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**Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 7 March 2005, at 7.30 p.m. in the Burgh Chambers.**

**Present:** Mike Seal (Chairman), Sandy Mackay (Secretary), Tony Ford (Treasurer), Terence O'Byrne, Stuart Hepburn, Peter McCusker, John Alexander.

**In attendance:** Councillor Pat Greenhill, PC Love, Alan Booth, Sue Faulkner, Pete and Jo Bicheno, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

**1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Duncan Taylor and Domenico Angiolini.

**2. Chairman's Remarks**

The Chairman suspended standing orders and asked Alan Booth and Sue Faulkner to cover the subject of Community View and its distribution. Alan Booth explained that the distribution of Community View was based on the wards of community councillors and that the latter had been the main organisers of its distribution, with the help of many others. However, it had reached the point where there was some confusion in the distribution lists, with overlapping boundaries. Handing out lists of addresses split into wards, and maps, Alan Booth asked the community councillors to confirm exactly where they were delivering Community View and to return this information to Sue Faulkner within the week.

The Chairman reminded the community councillors that they had agreed that the distribution of Community View should no longer be an obligatory part of a councillor's duties, especially in view of the fact that in some wards there was no community councillor. It was, therefore, agreed that each community councillor would identify someone in their ward, either themselves or someone else, who would take on the responsibility of distributing Community View and would pass this information on to Sue Faulkner.

**3. Minutes of the meeting of 7 February 2005**

These were approved, proposed by Peter McCusker and seconded by the Secretary.

**4. Matters arising**

**Noticeboard:** The map has still not been returned and the Secretary will take this up with Janice Ainslie.

**PPP:** A visit to the proposed Kippendavie site has been made by Bob Gil, John

Alexander, the Secretary, Domenico Angiolini and Tom Smith (from the Dunblane Development Trust). The need for a new road, problems with the slip road at the Queen Victoria school and the recognition that the site was too remote have made this proposal unfeasible. The Community Council reluctantly agreed to Stirling Council's judgement that this site be rejected.

**Untidy site at the Victoria Hall:** The Secretary has received no reply to his letter to the owner and will now bring it to the attention of Stirling Council Environmental Department.

**Community Governance Meeting:** The Chairman will ask Tom Smith for a brief report on his attendance at this meeting held in February.

**Holmehill:** The newly-formed Holmehill Community Trust has succeeded in lodging a successful application under the Community Purchase Scheme with the Scottish Executive. This means that the sale of the land by Hilton has been halted while the Holmehill Trust investigates in more detail whether they can afford the site and if they want to progress with a formal offer.

**Abbotsford:** The issues about Abbotsford are now being dealt with by Corporate Services - the legal issues with Legal Services and building issues with CAM (Corporate Asset Management). Helen Munro expressed her disappointment about the slowness of progress and will try to speed things up. Meanwhile, she has asked Lesley Malkin, Manager of CAM, to arrange for members of the Community Council to visit the building.

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

It was agreed that Terence O'Byrne would look into the "Local Channel Web Site" and Stuart Hepburn would look at the Cultural Strategy of Stirling Council.

A letter from Sylvia Jackson MSP gave details of a confidential helpline, 0800 555 111, which people could use to notify the police in confidence about any issues relating to drugs. It was agreed that this phone number should be advertised in Community View.

Stirling Council has given notice that a Speed Activated Sign would be erected, as part of a rotation, at the top of Grant Drive.

Following up from Mr Catt's letter to the Secretary about the state of public transport in Dunblane, the Secretary had written both to First Bus and First Rail. First Bus has replied that they would run buses only if they were economically viable, otherwise the matter should be taken up with Stirling Council. The Secretary has been promised a report from First Rail but has not yet received it.

Copies of the SNH Access Code will be left in the office and in the library.

It was agreed that the Community Council was not sufficiently qualified to make a meaningful response to the Local Government Finance Review Committee's Consultation Paper. The Secretary will write to inform them of this, but with the proviso that the Community Council will still want to be kept informed.

In addition, the Chairman has received two pieces of correspondence.

The Chairman has received an e-mail from Jo Bicheno asking for another letter of support from the Community Council to support her application for a further grant towards the building of the new skatepark in the Laighills. However, over the last few weeks complaints about the rowdy behaviour of young people coming to and from the Laighills have been received and a discussion followed over whether the skateboard park would exacerbate these problems. PC Love reported that only three phone calls of complaint had been received by the police. It was agreed to continue the Community Council's support for the skatepark and to deal with any behaviour problems in the future as they arose. Jo Bicheno reported that the TA were going to reinforce a weak bridge to allow construction work and that Stirling Council has agreed to take over the running of the skatepark once it is built.

The Chairman has also received an e-mail from ITN Factual asking for the Community Council to support and participate in a forthcoming programme on the 10th anniversary of the Dunblane tragedy. The request was unanimously rejected.

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

The Treasurer reported that the £400 Administration Supplementary Grant from Stirling Council had not yet been received.

**7. Planning Report:** See attached.

The Community Council agreed that the proposed footbridge over the A9 for High School pupils should have its sides increased in height for the safety of both pupils and drivers, and wanted to be kept informed on what safety measures are proposed.

The Annual Telecommunications Seminar will take place on 16 March, when plans for future mobile phone masts are rolled out.

**8. Report of Meetings**

The Chairman, the Secretary and Tom Smith from the Development Trust have recently attended a meeting at the NHS Primary Care Headquarters in Larbert to consider the delay in upgrading and expanding Dunblane Health Centre. A Project Team had been formed, comprising Drs Swan and Watson, a pharmacist, a health visitor, two members from Forth Valley Primary Health Care, the Chairman and Secretary of the Community Council and Tom Smith from the Development Trust. This would look at all the options, whether to refurbish, expand or even build a new health centre. It was hoped to have the project completed by 2007.

**9. Police Report:** See attached.

Apologising for his absence at the last meeting PC Love reported on the January and February crime reports for Dunblane. Dunblane had lost one police officer during this period, but gained two probationers. He reported that it was not felt appropriate that the police distribute copies of the Parentline leaflet (see minutes for December 2004).

The Chairman invited PC Love's comments on the suggestion by some High Street traders that CCTV cameras be installed to deter vandalism. Pointing out that there would not be the capacity to monitor any more cameras PC Love suggested that the Chairman contact PC Strachan for further information. He also informed the meeting that private cameras could be installed only to cover private property, and not in public places, like the High Street.

**10. Councillor's Report**

Councillor Greenhill reported that the PPP project had been due to go before the Environment Committee but has been delayed as the traffic impact studies have not been completed.

In reply to a question from the Chairman, Councillor Greenhill agreed that no imminent changes to the Burgh Chambers in Dunblane were being considered, although the Council was pressing ahead with the One Stop Shop within Stirling.

**11. AOCB**

The following issues were also brought to the attention of Councillor Greenhill: the delay in repairing the street light on the railway bridge, molehills on the football pitch in the Laighills, unsightly rubbish behind the Allan Water Cafe, and dangerous dogs.

The meeting ended at 9.20 p.m.

## **MONTHLY REPORT – MARCH 2005**

### **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 to 15 St Laurence Ave, 6 Auchinlay Holdings, 11 Chisholm Ave, 20 Lawder Place, 30 Ochloch Park, 2 Argyle Way, Demolish House at 48 Old Doune Road, Change of use of land to garden at 17 Ramsay Drive, Staff accommodation within St Blanes, Dormer at Yair, Cawdor Crescent, Conservatory at 4 Ardoch Crescent., Conversion of 2 flats to one house at 8 Ochilview, Ashfield.

We have an application for the building of a large bungalow within the Walled garden at Ledcameroch. The previous application was for 2 houses which the Community Council objected to and Stirling Council refused. The planning sub committee met to consider this new application and recommended refusal on the same grounds as the previous application. (see attached letter)

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

We received an acknowledgement for our letter regarding objections and questions raised on the High School new Build proposals. The letter advised that there were no proposals to alter the parapets to the bridge over the A9 which will provide access to the new playing fields. A letter objecting strongly to this has been sent to Stirling Council (see attached). We will discuss the issue at this meeting and send our proposals to Stirling Council. The headteacher at the school has indicated his strong objection also.

With regard to the proposals at Kippendavie Woods, further correspondence was received from the architects Foulon Bell which continued to emphasize that 82% of the woods would be available to the public. A letter has been sent to Stirling Council reiterating that only 50% of the wood will be available.

Still no decisions yet from the Planners regarding the possible developments at Ault Wharrie where we have objected to all except the application for converting Ault Wharrie to 10 flats, which we have conditionally supported. Also. no decision yet on the revised application for a nursing home on land below the Hydro on the Perth Road, which we have supported.

## **Other Planning Matters**

Still no further news on modified proposal for the upgraded 400,000 volt power line.

The next meeting of the Planning sub-committee is scheduled for Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30 in the Burgh Chambers.

Terence O'Byrne.