



MINUTES
Tuesday May 9th in the school
Draft for Approval

Members Present - Margaret Vass, Alan Hutton, Julie Hutchison, Grace Edmonds, Elspeth Neill and Marian Lever

In attendance: Ian Denvir, Kevin McCormack, David Crichton and Kenny Sneddon, Douglas Baillie + 10 members of the public.

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

1. Welcome from the Chair and any apologies

Apologies – Willie Oswald, John Gray, Avril Keen, Sue Rand, Richard Arnold

MV opened the meeting and welcomed those present, especially Kevin McCormack, Davis Crichton and Kenny Sneddon from SC Roads and Land Services and Douglas Baillie from SC Broadband.

MV reported that Rob Davies has resigned from the CC following his election to SC and congratulated him on his success. Evelyn McDougall had indicated an interest in being co-opted to the Community Council. This was agreed unanimously and Evelyn was welcomed to the CC to replace RD.

2. Declaration of interests –

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Police Report

PC Steven Graham reported on criminal activity in the area in the last month. There were no serious incidents. He mentioned that the website RuralwatchScotland.co.uk is very useful for advice on rural affairs.

A resident asked PC Graham what he should do about cars racing on Campsie Road and AH said that there is a continuing problem with speeding cars on this road. PC Graham said that the police are continuing to carry out radar checks on Campsie Road. E McD mentioned that cars continue to speed on Carbeth Road also.

The whole Police Report can be seen on the CC website.

4. SC Roads and Land Services

Roads:

MV had asked for road survey data for our area and DC provided us with a map showing roads in need of repair. Work is scheduled for the A81 at Ward Toll, the A81 at Duntreath, the A81 at Ballewan and the A81 at Ballat, all in July. Resurfacing work is also scheduled for the B821, Station Road, in July. There is likely to be a partial road closure for this work.

There is no budget for traffic calming measures except as part of routes to school projects. There is no council commitment to enforcing 20mph limits unless as part of routes to school projects.

DC reported that capital funds have been allocated to narrow the bridge on Station Road and plans to carry out this work will be made this year, but this is contingent on the CDT developing a link path. AH explained that the CDT would like to work with SC to develop a combined approach using SC and Sustran funds. AH will meet with Stewart Geddes and Richard Barron to discuss this.

Closure of A81 at Balfron Station Bridge: The current proposal is to close the road in May/June for two weeks with further closure later in the year to complete the work.

Old Mugdock Road: MV explained that several years ago we worked with Planning to prevent houses being built which would increase traffic on Old Mugdock Road. Planning decided that this was unworkable. Currently we have one or two planning applications every month for houses in this area and Neil Pirrie always says this is fine. MV expects Roads to use planning applications as a means to consider the wider situation regarding OMR. Currently there are 6 applications likely to be agreed and the roads sector of Planning Services agrees that there is no problem. DC suggested that we contact Planning to discuss this.

Parking at Co-op: the CC met with Angela McGibbon regarding yellow lines outside the co-op and this was agreed but so far has not happened. Part of the land opposite is owned by the previous owner of the co-op and he will give this land to SC providing it meets the legal costs. This could create more parking spaces. DC will mention this to A McG and feed back to the CC. Edward Pickard suggested that the co-op should be encouraged to use smaller lorries in rural villages, as this would help the situation in OMR without displacing residents.

JH asked about the poorly painted white lines on the A81 over the moor. DC will try to find out about this. EN and a resident asked about resurfacing of Craigenlay Avenue, but this is not in the current plan. Rob Davies asked about the council policy on replacing damaged cat's eyes. These are routinely replaced when surface dressing is done.

A resident said that there used to be a 30mph sign on the Cuilt Brae outside the village, but that it is now 40mph. Outside this area there is nothing to prevent drivers doing 60mph. He suggested that the whole road should be 40mph, especially as walkers on the West Highland Way have to cross this road. DC will take this back to Stewart Geddes and ask him to liaise with MV.

A resident expressed his disappointment that road safety in our area does not seem to be a priority for SC while other villages have traffic calming measures in place. He suggested that we will get no action until there is a fatality on the road. MV said that 15-20 years ago the CC did a joint study with SC and agreed a plan

to improve road safety in the village but there has never been any money to implement the whole of this plan.

MV will talk to Mrs Cassidy about a joint campaign with the school regarding speeding etc.

MV mentioned the damage in Dumbrock Road area allegedly done by Scottish Water vehicles.

Land Services:

Drainage in King George V playing field would be a huge cost and this money is unlikely to come from the council. CDT has some money available to do some of the necessary work and DC suggested that we apply for a grant to top this up.

Play park maintenance: no major issues emerged in the report on the play ark in March. Any broken glass should be reported to the Contact Centre and the Street Cleaning Team will deal with it.

Littering: The Street Cleaning Team is in the village twice a week. JH noted that the response is good when litter issues are raised.

Grass cutting: most areas get 15 cuts a year.

There are plans to plant more daffodils in the area. MV will identify areas for bulbs and more fruit tree planting. She suggested the area behind the old toilets for fruit trees.

Cala will contribute £28,000 to the local area. This could be used to upgrade the play area behind the school. Colin McKay will oversee this money.

Himalayan Balsam near the burn: there has been a suggestion from residents that a working group could be set up to clear this. Countryside Rangers could help and support this group.

MV thanked the three officers for their attendance

5. SC Broadband

Douglas Baillie advises SC on Broadband issues. SC has committed £300,000 per year for the next five years to improve broadband in rural areas. DB suggested that communities should join together to access council funds where connectivity is difficult. He also suggested looking at alternative suppliers perhaps via Community Broadband Scotland. By autumn this year the Government will ask all suppliers how to provide faster broadband to rural areas. DB asked us to encourage people who do not have adequate speeds to contact him. There is money available to help from SC and CBS.

6. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes were accepted. Proposed by JH and seconded by AH.

Matters arising: MV reported that the remediation work in Blane Crescent is almost complete.

7. Planning and Licensing

There were no planning applications

8. Stirling Council Access officer service

The two access officers are leaving SC. DC does not know who will replace them Jonathan Padmore will be able to advise about what will happen when they leave. AH will contact him about this.

9. Feedback from community asset study

There have been two meetings so far, with excellent attendance from those with assets in the area. The study is clearly looking at the school and the library but also at other assets. The nursery has to expand provision to meet Government requirements and the school needs more space. The library is likely to move into the school. The last meeting discussed a reconfiguration of the school with additional accommodation but no other assets in the village were looked at. The consultant is now looking at other assets, e.g. The Edminstone Hall which needs a lot of money spent on it, as does the Scout Hall. Strathblane Out of School Care, which currently looks after about 180 children, uses the Scout Hall but is looking for new premises. The Hubco meeting was moved to May 22nd with the final meeting on June 5th. They will come back to the community with proposals in the autumn. Complaints have been made about the quality of the presentations from the professionals. ML asked who is funding this project and MV said it is the Government. EMcD asked if the library would definitely be moving to the school. MV said not necessarily if some other facility in the village seems more appropriate.

10. Community Comments

ML reported on the Health and Social Care meeting last week.

The local integration board is planning to pilot a model of Neighbourhood Care in Rural West Stirlingshire. This is based on the Buurtzorg Onion Model developed in Holland, which places the individual at the centre, surrounded by rings of care initially informally from family and friends and then from a multidisciplinary team. The meeting that ML and GE attended was part of the initial engagement for the project. The next stage is to develop the business case and brief and train staff before agreeing Phase 2 by November. Staff will be asked to volunteer to be part of the project.

ML also reported on progress with the Dementia Support Fund.

The library has been given 4 iTunes cards to support the Playlist for Life project. The piano in Blanefield house has been tuned.

The Dementia signage in the Kirk Rooms and Church has been ordered and will be up soon. They are the same design as those in the care home, which should

help the residents who go to Cuppa Time. The Village Club is interested in putting up similar signage.

There are ongoing discussions with potential users of a community keyboard. A competitive price has been offered by Haydock Music in Milngavie.

It is proposed to make a small donation to the lunch club to help with their special events such as Christmas and birthdays.

ML recorded her thanks to Silvia Armstrong for her help with the Dementia Support Fund.

ML told the meeting about the Ideas for Ears project which is looking for local people to review customer environments such as cafes and other public places as venues for those with a hearing impairment. They have an online review form for comments on venues at www.ideasforears.org.uk

ML also reminded the meeting that it is important for everybody to develop a MyPlan and to organise things like Power of Attorney while still able.

MV commented on the proposed community buy out of the BV Inn. It is now not closing and is again open 7 days a week. It is likely to be sold to somebody who will run it as a pub so the community buy out may be withdrawn. The CDT will probably be looking at a strategy about community buyouts.

MV asked Rob Davies to speak briefly as our new councillor. He said that discussions are ongoing about which party will form the administration in SC. He is interested in broadband, parking issues and planning. It is likely that Rob Davies, Graham Lambie and Alistair Berrill will continue the rota for visiting CCs. He is aware of the tourist potential in this area. There needs to be more promotion of our place on the route to Loch Lomond National Park.

EMcD asked RD to look into the issue of building warrants as the current person responsible for these is on long-term sick leave.

11. Finance

Instant Saver Account - £2337.55

Current Account - £1055.46

Eric Strachan is currently auditing the accounts, but has indicated his intention to retire. We will need to look for another local accountant.

12. Correspondence

MV reminded those present about the Rural South West Stirling meeting on Monday May 15th in BHS. The key speaker will be George Sommerville from Waste Services.

MV had also received some correspondence about a new group being set up to look at local outcome agreement. She volunteered to join this group but cannot attend the meeting.



16. Date of next meeting **Monday June 12th** in the Primary School following the AGM, which is at 7.30pm

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