



MINUTES OF STRATHBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Monday 1st August 2016 in the village club
Final for approval**

Members Present: - Margaret Vass, Alan Hutton, Richard Arnold, John Gray, Julie Hutchison, Grace Edmonds, Rob Davies, Sue Rand, Marian Lever, Avril Keen and Willie Oswald.

In attendance: Ian Denvir, Community Link Officer + 3 residents.

*(SC = Stirling Council. CC = Community Council. CDT= Community Development Trust *
Denotes an action)*

1. Welcome from the Chair and any apologies

Apologies – Elspeth Neill, Police Scotland, Cllr. Ian Muirhead

MV opened the meeting by congratulating members of the community for their amazing performances at Mugstock. She thanked George Thom, Dick Arnold, Keith Vass, Mandy Malcolmson and Al and Barbara Fleming for their hard work and organisation and Mugstock for facilitating local performances at the festival. WO suggested that the CC should write to the organizers of Mugstock congratulating them on the event. MV will do this.*

2. Declaration of interests –

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Police report – No officers from Police Scotland were available to attend the meeting once again but the report had been sent out in advance to members. It can be viewed in Appendix 1.

4. Minutes of June meeting and matters arising

ML noted that she had said that she would be unable to attend a meeting on June 22nd. Otherwise the minutes were approved by JH and seconded by ML

Matters arising: Item 12 - Hedge at the village club. MV had previously circulated the letter she had sent to Mr. McMillan regarding the hedge and also his reply. The letter was a courtesy as the CC had decided to ask SC to deal with the matter. Successive chairs of the Village Club Management Committee have spoken to the owner but nothing has been done to improve the situation. MV suggested that a member of the CC and representative from the Village Club should meet with Mr. McMillan. WO and AH agreed to organize a meeting.* JG suggested that they should point out a safe line for the hedge. He asked if it would help if the Tennis Club also raised the safety issue with the hedge

and agreed to do this. GE will reply to the email from Mr. McMillan saying that the matter was discussed by the CC at the meeting and that WO and AH will contact him.

Item 15 – MV was authorized to write to SC regarding the Strathblane War Memorial Trust. JG has been corresponding with SC on behalf of the Tennis Club and MV has been copied in. The War memorial Trust is not actually involved in SC's plans at present. There will be future consultations on these trusts with CCs as it is likely that the bodies concerned will want to access the money. RA suggested that capital appreciation would have been considerable in the past. JG queried where the money has been in the intervening years. ID said that SC will be looking into that.

MV reported that the grant application to Community Pride had been submitted and we should know the outcome in a few weeks.

RD attended the Broadband meeting in Kippen on June 15th. He asked DB about high speed broadband in the village but there is no information available regarding which areas have access to this and which do not. RD will continue to pursue this and try to get some idea of where high speed broadband is available and how many people would be willing to contribute to it. 30 people need to commit to it to make it worthwhile. MV asked if there was any timetable for providing additional cabinets in the village, as there is currently only one. Most of the village is connected through the exchange. RD will attempt to find out if there are plans to extend the coverage in the village and noted that a new cabinet is being installed to serve the Cala development. MV said that we need a map of coverage in our area and that the Killearn Broadband Group mapped the Killearn area themselves. We need a Strathblane Broadband Group to carry out a similar exercise. WE could ask for volunteers for this through the BVB. RD said that we should inform BT of the percentage of the village with high-speed availability to show that they are not meeting their targets. DB should be able to produce a map based on postcodes and JG will send a list of local postcodes to RD.

5. Dates for meetings in 2017.

GE provided a list of dates. MV suggested that we should have a two-month break in the summer so it was agreed to change the May and June dates to suit. The dates for November and December will be notional as these are dependent on the CC elections at that time. GE will circulate a revised list of dates to the members and forward this to SC.*

6. Draft Local Development Plan Consultation.

The consultation for this and the Transport Strategy will be Thursday 25th August in Killearn Village hall from 3.0 – 8.0pm. The LDP had no surprises for our area. Site H106 is marked for development as is the cemetery extension. The 30mph speed limit will be extended when the new cemetery opens. Site H153 is also marked for housing and the access altered as we highlighted previously.

The whole LDP is currently in appeal due to dairy farm proposals at Bridge of Allan. JG said that he read today that the rest of the plan would be put into action pending the appeal.

MV noted that our introduction in the plan is different from that of the other villages. Our population is not mentioned, nor is the fact that we are on a main tourist route, which has implications for traffic volume. WO agreed that we have been introduced differently and

suggested that we should ask SC why this is the case and why we are not apparently connected to Stirling. JG agreed to contact SC about this. Edward Pickard asked if any of the local villages are bigger than we are. MV said that we are in fact the biggest. ID informed the meeting that the City Development Group will talk about their proposals for our area in Buchlyvie on September 15th at 7.30. It is focusing on tourism, which is crucial for our area. One proposal is to make a slip road from the motorway at Cambusbarron, making it easier for people to access South-west Stirling. AH raised concerns about the volume of traffic on the A81 if this happens. Killlearn Hospital site: MV said that we are more likely to be affected by any development of this site than Killlearn. There is talk of 70 houses on the site and traffic is likely to come through Strathblane. MV said that affordable housing on the site has been ruled out but that we should ask for it anyway. Perhaps these could be linked to a possible care facility. We should be included in discussions about the site but at present are not. MV will contact Killlearn CC asking to be included. AH raised the issue of whether houses should be built in a rural area anyway.

7. Older people's Bungalows

We held a consultation on this at the Summer Fair but received only five comments with no consensus on a suitable site. MV has contacted John McMillan at SC because SC now wants the Rural Stirling Housing Association to be the preferred builders of such housing. She has had no response to her query about whether SC still intends to build these bungalows and suggested that we delay any further consultation until we have confirmation about this.

8. Primary School 50th Anniversary

The school intends to stage the play towards the end of October and MV will contact the school about a date for the Senior Citizens' afternoon tea. She suggested that this should be highlighted in the BVB and anyone interested in attending should be asked to contact us. Lorna Young kindly offered to be the contact person. She will liaise with ML.

9. Health and Social Care Integration

ML said that she had been asked to attend the Workforce Integration meeting on June 13th, although she had queried whether this would be appropriate. She was contacted on the morning of the meeting to say that it would not be appropriate for her to attend, so she didn't.

The next Strathendrick Care meeting is in BHS on August 23rd. ML and GE will attend.

ML has organised a visit to Blanefield House on Friday August 5th. ML and GE will attend this.

10. Website Demo

It was agreed to leave this until the end of the meeting when the official business was complete as it would be of little interest to members of the public. The new website is looking good and seems to be working well, apart from a few problems still to be sorted out. It was agreed that members of the CC needed some coaching on how to use the website. This will be done in groups, starting with the office bearers who will need access to editing functions.

11. Planning and licensing

The licensing application for the Remembrance Day parade has been submitted to MV. No objections were raised to this.

- a) West Arlehaven - This is an application for a static caravan to be in position for two years while a house is built. AK thinks the build is likely to start next spring so two years seems right. MV and AK stressed that the caravan should only be on site for two years and that it should be made clear to the owner that the CC does not like static caravans. The caravan should only be put in place once the building warrants have been issued and building is about to start. AK has challenged the planners about the original planning permission that was granted in 2007, but as far as they are concerned the clearing of the original house signals the start of the build process. MV wants to comment on the design of the proposed house to ensure it is the same as the original plans although AK was not sure about the validity of this as the current application only concerns the caravan. After a lively discussion it was decided that the CC would agree that the caravan is necessary subject to ensuring that it does not go on site until a firm build date is agreed and building control is notified.
- b) Planning application at Carbeth to convert a workshop. This is an amendment to a previous application to increase the height at the back of the building to double storey. There is no real issue from a planning point of view, but the new design will add to the existing building. The issue here is that the site is now in the green belt so the shape of the building should not be changed. It was decided that we have already agreed to the conversion of the barn and will leave it to SC to impose its policies regarding the green belt.

12. Elected member report

There was no elected member's report.

13. Community comments.

The company recently filming around the village wanted to contact somebody regarding the railway track. The new path was unsuitable, as they wanted a railway line. AH suggested that they try Milton of Campsie station. AK queried the legality of a huge sign near Carbeth advertising warehouse space. MV said that SC should be contacted about this.

14. Finance

Current Account: £824

Instant Saver Account: £2331

SR has not yet received the administration grant

15. Correspondence

There was no correspondence this month

16. Date of next meeting – Monday 5th September 2016 in the Primary School

Blane Valley Bulletin Copy date Monday 8th August

Contact us at cc@strathblanefield.org.uk . Telephone numbers for Community Councillors are on the notice boards, in the library and in the Blane Valley Bulletin.

Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Strathblane Community Council

Reporting Period:

August 2016 Compiled by PC Steven Graham

Ward Plan Priorities

Antisocial Behaviour

On 11th June 2016 a male was found to be in possession of cannabis within Queensview Car park.

On 4th July 2016 a vehicle was found to have been spray painted overnight whilst parked within Dumbrock Cres, Blanefield. No evidence was forthcoming to charge anyone with the offence.

Theft

Between 18th and 26th June 2016 a theft by housebreaking occurred to a garden shed in Mugdock. Pedal cycles, a quad bike and quantity of tools were stolen.

Between 30th June and 1st July 2016 a quantity of tools were stolen from the Cala Homes building site.

Overnight on 7th July a garden shed was broken into on Cuilt Road, Blanefield Gardening tools were stolen.

Between 7th July and 17th July 2016 an attempted housebreaking occurred to the house and shed of an address on Glasgow Road, Blanefield.

Between 9th July – 11th July 2016 an insecure outbuilding was opened and items stolen from it at a house on the A81. A generator was stolen at this time.

In the early hours of 12th July 2016 officers came across a vehicle within Mugdock Country park which had been previously stolen from a house in the Glasgow area.

Between 11th July – 13th July 2016 an insecure store room at an isolated house on A81 was entered and a quantity of tools stolen.

Between 21st July and 23rd July 2016 a lock up in Blanefield was broken into and a motor cycle stolen. This was later recovered unattended near to Southview Dr.

In addition to the above there has been an increase in bike thefts around campsites in East Loch Lomond and further afield. Please remain vigilant and if anyone has any information or remembers observing any suspicious activity around this time period, please contact Police Scotland or CrimeStoppers.

Road Safety

On 9th July 2016 a driver on the Stockiemuir Road failed to negotiate a bend, lost control and ended up in a field. No injuries were sustained.

On same day and on the same road a 3 vehicle, no injury RTC occurred however when parties were exchanging details one of the vehicles made off prior to this being completed.

On 25th July 2016 a vehicle was travelling south on the A81 however as the driver negotiated a slight left hand bend the driver observed stationary traffic waiting to turn right into farmland. The driver braked, skidded and clipped the verge causing the vehicle to roll coming to rest on its offside. The driver sustained broken ribs and bruising as a result.

Speed check are continuing to be conducted in Blanefield and other villages.

Community Engagement and Reassurance

PCs Steven Graham and Raymond Murphy are the Ward officers in the Forth and Endrick area. They have continued to carry out high visibility patrols in the local area and have liaised with local schools and businesses. They can be contacted at Balfron Police Office, or by email at ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Other Incidents
/ Activity of
note

Air Weapons Surrender Scheme

The Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 comes fully into effect on 31 December 2016. The new law will require any person who possesses, purchases, uses or acquires an air weapon to have a certificate to hold them legally.

It will be an offence not to have a certificate for these purposes from 31 December 2016, unless you are exempt, but from 1 July 2016, you will be able to apply to Police Scotland for a certificate.

The new Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act will:

- Clearly define the air weapons which will be subject to licensing
- Broadly follow the principles and practises of existing firearms legislations
- Enable a fit person to obtain a licence to own, possess and shoot an air weapon in a regulated way without compromising public safety
- Ensure appropriate enforcement of the new regime with robust offences and penalties to deal with any person who contravenes the regime

The Air Weapon Surrender Scheme is officially finished however this does not mean that air weapons cannot still be handed in to a Police office. They will still be dealt with in the same manner as they were during the surrender period.

Further information can be found at
<http://www.scotland.police.uk/whats-happening/airweapons/>

Issues raised

**Community
Council
Feedback**

--