



Dunblane Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 11 May, 2009, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.

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

In attendance: Councillor Callum Campbell, Councillor David Goss, Councillor Colin Finlay, PC Simon Fraser, Angela Edgar, Clare Clark, Alan Brown, Moira Stewart, Trudy Wyler, Martin Little (*Allanwater News*), Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

1. Apologies: Apologies have been received from Councillor Houston and Sylvia Cairns.

2. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman commented on the recent report in the *Allanwater News* on the Development Trust working with the Kippendavie Group Trust over future developments in Dunblane and welcomed the last paragraph which stated that there would be community involvement from the earliest stage. It was noted that the first workshop on the upcoming Community Plan will take place at *The Fling by the River* at the end of the month, which will also provide an opportunity for consultation on the DDT proposals. However, the Chairman stressed that too little information was at present in the public domain and urged the DDT to hold public meetings before the end of June at the latest, as more consultation was required with the residents of Dunblane. In the meantime, he proposed that this should be an agenda item for the June meeting of the community council, by which time he expected more details to be known. The Chairman also wanted more information about the Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative under which developers involved with the Kippendavie Trust were working.

Kate Fawcett stated that she was not comfortable with the fact that the Trust had become involved in this in regard to the development of the gap site in the High Street, while Sue Faulkner pointed out the main difference between the community council and the DDT, unrecognised by most of the public, is that the community council is an elected body while the Development Trust is not.

The Treasurer supported the Chairman in his efforts to persuade the DDT to hold public meetings soon and will report this at the next meeting of the DDT.

The Chairman reminded the meeting that any application will have to go through the planning process in due course and Craig French pointed out that the community council has a long track record of judging planning applications on their merits, according to the wishes of the people of Dunblane and this will not change.

In response to a comment from Angela Edgar that any developer in Dunblane has to put money back into the community, the Chairman queried how much "community gain" money would remain after the infrastructure required by any large development was paid for. When Trudy Wyler commented that it might be difficult to get people to turn out for a meeting if they did not realise its importance, the Chairman repeated that it would be better if the DDT organised the meeting and provided the information required, although if this has not been organised by the next meeting of the community council, then the community council could debate whether they should hold a public meeting. **Action:** The Chairman, agenda item.

Further, the Chairman also stipulated that community council meetings should finish earlier with a target finish time of 9.30 p.m.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 6 April 2009

There were the following amendments:

Under item 10, Alan Booth noted that Alan Tuffs' name had been misspelt.

Under item 4, Bus timetable, Charles McHugh altered the minute to read: "Charles McHugh reported that he has been reassured that the omission of the Aberdeen-Dundee-Glasgow bus is being looked into".

Under item 13, Councillor Goss altered the minute to read: "Councillor Goss welcomed the assurances of Councillor Houston that there were no plans to close the Burgh Chambers".

With these amendments, the minutes were approved, proposed by John Alexander and seconded by Kate Fawcett.

4. Matters arising

Ramoyle The Chairman reported that residents in Ramoyle have formed a group which has already had meetings with the Council and the police to address the traffic problems. The community council will be kept informed of any progress.

Bus timetable More copies of the timetable are now available.

High School facilities John Alexander reassured the meeting that difficulties in letting have been resolved.

All-weather pitch This is brought forward to the next meeting.

Access to football pitches at High School Councillor Goss reported that the Council run a central booking system, where those wishing to book a pitch email their request and receive an email confirmation in return. Thus, there are no written contracts. Councillor Goss is proposing to the Council that proper contracts be issued for letting pitches and will report back on this. He has also been informed that the janitor at the High School is responsible for ensuring that all conditions of the let are adhered to, but that he is not always on duty. **Action:** Councillor Goss.

Pavement to Kinbuck Councillor Goss reported that the land slips were not major and Clare Clark has been told that Streetscape is going to clear the earth off the pavement later this month. The Chairman asked Clare Clark to keep him informed.

Revision of ward system The Chairman and Craig French will draft a letter (see minutes of last meeting). It was noted that there will be a new Director of Corporate Services at Stirling Council by the end of the month. **Action:** The Chairman and Craig French.

Muck-up day In reply to an email from Alan Booth enquiring how the school was planning to address the problems of muck-up day, the Headteacher stated that anti-social behaviour which occurs outwith school grounds is a police matter. PC Fraser has drafted in extra help for muck-up day, 13 May, but felt that enthusiasm for it among pupils has waned, especially as it will follow on from an exhausting trip to Alton Towers.

With reference to an incident at the Awards Ceremony at the Cathedral, PC Fraser reported that it has been dealt with. The Chairman expressed his sadness that an event which celebrates the achievements of young people in the town will now require a police presence.

Clare Clark expressed the view that the High School do not take enough responsibility for pupils outside school and do not care about their behaviour, while Alan Booth felt it was more a question of respect, the respect the school should give to pupils and pupils to the school. In Councillor Campbell's view, there is a "hands off" attitude towards discipline in education and the Council should work together with parents, teachers, pupils and the community to address this issue. In response, the Chairman indicated his willingness to write to David Cameron, Director of Children's Services, about this, copying his letter to the

Councillors, and Councillor Finlay urged him to send a copy also to the parent council at the school. **Action:** The Chairman.

Cycle lane on B8033 It was agreed that there is confusion about this because of inconsistent signage. Charles McHugh will take this up with the Council. **Action:** Charles McHugh.

Scrutiny Panel Councillor Campbell will be reporting in June to Stirling Council.

Laighills After the injury to a dog, repairs have been made.

Christmas lights in High Street In reply to the general dissatisfaction with the lights still being in place, the Treasurer reported that the Development Trust is trying to secure the services of a cherry-picker. The Chairman offered the help of community councillors if required.

5. Police report: See attached.

John Alexander commented on the lack of litter recently in the Laighills. In reply to Clare Clark, PC Fraser expressed his support of any scheme which would help to prevent anti-social behaviour.

6. Correspondence: See attached.

It was agreed, with Charles McHugh abstaining, to reply to the Council objecting to the erection of new place signs in Gaelic and English, on the grounds of cost and safety.

The Chairman, as Chairman of the Dunblane GP Practice Patient Participation Group, took the copy of "The Way Ahead" by the BMA.

7. Treasurer's Report: See attached.

It was noted that £1,000 from the Administration Account has been transferred to the Development Trust for the Coronation Garden.

8. Development Trust Report

The Treasurer reported on the following:

Dunblane in Bloom It has been decided not to enter the competition this year as it is very expensive, but planting in Dunblane will continue.

War memorial The British Legion has written to the DDT expressing a desire to improve the war memorial.

Parking It was reported that the parking has improved at Tesco, but Moira Stewart is still unhappy with the lack of available parking at the Victoria Hall.

Fundraiser The DDT has appointed a new fundraiser.

Coronation Garden The garden wall is to be built by the end of the month.

Braeport Centre The toilets have been improved and the guttering will be repaired shortly. Community councillors expressed concern over spending money on a facility which is not owned by the community. However, the Treasurer reassured them that repairs were being effected at low cost and Alan Booth reported that the community bid to register an interest in the Braeport Centre has been successful, which means that if it were to come up for sale, a community buy-out will have priority. Craig French commented that the committee which allocates the wind-farm community grant is going to contact the DDT for an explanation of the use of funds granted to it.

Community Plan The public consultation on the Community Plan will take place at *The Fling by the River*.

9. Planning Report: See attached.

With reference to the upgrading of the mobile phone mast at Duckburn, it was agreed that the Chairman will enquire about the increase of radiation and if there are plans for any further changes in output. The Chairman asked Martin Little of the *Allanwater News* to publicise this. **Action:** The Chairman.

With reference to the outline application for three houses near Cemetery Road, these would be built on garden ground. As there are no trees indicated, the Chairman will check on existing trees. The over-development of the site was also queried. **Action:** The Chairman.

With reference to the application to convert the coach house at The Grange, St Margaret's Drive, it was agreed to object on the grounds that it would set a precedence of converting a non-residential building, and that there was an issue of privacy as it was on the boundary of three properties. Conditions could be imposed, such as there being no future independent sale and no separate access, so that the two properties would always have to be sold together. Alan Booth remarked that, as it is in a conservation area, a European Protective Species Survey is also required. **Action:** The Chairman.

With reference to the new Local Development Plan the process of public consultation is now under way. The lack of facilities for teenagers and pensioners was discussed and it was agreed that notice of this consultation be posted on the internet. It was agreed that this will be on the agenda for the next meeting of the community council, before which the Chairman will email councillors with ideas from the planning committee which will meet in the next week or so. It is hoped that the initial data from the Community Plan questionnaires will be available by then. **Action:** The Chairman.

Community councillors gave their full support to a letter the Chairman has written to the Scottish Government in response to a submission to the Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative (SSCI) by developers involved with Kippendavie Group Trust and it was agreed that he will send a copy also to the leader of Stirling Council.

10. Community Plan Update

As soon as it is available, Alan Booth will email the interim report from Alan Tuffs to community councillors. The “long leet” of issues identified by the replies will be publicised at *The Fling* and at a later date at the Dunblane Centre and at the Braeport. People will have the opportunity to vote on what they consider to be the most important and Alan Tuffs will draft a Community Plan from their responses. A proportionately larger number of replies has been received from those living in older, established developments in Dunblane than from the newer estates. An amended questionnaire has been sent to the Headteacher at the High School for distribution to pupils. Alan Tuffs is setting aside replies from Ashfield and Kinbuck and is willing to hold separate meetings there, with the support of Stirling Council. It has not yet been decided whether to deliver a copy of the Community Plan to the whole of Dunblane or whether to publish it on the web.

What has become apparent is that there are lots of different groups in Dunblane working independently from each other, which could form the basis of a Dunblane Forum.

11. Report of meetings

The Chairman has had a meeting with a senior director of Operations and Sales from Scottish and Newcastle about the future of the Stirling Arms. While acknowledging that it is in need of urgent repairs, a new tenant is being sought. Taking account of the feeling in the town the building has not been boarded up, and concern was expressed about its Grade B listed status. It was agreed that Kate Fawcett will enquire of Stirling Council about its policy on listed building status. **Action:** Kate Fawcett. S&N were urged to contact the previous tenant, while they were also looking at alternative uses for the building.

12. Councillors' Reports

Councillor Goss reported on planning matters, especially the division of planning applications into three categories. Plans for under 50 houses will be dealt with as a “local” plan under which appeals will be dealt with locally by a local committee of councillors.

Councillor Finlay reported that parents at Dunblane Primary School felt that more traffic calming measures were required, including a 20 mph limit. It was agreed that the Chairman will contact Bob Gill to discuss this. **Action:** The Chairman.

Councillor Campbell reported that most of his enquiries concerned the lack of affordable housing in Dunblane and it was noted that any new affordable or social needs housing built in Dunblane would not necessarily be allocated to people from Dunblane.

The Chairman requested that copies of email correspondence be copied to him.

13. AOCB

The Chairman announced that the AGM of the community council will be held at 7 p.m. on 1 June 2009 and Sue Faulkner agreed to publicise this in the local papers. **Action:** Sue Faulkner.

The Chairman has received a request from *The Fling* committee that the community council cover the event with its public liability insurance. He will check with Helen Geddes before replying. **Action:** The Chairman.

John Alexander reported that the junior football team is now being allowed to play on the top pitch at the Laighills.

Charles McHugh thanked Moira Stewart for bringing the subject of the bus timetable to the notice of the community council and Councillor Houston for bringing it to a successful conclusion.

Alan Booth announced a further meeting with Council and other officials in the Laighills.

The meeting ended at 9.40 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

Terence O'Byrne Date
.....
Chairman

Frederic Gilmour Date
.....
Secretary

Correspondence List – 7 April to 11 May 2009

- 1) On 20 April: from NHS Forth Valley: NHSFV Community News
- 2) On 20 April: from NHS Forth Valley: notification of Public Partnership Forum meeting on 27 May @ 6.30pm at Council Chambers, Viewforth..
- 3) On 20 April: from Stirling Council: Agenda for Planning Panel meeting on 22 April – no Dunblane items.
- 4) On 30 April: from The Scottish Government: Subject: ‘Choosing Scotland’s Future’ public event on 13 May at the Tolbooth, Stirling.
- 5) On 1 May: from Stirling Council – Notice of Planning Panel meeting on 7 May: no Dunblane issues.
- 6) On 9 May: from Stirling Council: notification of the Dunblane 7.5 mile road race on 24 May, complete with details of route, timing and organiser.
- 7) On 11 May: from Rt Hon Anne McGuire MP – Stirling Surgery on 15 May, 11

POLICE REPORT FOR DUNBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL – APRIL 2009

Over the last month there have been a total of 29 crimes reported.

DETECTED

There have been 14 crimes detected, these include 4 Vandalism (2 cars and 2 spray painting incidents) 2 serious assaults , 2 assaults, 2 BOP (1 Cathedral, 1 Laighills), theft, urinate (Laighills), Supply of Alcohol (licensee) , noise nuisance (radio).

It is of note that a number of these (3) have been detected within the Laighills.

UNDETECTED

There are 15 undetected crimes , these include 6 Vandalism (all cars), 2 assaults and 7 thefts (shoplifting, Theft HB, theft from M/V, thefts and intended theft)

RTA

There have been a total of 6 rta offences reported , these include 2 drink drivers, use of mobile phone when driving, fail to stop after accident and driving other than on a roadway (Laighills).

There have been a total of 4 parking tickets issued including 3 Ramoyle double yellow lines.

Dunblane Community Council

Treasurers Report

11th May 2009.

'Administration Account'	00347702
Expenditure since last report	£1048.76
Interest	£nil
Income	£nil
Account balance to date 23 rd April 2009.	<u>£440.69</u>

'Community Fund'	00347753
Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0.02
Account balance to date 30 th April 2009	<u>£200.82</u>

Lawrie Dewar, Treasurer, 11th May 2009.

Lawrie Dewar
Treasurer

MONTHLY REPORT – May 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 5 Buchan Drive, Braes View Cottage Old Doune Road, 48 Strathmore Ave, 18 Braemar Ave. Replace roof at 32B High St, Air conditioning unit at 2 High St, Flue for wood stove at 5 Montgomery Crescent, Stage and seating alterations at QV school. Replace existing antennae near Royal mail in Duckburn

Two new applications have been received for consideration at this meeting. An outline application to build 3 new houses near Cemetery Road in Dunblane and an application to convert the existing coach house at The Grange on St Margaret's Drive to a 3 bedroom house.

Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.

The tree removal plan for the new house on St Margaret's Drive has been received. It was incomplete with many substantial trees missing. A letter of objection has been sent on this basis. The plan indicated possible removal of a mature Cypress tree on the south boundary, we objected to the removal of this tree.

Regarding the new house at 35 Old Doune Road, the Enforcement officer has determined that the building height is within agreed limits and is still investigating deviations from agreed window design.

Permission has been granted for the new house at Ellenebeich on Glen Road, our objection to the removal of the mature beech hedge has been overruled on the basis that the hedge did not need permission for removal in the first instance. A planning condition has been imposed requiring re-planting of the hedge.

No decisions on the Leisure Club extension at the Hydro Hotel, stable block conversion at Elmswood, 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

The new Local Development Plan process is now underway with initial submissions to be submitted by June 26th. The planning committee will meet in the next two weeks to discuss possible items to be included; this paper will be discussed in detail at the June meeting.

In a recent submission to the SSCI (Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative) by a consortium of developers involved with Kippendavie, a reference was made to the Community Council supporting the proposals in the document. A letter was written on May 1st to the Scottish Government pointing out that this Community Council had no knowledge of the proposals and therefore could not have supported it.

Terence O'Byrne