

Dunblane Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 11 August 2008, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.

Present: Terence O'Byrne (Chairman), Frederic Gilmour (Secretary), Lawrie Dewar (Treasurer), Alan Booth, Charles McHugh, Stella Reid, Kate Fawcett, Craig French.

In attendance: Councillor Graham Houston, Moira Stewart, Sue Faulkner, Martin Little (*Allanwater News*), Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

1. Apologies: Apologies have been received from John Alexander and Domenico Angiolini.

2. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman commented on the number of unresolved issues with Stirling Council and welcomed everybody back from holiday.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 2 June 2008

It was agreed that the first sentence of paragraph 2 of agenda item 8 (Planning Report) should read: "Alan Booth wondered what the effect of increasing the number of houses would have on the balance sheet of paying for the new High School." With this amendment, the minutes were approved, proposed by Alan Booth and seconded by Frederic Gilmour.

4. Matters arising

Junction of Smithy Loan and the High Street Although Charles McHugh has contacted Jim Mullen, they are waiting for the contractor to return to do this small job. Moira Stewart reported that Drumcastle Court is also waiting for yellow lines.

Local Plan Alan Booth reported that the committee running the Local Plan has decided that a larger and therefore more costly Local Plan was needed and has applied for a grant of

£6,000 to cover the costs. An early start on the new Local Plan was urged. **Action:** Alan Booth.

Parking The parking proposals for Dunblane will be discussed at a Council meeting on 3 September 2008.

CCTV The Chairman has had no response from the Council. **Action:** The Chairman.

Toilets at the Laighills Councillor Houston reported that Councillor Thomson is awaiting the final document of the Council's Open Space Strategy.

Windfarm Community Grant Craig French reported that an advertisement inviting applications has appeared in the *Allanwater News* and on the website. The deadline for applications is 15 September 2008 and a few people have expressed interest. It was felt that a direct mail shot to heads of local organisations would be useful. Craig French will report at the next community council meeting. **Action:** Craig French.

Construction traffic restrictions There is no progress on this. (See Planning Report, agenda item 8) Councillor Houston agreed to follow this up. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Grass-cutting at Rylands Park In Councillor Houston's opinion, the grass-cutting schedule this year is an improvement on last year but the quality of the work is sub-standard. He reported that Councillor Thomson has requested another paper on grass-cutting from Les Goodfellow. The Chairman again expressed concern that this issue has been ignored by the Council for several months.

Scouring Burn bridge Alan Booth reported that no work has been done and agreed to send details of this problem to Councillor Houston. **Action:** Alan Booth and Councillor Houston.

Roundabout at M&S store The need for a roundabout at the entrance to the new M&S store has not been recognized by the Roads Department of the Council although the community council has repeatedly expressed concern at the potential for accidents occurring there. It was agreed that Councillor Houston will ask for copies of the traffic analyses undertaken with reference to the Dunblane Youth Centre, which required a roundabout, and to the new M&S store, so that they can be compared. It was also agreed to invite a Council officer from Technical Services to a community council meeting to explain why a roundabout is not deemed necessary. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

Bus timetable The Chairman will follow up the possibility of producing a timetable for all the bus services in Dunblane. **Action:** The Chairman.

5. Police Report: See attached.

No police officers were able to attend this meeting but a written report has been submitted. Sergeant Joyce Greenhorn has taken up post in Dunblane and wishes to attend the next community council meeting to introduce herself.

6. Correspondence: See attached.

Stirling Council is applying for Pressured Area Status, which would suspend the right of tenants to buy their council houses, in order to protect affordable housing stock.

A questionnaire from the Fire and Rescue Service was distributed to councillors.

7. Treasurer's Report: See attached.

The Treasurer reported that he is awaiting a grant of £400 from Stirling Council. He is going to contact Helen Geddes to find out which expenses can be claimed by community councillors and what the Community Fund can be used for. He will report back at the September meeting. **Action:** The Treasurer.

8. Planning Report: See attached.

With reference to the first paragraph of the report, Alan Booth queried which applications related to buildings in conservation areas.

With reference to the building at the rear of the Stirling Arms, Alan Booth pointed out that a European Protected Species Survey report should be made.

With reference to the application for a new house in Pisgah woods, it was agreed that a request be made that new trees be planted to replace those already removed.

With reference to the application for a new house at Ellenabeich, Glen Road, it was agreed that the Council's Tree Officer be contacted with a view to putting a protection order on the beech hedge.

With reference to the construction of houses on the old High School site, the Chairman again expressed the community council's extreme dissatisfaction with the Council's refusal to request a voluntary agreement from the builder, Stewart Milne, to prevent construction traffic at those times when pupils were going in and out of the school. There was also concern that there would not be any restrictions when the Anchorscross development was being built. Councillor Houston agreed to contact Stewart Milne and will keep the Chairman informed of the result of these discussions. The Chairman will work with the *Allanwater News* to publicise the situation. When Sue Faulkner reported that the surface of Wallace Road was breaking up, due to heavy traffic, the Chairman agreed to follow this up. **Action:** Councillor Houston and the Chairman.

With reference to the application for a new house at Cloisters Crofts being approved, the community council criticised Stirling Council for not paying any attention to their objections.

9. Report of Meetings

The Chairman and Charles McHugh have attended a meeting of Forth Valley NHS about the new hospital at Larbert and what changes its opening would entail for Stirling and Falkirk Infirmaries. The Chairman reported that the plans for Stirling Infirmary were quite ambitious and included many out-patient departments.

The Treasurer reported on the last meeting of the Dunblane Development Trust and praised the efforts of the Dunblane in Bloom team and the renovation of the Braeport café. The AGM of the DDT will be on 6 September 2008 at the Braeport. Members of the DDT have been involved in the Dunblane High School Enterprise Week. However, he also reported that concern had been expressed at the state of the Chinese restaurant in the High Street.

With reference to the Christmas lights remaining up, the DDT felt unable to meet the cost of hiring a cherry-picker to have them taken down. Sue Faulkner reminded the meeting that the lights and their fittings would degrade if left exposed to the weather. It was agreed that a letter of congratulation should be sent to the DDT for their efforts in improving the overall look of the town. It was further agreed that a second letter should be sent expressing concern over the condition of the Christmas lights and enquiring about their future. **Action:** The Chairman.

10. Councillor's Report

Councillor Houston has spoken to the Director of Operations of Enterprise Inns, which is managing the Stirling Arms. A suitable tenant is being sought, although Kate Fawcett informed the meeting that applicants were being asked to put in a large amount of money to refurbish the building. Meanwhile, the Stirling Arms is in a state of disrepair and is threatened with closure by Enterprise Inns. Kate Fawcett is to organise a meeting between the Director of Operations and the Chairman. **Action:** Kate Fawcett.

Councillor Houston notified the meeting that, according to the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR), under new legislation the money realised from the sale of Abbotsford, with the winding up of the Thomas Brittain Trust, could be transferred to only one other charity, with the same aims of the original trust. Stirling Council could possibly set up a charity to disburse the money. Councillor Houston will keep himself informed of developments. **Action:** Councillor Houston.

11. AOCB: There was none.

The meeting ended at 9.10 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

Chairman Date
.....
Terence O'Byrne

Secretary Date
.....
Frederic Gilmour

POLICE REPORT FOR DUNBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Over the months of June and July there have been a total of 49 reported crimes and offences in the Dunblane area.

DETECTED

There have been a total of 29 detected cases, these include firearms offences, assaults, Breach of the Peace, a vandalism, a theft and an offensive weapon. There have also been a number of road traffic related offences including speeding (both on Doune Road and the A9) , 2 drink drivers and a male caught while driving with no Insurance, MOT. There have also been 2 males reported for illegal possession of drugs.

UNDETECTED

There have been a total of 20 undetected cases , these include, theft, fraud, vandalism, 2 offences under the telecommunications act and a road traffic offence.

YOUNG DRIVERS EVENING

The young drivers evening was held at the Dunblane Centre in June and out of a total of 15 letters sent out, 7 young drivers attended the evening. It is of note that all but 2 of the drivers who turned up were from Dunblane and all of the drivers who I wanted to come along to the evening did attend.

Since this driver evening, the number of calls to the police about the driving manner of some individuals has dropped significantly. If this is not the case and there is still a problem with certain drivers/driving manner then I would again encourage calls to ourselves.

CALLS TO THE POLICE

Over the recent months there has been an increase in the number of calls about anti-social behaviour but this is consistent with a seasonal increase. The number of calls at weekends has not greatly increased but due to school holidays the number of calls during the week has been the issue.

PC 96 Simon Fraser

Correspondence Received after the 2 June 2008 DCC Meeting

- 1) On 5 June: from Stirling Council (SC) proposal re allocation of name (Young* Road) for the access road to the proposed Business Park off Perth Road, N end.
(* Andrew Young, 1578 – 1614 a ‘past official’).
- 2) On 14 June: Agenda for SC meeting on 19 June, @ 1000 hrs.
- 3) On 16 June: from SC proposing to make the *Stirling Council (On-street Parking Spaces for Disabled Persons No’s (sic) 12 & 13) Order 2008*. (a) opposite No25 Ardoch Crescent, Dunblane and (b) opposite 56 Milton Gardens, Whins of Milton.
- 4) On 23 June: from SC – Notice of Meeting of SC Planning Panel on 26 June at 1000 hrs. (No items relevant to Dunblane).
- 5) On 26 June: from Anne McGuire MP – notification of MP’s ‘surgery’ dates.
- 6) On 26 June: from SC advising the forthcoming Community Council Vacancy Elections 2008. (Details for Dunblane: 15 seats, 11 incumbents of whom 2 co-opted; therefore 4 vacancies).
- 7) On 5 July: from Stirling Council advising the proposal to grant the Freedom of the City to Lieutenant-Colonel Francis William Saunders, MBE ERD.
- 8) On 17 July: from SC regarding use of the Internet/email systems to distribute Council documentation. TO’B’s and FG’s email addresses to be provided to SC.
- 9) On 18 July: from SC regarding on-street parking spaces for disabled persons, one at Dunblane, confirming the making of the Order. (see reference at 16 June, above)
- 10) On 19 July: from Stirling CND inviting the commemoration of Hiroshima Day, on 6 August 2008, at Smith Art Gallery & Museum, Stirling.
- 11) On 11 August: from SC, notice of planning panel meeting on 14 August 2008.
- 12) On 11 August: from the Scottish Government, a consultation paper regarding Marches and Parades in Scotland.

F J A Gilmour
Hon Secretary
Dunblane Community Council
19 August 2008

Dunblane Community Council

Treasurers Report

11th Aug 2008.

‘Administration Account’	00347702
Expenditure since last report	£60.00
Interest	£0.20
Account balance to date 31 st July 2008.	<u>£131.85</u>

‘Community Fund’	00347753
Expenditure since last report	Nil
Income since last report	Nil
Interest	£0.26
Account balance to date 31 st July 2008	<u>£200.35</u>

Lawrie Dewar, Treasurer, 11th August 2008

Lawrie Dewar
Treasurer

DUNBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MONTHLY REPORT – August 2008.

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 28 Dykedale, 25 Argyle Grove, Tillyeden Ramoyle, 18 Dykedale, 5 Edward St, 19 Dykedale, 46 Ochiltree, 9 Argyle Way, 3 Springbank Crescent, 2 Argyle Park, Replace window at 15 Holmehill Court, External staircase at 4 Belmont The Crescent, Change of use of Bothy to House at Auchinlay Road, Garage at Highcroft St Margarets Drive, Conservatory at 2 Montrose Way, Replace roughcast at 108 High St, Wrought Iron fence at Fassett Braeport.

An application to convert the building at the rear of the Stirling Arms to 3 townhouses was received, the planning committee objected to the unacceptable finishes, building height, roof terrace and effect on the setting of the Stirling Arms, bridge and the surrounding area which is in the Conservation area.

The following three applications have been received and have been considered by the planning committee:

New house in Pisgah Woods, it is recommended that objections are lodged on the basis that a substantial number of trees will be removed which will affect the Green Corridor in Dunblane, it is understood that these trees have been removed already.

Inverlochty on the Glen road is the subject of another application, to demolish and build a large new house on site. The recommendation is that objections are raised to include, no reason to demolish, new house footprint is more than 3 times that of the existing house and will overdevelop the site in addition to affecting the setting of Ochlochty Pond. The density of housing is out of character as is the proposed large zinc roof.

Full details have been submitted for the new house at Ellenabeich, Glen Road which was given outline approval in 2006. It is recommended that objections are raised to the zinc roof finish which is not in keeping with Conservation area status. To gain access to the Glen Road the large nature Beech hedge will be removed, this will adversely affect the Glen Road setting which has mature beech along most of its length.

Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.

The proposed alterations to 50 Old Doune Road had been approved, revised plans have been submitted which reduce the scale of the proposed extension.

The application to increase the number of houses at the High School site has been approved. The issue of control of construction traffic has not been resolved, our objection was responded to as follows: **“Condition 13 seeks to impose restrictions on routing of construction traffic as requested by the Community Council, It is however considered to be both unreasonable and probably unenforceable from a planning perspective to seek to restrict traffic movements during the school term”**. Condition 13 referred to a site access strategy document, a copy has been requested but not yet received. Further representations will be made to get the traffic restrictions the Community Council has been asking for since early in 2008.

No progress on the requested construction traffic restrictions at Anchorscross.

Planning approval has been granted for the 6 flats at Millrow subject to a section 69 which involves a contribution to improving the Mill Row carpark.

The 2 new houses at Pisgah Sawmill have been approved, all objections by the Community Council were over ruled.

The demolition and erection of the new large house at Cloisters Crofts has been approved, all Community Council objections have been over ruled.

No decisions on the Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill, new house at Mid Cambushinne, new house at 25 Ochlochy Park.

Other Planning Matters

Our attempt to meet with Roads to discuss planning issues has failed so far, no response has been received from Les Goodfellow to our email of April 29th.

Stirling Council has decided to not continue with the proposed alteration to the Structure Plan and to put forward proposals under the revised development planning legislation

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