

Dunblane Community Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Dunblane Community Council held on Monday, 31 March 2008, in the Burgh Chambers, Dunblane.

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

In attendance: Councillor Houston, Sue Faulkner, Moira Stewart, Esther Hutcheson (*Allanwater News*), Rhys Bulman, Caroline Goss, Margaret Bragg (Minutes Secretary).

1. Apologies Apologies have been received from the police, Councillor Goss, John Alexander and Stella Reid.

2. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman welcomed Sylvia Cairns as the new community councillor for the Argyle and Braemar ward.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting of 3 March 2008

These were approved, proposed by Frederic Gilmour and seconded by Domenico Angiolini.

4. Matters arising

Parking The Chairman had emailed discussion points to the other community councillors, following a meeting with Jim Mullen and First Scotrail. Scotrail was of the opinion that there were enough parking spaces in Dunblane for their customers, but their consultant suggested that there might be long-term funding available to build a larger, multi-storey car park at Tesco and to fund a bus which could take commuters from within Dunblane down to the station. In view of this, Stirling Council is to organise a meeting with Scotrail and the

Parking Group at the end of the April. Moira Stewart pointed out that it was following the advertising of 95 parking spaces in Dunblane by Scotrail that the parking problems had been exacerbated and Scotrail should be held responsible to alleviate them. Kate Fawcett was in disagreement with the proposal to reduce all-day parking charges in Dunblane from £2.50 to £2. Not only would it not discourage people from parking in Dunblane it was also less than parking charges in Stirling. There was also concern expressed that it would merely encourage parking in the side streets near the station.

CCTV The Chairman will follow this up. **Action:** The Chairman.

Noise levels from exhausts Some progress has been made thanks to police action, with modifications being removed from exhausts.

Junction of Smithy Loan and the High Street Stirling Council has written, promising to extend the double yellow lines in April or May. Charles McHugh will report back at the next community council meeting. **Action:** Charles McHugh.

Local Plan for Ashfield and Kinbuck Alan Booth will follow this up. **Action:** Alan Booth.

5. Police Report

The police were not present and a report has not been made available. As soon as the Chairman receives a copy, he will distribute it to community councillors. **Action:** The Chairman.

6. Correspondence: See attached list.

At the training session for community councillors, organised by Stirling Council, it was agreed that Sylvia Cairns, Lawrie Dewar, Alan Booth and the Chairman will attend.

The Chairman received the following correspondence:

A letter from Stirling Council about parking strategy;

Notification of a Central Police event about licensing;

A letter from the Chairman of Doune Community Council, explaining the re-erection of pistol signs outside Doune;

A letter from Bruce Crawford MSP about the expenditure on roads by Stirling Council;

A letter from Stirling Council about the extension of double yellow lines at the junction of Smithy Loan and the High Street.

Additionally, the Chairman has received an email from Mr Hamilton, who wishes to open a Health and Fitness Club at Barbush, a proposal which the community council at its meeting in February 2008 had supported. However, he was having difficulty with the Planning Department of Stirling Council who were denying him a "change of use", although a previous application for a nursing home at the Barbush Business Park had received approval for a change of use. Councillor Houston felt that, as the Health Club would potentially

employ only 30 staff, the Council was holding out for a larger employer for that site. He encouraged Mr Hamilton to take it to a Planning Panel. The Chairman reiterated the community council's support.

The Chairman has also received replies to his letters to Councillors Finlay and Campbell asking them to explain their absences at community council meetings. Councillor Campbell replied that at present he has too many outside commitments but hoped to be able to attend more frequently later this year. Councillor Finlay's reply was that he could be contacted at any time. Alan Booth pointed out that these councillors may have large caseloads and suggested that an appeal be made to the leaders of their groups and also to themselves directly asking them to detail how many issues they are dealing with. It was agreed that Frederic Gilmour will follow this up, and make reference to this last point. **Action:** Frederic Gilmour.

7. Treasurer's Report: See attached.

It was noted that the accounts are due to be audited.

8. Planning Report: See attached.

Anchorscross With reference to the approval of the development at Anchorscross by the Council, the meeting felt that the community council's objections have been totally ignored, especially with reference to traffic considerations. While acknowledging that Councillors were willing to listen to community councils' opinions, it was felt that recommendations by Council officials had greater weight and that the Council was eager to avoid the cost of a public enquiry called by developers who appealed a decision. The Chairman, together with Alan Booth, will discuss the community council's grievances with Peter Morgan of Environmental Services, with reference to Section 75 discussions between the landowner or developer and the local authority, and will include discussion over the installation of a roundabout outside the old Dickson's site. **Action:** The Chairman and Alan Booth.

High School site With reference to the demolition of the old High School and the subsequent building of new houses, it was noted that no traffic restrictions have been placed on construction traffic, despite the number of pupils going to and from school at certain times of the day. It was agreed that, as there was an important issue of the safety of children, this was a totally unacceptable situation. It was agreed that the same restrictions as were in place when the new school was being built should be imposed. The Chairman, together with Councillor Houston, will follow this up with Children's Services, and Brian Devlin, Director of Environment Services, and keep the Headteacher at the High School informed. **Action:** The Chairman and Councillor Houston.

9. Report of Meetings

The Chairman has been at a meeting of the Area Community Planning Forums and the Public Partnership Forum (PPF) held to discuss the Health Service in the local area. With the new hospital being built at Larbert, the PPF wishes to consult with the public over the services still to be provided by the community hospitals at Stirling and Falkirk. The

community council should receive a document shortly about this and it will be an opportunity for the community council to have a significant input to the final decisions.

The Chairman asked Councillor Houston for help in expediting a decision from Stirling Council over Dunblane's desire to have its own ACPF. In Councillor's Houston's view, ACPFs should be given more responsibility to make them more meaningful, and he felt that Dunblane has a good range of organisations which could participate in a Dunblane ACPF.

10. Councillor's Report

Councillor Houston reported on the new administration at Stirling Council and the challenge of changing the culture throughout the organisation.

The Chairman raised with the Councillor the expense of using the new High School by the community and the amount of litter around the school. It was reported that an Ecogroup has been set up in school to tackle the latter.

Community councillors urged that the question of a swimming pool for Dunblane be pursued.

11. Windfarm Guidelines

Craig French had distributed draft criteria for applications to the windfarm grant and a draft application form, to community councillors prior to the meeting and a discussion followed. The committee deciding on applications will comprise Craig French and John Alexander from the community council, one member of the Dunblane Development Trust and two people from the wider community. If approaches to individuals were unsuccessful, then it was agreed that an article in the next *Community View* would invite people in the community to apply to sit on the committee. It was envisaged that applications for grants would be considered at an annual meeting. Other amendments to the draft documents will be distributed by Craig French to community councillors and he will also find out what will happen to any money left over at the end of the year. **Action:** Craig French.

12. AOCB

Alan Booth has met with Donald Balsillie, Head of Countryside Services at Stirling Council, about the proposed Nature Reserve at the Laighills. He will meet with the new Area Manager of Scottish Natural Heritage shortly.

Alan Booth reported that the next *Community View* is due out in May and he is trying to improve its distribution.

Sue Faulkner brought to the attention of the meeting the state of the community noticeboard at the end of the High Street which needs repairing and it was agreed that Stirling Council should be contacted.

In reply to a question from Charles McHugh, Councillor Houston reported that Stirling Council is undertaking a review of play areas throughout the region.

It was agreed that Lawrie Dewar will be the community council's representative on the board of the Development Trust.

The meeting ended at 9.45 p.m.

This is a true representation of the meeting.

Chairman Date
.....
Terence O'Byrne

Secretary Date
.....
Frederic Gilmour

Dunblane Community Council

Correspondence Received after the 3 March 2008 DCC Meeting

- 1) on 11/03/08 from Waterwatch Scotland –notice of public meeting on 25/03/08 at Stirling
- 2) on 13/03/08 from Stirling Council – Scottish Government Survey of ASCC Stakeholders
- 3) on 28/03/08 from Stirling Council – Community Council Planning Training Session for new Community Councillors on 26 April
- 4) on 21/03/08 from Stirling Council – Notice of Special Meeting of the Planning Panel on 25 March to consider applications for Planning Consent
- 5) on 21/03/08 from Stirling Council – Notice of Special Meeting of the Council on 27 March to remove Provost and Depute Provost from office and to elect new incumbents.
- 6) On 21/03/08 from Stirling Council – Notice of Special Meeting of the Council on 21 March to determine issues of governance
- 7) On 21/03/08 from Stirling Council – Agenda for Council meeting on 13 March to discuss a variety of Council business
- 8) On 21/03/08 – catalogue by Wicksteed of playground equipment
- 9) On 21/03/08 from Stirling Council – notice of Council meeting on 12 March to deal with motions of No Confidence in the administration, a Motion for the dismissal of the council leader and depute leader and a Notice of Motion for the removal from office of the Provost and Depute Provost

Dunblane Community Council

Treasurers Report

31st March 2008

'Administration Account' 00347702

Expenditure since last report £0.00

Interest £0.24

Account balance to date 25th Feb 2008. £339.57

'Community Fund' 00347753

Expenditure since last report Nil

Income since last report Nil

Interest £0.14

Account balance to date 25th Feb 2008 £199.86

Lawrie Dewar, Treasurer, 31st March 2008.

Lawrie Dewar
Treasurer

31st March 2008

POLICE REPORT FOR DUNBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MARCH 08

DETECTED

There have been a total of 9 crimes detected in March these include minor assaults, Breach of the Peace , theft (including theft motor vehicle) and anti-social behaviour ticket issued for urinating in public.

UNDETECTED

There are a total of 10 crime reports that were reported in March and are at this time undetected, these include a number of vandalisms, thefts and other crimes. A number of these reports are connected (3 of the vandalism are to a garden wall in Roman Way) and a number will be progressed and detected in the near future.

ANTI-SOCIAL DRIVING

There continues to be an issue with vehicles driving around Dunblane with loud exhausts, although there have been very few calls to the police about these vehicles. It is impossible for the police to detect any offences when they are not told about vehicles at the time by means of a phone call and if required a statement about the vehicle and its actions.

I would again encourage people to phone in at the time as an email sent to myself or my inspector at the time of any incident , will in all probability not be picked up for a number of hours or even days.

PC 96 Simon Fraser

MONTHLY REPORT – APRIL 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 123 Ochiltree, 30 Montgomery Crescent, 14 Montrose Way, 12 Barclay Place, 12A Cromlix Crescent, Decking at Gleann Falaichte, Garage at Wanderwrang, Floodlit sign at Golf Club

Progress on Planning Action Log Items since last meeting.

Permission to convert Ault Wharrie to 4 flats has been approved.

Permission for the 55 units at Anchorscross was approved. All objections raised by this Community Council were rejected. The major issue was the single road access point at Old Doune Road, this Community Council still believes that this decision was incorrect and feels that it has been ignored on this major application.

A letter was written to Stirling Council asking that a roundabout be installed at the exit from Dicksons following discussions at the last Community Council meeting, to date no response has been received, once again we are being ignored on this matter.

Demolition of the old High School has commenced, no restrictions are in place regarding construction traffic in the mornings/lunchtime/afternoon while pupils enter/leave the new school. Action is being taken to try to ensure that the same restrictions as were in place for the new school build are put in place, this to apply to the demolition, new build on the school site and new build on the Anchorscross site.

No decisions on the new house at Ash cottage in Ashfield, 6 flats at Millrow, Conversion of the agricultural building at Little Hill, 18 Office Units at Barbush., 2 houses at Pisgah Mill, new house at Mid Cambushinne, new house at 25 Ochloch Park, new house at Cloisters Crofts

Other Planning Matters

There will be a training session for planning matters on April 26th in the Council Chambers between 9.30 and 12.00

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