Councillor Callum Campbell, Councillor Graham Houston, Mike Pain and Alistair Swanston from Albion Taxis, Moira Stewart, Angela Edgar, Heather Booth, Clare Clark, Eileen Robb, Lorraine Darwin, Marty and Emily Weitz, Ian Howie, Owen MacKenzie, Allan Brown, Irene and Steve Allan, Julie and Charlie Proctor, Martin Little (*Allanwater News*), PC Gary Meikle, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

1. Apologies: Apologies have been received from Kevin Curtin, Sylvia Cairns and Councillor Finlay.

2. Chairman's Remarks: There was none.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 2 March 2009

These were approved, proposed by Lawrie Dewar and seconded by Charles McHugh.

4. Matters arising

Traffic in Ramoyle Residents from Ramoyle were in attendance to express their concern at the continuing problem of traffic using Ramoyle. Following a recent incident of damage to houses caused by a lorry, both the police and the Traffic Management Unit of Stirling Council were contacted and further action will follow. Two issues need to be addressed: (a) lorries ignoring the present "access only" signs and (b) insensitive parking on Ramoyle.

Councillor Houston reported that “access only” signs will be placed further down at Leighton House and that “no parking” lines were to be redone across from the damaged houses. His further suggestions which included parallel parking on Ramoyle instead of “nose in”, no parking at the narrowest points and bollards in front of houses, will need more consultation. He agreed that a speed measurement device which has been set up in Ramoyle to measure traffic volume and maximum speeds should be left in situ until the school term restarts. Police will also question drivers in Ramoyle as to whether they are using it as a through route.

It was reported that residents of the flats use parking spaces on Ramoyle instead of their allocated parking area. In reply to a question about residents’ parking permits, Councillor Houston agreed that this could also be considered. It was suggested that a visual narrowing to warn drivers while they could still turn around, such as a chicane or pinch point at the end of Tannahill Terrace, should be investigated. It was noted that GPS often routed drivers down Ramoyle, and lorry drivers were unaware that their vehicle could damage a house which protruded over the road above ground level. PC Meikle said that police could contact companies whose lorries were seen in Ramoyle to make them aware of the problem.

Consideration will have to be taken of traffic using the Braeport Centre and residents of Dargai and Tannahill Terraces who preferred to use Ramoyle when the Braeport was icy in winter.

Both Councillor Houston and the Chairman emphasised that enforcement by the police is necessary. The Chairman encouraged the Ramoyle residents to form a community group to act on this issue while keeping the community council informed and Julie Proctor agreed to be the main contact person for the Council and Councillor Houston. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Bus timetable The Chairman complained that the timetable was not easy to read, especially in a PDF format used on the website. Although he had been informed that there was no budget available for reprinting to replace copies given out, Councillor Houston reassured the meeting that there will be no problem in producing more copies. **Action:** Councillor Houston. Charles McHugh reported that he has been reassured that the omission of the Aberdeen-Dundee-Glasgow bus is being remedied.

High School facilities John Alexander is following up a report that the letting of these facilities is the responsibility of FES, the PPP company, rather than of Active Stirling. **Action:** John Alexander.

Traffic at the M&S store Alan Booth felt that there should be more signs on the road to prevent cars getting into the wrong lane at the dip and Councillor Goss reported that a repeat traffic survey will be undertaken in a few weeks’ time to identify any problems.

However, the general feeling of the meeting was that the traffic arrangements are working well.

Laighills pitch Councillor Goss has been told by Willie Hamill, Community Services, Stirling Council, that the Laighills pitch is being included in a contract for various pitches to be turfied across the Council area during this financial year, although it was noted that this will be too late for the present football season.

All-weather pitch Councillor Houston will report on this at the next meeting. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Access road to football pitches at High School Active Stirling has informed Councillor Goss that they are not responsible for the letting of these pitches, which were the responsibility of the school. Councillor Goss will investigate further and report at the next meeting. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

Pavement to Kinbuck Clare Clark from Kinbuck has been told by Jenny Elliott, Stirling Council, that the Council lacked funds for any further cleaning until the new financial year. With respect to the broken-down wall, Councillor Goss reported that the farmer who owned the land did not want to take responsibility for it. As the hillside behind the wall is in danger of sliding down and endangering passers-by, Councillor Goss will look into the health and safety aspect of this and report back at the next meeting. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

Christmas lights The Treasurer reported that Bryan Grieve from the Development Trust is trying to find a cherry-picker so that the lights in the High Street can be removed.

Bogside Councillor Houston read out a document from the legal department of the Council relating to the land at Bogside, which concluded that the Council can build a row of houses there without having to consult anyone else. Craig French argued that the owner of Holmehill still has title and interest in this land and the Council could go to court to ask for the title conditions to be varied to remove any ambiguity, although this would involve cost and delay. When Kate Fawcett expressed her opposition to the Council building on green spaces, Councillor Houston replied that, although this land was on the Council's housing account, at present there were no plans to build there.

Recycling boxes In reply to the Chairman's complaint at the last community council meeting that these, once emptied, were being scattered over pavements, Councillor Finlay had reported that he had passed this on to the appropriate department. However, the Chairman reported that there has been no improvement.

Revision of ward system When the Chairman forwarded the community council's proposal (see minutes of 2 March 2009) to Helen Geddes, the latter expressed the view that this would

be difficult to achieve. It would be considered by Stirling Council in May, if the proposal were sent to Bob Jack in time. A letter is to be drafted by Craig French for the Chairman to send. **Action:** Craig French and the Chairman.

5. Police Report: See attached.

PC Gary Meikle introduced himself and apologised for the lack of a written report. He reported that the police were working with British Transport Police to tackle the problem of young people coming into the town with alcohol. This had been a particular problem during the weekend of 27 March, when over 100 young people had congregated in Dunblane.

Clare Clark stressed that teenagers on turning 18 are placed under a lot of peer pressure to buy alcohol for their younger acquaintances and proposed that off-licences should be prevented from selling alcohol to under-21s. Kate Fawcett commented that alcohol was taken from parental homes as well and it was agreed that more education should take place in schools. Councillor Houston agreed to raise the possibility of bottle-marking (see minutes of 2 March 2009) with the Licensing Board and also with the police. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

The community council was in agreement with Moira Stewart who proposed that a drop-in café for young people would make a big difference, as at present there was little for them to do.

The Chairman expressed concern at the behaviour of teenagers at the annual Muck-up Day at the High School and asked that a more pro-active policing strategy were followed. Alan Booth agreed to draft a letter to enquire how the school was planning to tackle the problem, which the Chairman will send to the Headteacher. **Action:** Alan Booth and the Chairman.

PC Meikle stressed the need for the police to be kept informed of where young people were congregating and causing problems.

6. Proposed new taxi-bus service

The Chairman welcomed Mike Pain of Albion Taxis, who gave a small presentation on how he felt his business in Dunblane could develop by using taxi-buses which could carry up to 8 people. It was suggested that transporting children to school or commuters to the station could provide him with areas of expansion. However, especially in view of the fact that other taxi drivers from Dunblane were not present to discuss this, the community council could not give any substantive help, although it wished him well.

7. Correspondence: See attached.

The Chairman has received a reply from the Council to his proposal for part-time 20 mph restrictions on Old Doune Road in which he was reassured that this will be looked at this year.

The Chairman, after corresponding with Scottish & Newcastle following the closure of the Stirling Arms, is to have a meeting with a representative of S & N Pub Enterprises Ltd to ascertain their plans. Kate Fawcett was of the view that the tenant would be willing to return if S & N made the building safe.

8. Treasurer's Report: See attached.

The Treasurer noted that £1,000 in the Administration Account is due to be transferred to the Development Trust for the Coronation Garden (see minutes of October 2008).

9. Planning Report: See attached.

It was agreed that the Chairman will look into the details of the proposed extension to the leisure club at the Hydro as it was felt that there was an overuse of wood finishes.

It was agreed to repeat the community council's objection to the backyard development at Elmswood.

10. Community Plan Update

Alan Booth reported that the questionnaires will be returned and sent to Alan Tuft, Communities Futures, shortly. A public meeting on 16 May will be held to allow people from the community to vote on the four issues they wish to be included in the Plan.

11. Proposed Dunblane Area Forum

This was deferred to the next meeting of the community council.

12. Report of Meetings

Parking Working Group The Chairman reported that he had been informed at a recent meeting that there is still no agreement between the Council and First Scotrail about the parking area at the station. The Chairman commented that there were more parking spaces available in the Tesco car park than previously and proposed an extension of the parking there to 3 hours during the day, which would help visitors. It was agreed that there are not enough signs in the town to direct visitors to car parks, while the original parking plan was unduly complicated. A satisfaction survey will be undertaken at the end of the summer and this will include tourist parking. Moira Stewart reported that the meters in Mill Row were not accepting 50p pieces, and this had been reported to the Council three weeks previously. The police are being pro-active in enforcing the regulations and have issued many parking tickets. Charles McHugh reported that, in his view, the cycle lane on the dual carriageway which runs beside parked cars is dangerous and the Chairman agreed to check on it.
Action: The Chairman.

Laighills Alan Booth, John Alexander and Councillor Goss have attended a meeting of various bodies, including SEPA and the Planning and Footpath Officer, to discuss issues affecting the Laighills and how the management of the Laighills can be upgraded. It was

agreed that various departments, although under the overall control of the planning department, were not working together. A meeting on site is to take place on 15 May to consider the problems of the paths, bridges and the river, etc. The footpath in the Laighills which spans the railway is in need of repair, which is the responsibility of the Council. While Councillor Goss felt that it would be better if there were an overall plan for the area with one organisation to run it, more consultation with the community would be required. Meanwhile, short-term issues of maintenance and repair needed to be addressed immediately.

13. Councillors' Reports

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Campbell to the meeting and emphasised the need for all four councillors to be involved in following up issues raised by the community council. Councillor Campbell indicated that he was willing to provide a monthly report to the community council of Dunblane issues he was working on, and hoped to be able to attend meetings more frequently in the future. Individuals have been contacting him mainly about planning issues and he has been busy with Council business, especially on the setting up of a Scrutiny Panel which is being set up to look at classroom disruption in Stirling schools. The issues of how schools deal with 6th year pupils and with pupils at lunch-time were raised. Councillor Campbell was willing for tasks to be delegated to him from the community council and agreed to send the Chairman details of the Scrutiny Panel. **Action:** Councillor Campbell.

Councillor Goss reassured the meeting that there are no plans to close the Burgh Chambers, although the Chairman felt the Council could utilise the building more.

14. AOCB

In response to a report by John Alexander of a dog being injured by a metal pole on a footpath near the Scouring Burn after a stone dyke had been taken down by Stirling Council Rangers, the Chairman agreed to follow this up. **Action:** The Chairman.

John Alexander also reported on unruly tenants in Springfield Terrace and grass needing reinstated on George Street after being damaged by the Gas Board.

The meeting ended at 10.30 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

Terence O'Byrne Date
.....
Chairman

Frederic Gilmour Date
.....Secretary

DUNBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT – MARCH 09

Over the last month there have been a total of 21 reported crimes reported in the Dunblane area.

DETECTED

There have been 5 detected crimes reported, these include a male who was arrested for a breach of the peace and assault in Dunblane High Street. There have also been an additional 2 breach of the peace detected, a female traced for an offence against the telecommunications act (sending an offensive text message) and a male caught drinking in public (Millrow).

UNDETECTED

There have been a total of 12 crimes reported in March that are currently undetected. These include 6 reported thefts (2 from Dunblane Hydro, 1 from QV school, 1 from Dunblane High and 2 other unconnected thefts) and 1 theft by housebreaking when a local coffee shop was broken into. There have also been 4 vandalism reported and a reckless conduct.

ROAD TRAFFIC

There have been a total of 4 road traffic offences reported, these include using a mobile telephone and no road tax.

There have been a total of 11 tickets issued over the month for a variety of offences including, parking in a permit holders bay, parking in a taxi rank, parking in a bus stop and double yellow lines. These tickets have also been issued in a number of areas including The Cross, Millrow, Station Road, Springfield Terrace, Stirling Road, High Street and Beech Road.

DUNBLANE COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Over the next 3 months, the 3 priorities will be Anti-social behaviour, Vandalism and Supply of alcohol to persons under 18.

Correspondence List – March 2009

- 1) On 6 March: from NHS Forth Valley: Subject: Notes of meeting on 28 January
- 2) On 6 March: from NHS Forth Valley: Subject: advertising open meeting on 18 March 2009
- 3) On 7 March: from Rt Hon Anne McGuire MP: Subject: note of constituency advice surgeries outwith Dunblane.
- 4) On 11 March: from NHS Forth Valley: issue of Community News.
- 5) On 11 March: from Stirling Council (SC): subject: Notice per Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 advising application for Temporary Public Entertainment Licence (TPEL) for Doune & Dunblane Agricultural Society show on 4 July 2009 at Keir Mains, Dunblane. (Limit of 6000 attendees)
- 6) On 12 March: from SC: subject: Notification of public procession in Dunblane on 30 May 2009 by the Doune and Dunblane Fling.
- 7) On 17 March: from SC: Agenda of Special Meeting of SC on 19 March 2009.
- 8) On 26 March: from SC: a second notice for the same meeting as at (7) above.
- 9) On 23 March: from Forth Housing Association Ltd – Newsletter.
- 10) On 28 March: from SC: agenda for SC meeting on 2 April 2009.
- 11) On 31 March: from SC: notice of Special Meeting of SC on 3 April 2009 to confer the freedom of the City of Stirling on Mr Irvin Iffla.
- 12) On 2 April: from Rt Hon Anne McGuire MP, notice of constituency advice surgeries outwith Dunblane.
- 13) On 4 April: from NHS Forth Valley: advertisement for NHSFV Community Health Partnership meeting, on 29 April at the conference centre at Stirling Royal Infirmary, kick off at 7pm (until 9pm)

Dunblane Community Council

Treasurers Report

6th April 2009.

'Administration Account'	00347702
Expenditure since last report	£113.86
Interest	£0.15
Income	£nil
Account balance to date 31 st March 2009.	<u>£1489.45</u>

'Community Fund'	00347753
Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0.04
Account balance to date 31 st March 2009	<u>£200.80</u>

Lawrie Dewar, Treasurer, 6th April 2009.

Lawrie Dewar
Treasurer

MONTHLY REPORT – April 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 The Rowans Smithy Loan, 65 Mentieth View, 6 Dykedale, 5 Barbush, 17 St Lawrence Ave (amendment). Porch in the walled yard at Tomdoran, Replace 6 antennae at the Kippenrait mast (approved). New guest Tce at Dunblane Hydro, New front porch at Dunblane Hydro

Two new applications have been received for consideration at this meeting. An extension to the existing leisure club at Dunblane Hydro and renewal of consent to convert the stable block at Elmswood, The Crescent which was re-granted 5 years ago based on the original approval in 1998.

Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.

The tree removal plan has been submitted for the new house in The Crescent, a copy of this plan has been requested given that the site is in the conservation area.

The new house at 35 Old Doune Road is nearing completion, there seems to be a deviation from the approved plans, Planning Enforcement Officers have been asked to investigate.

A new road has been laid to provide access to the new house being developed near Pisgah. Planning Enforcement Officers have confirmed that this road is to allow access to the site during construction, this was not on the original plans approved. We have asked that the developer be made to re-instate the field and boundary wall to Glen Road once development has been completed.

No decisions on the 3 townhouses at the Stirling Arms, Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill, new house at Mid Cambushinne, 2 new houses at Park Cottage.

Other Planning Matters

None

Terence O'Byrne