



## MINUTES OF STRATHBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in the school  
Final**

**Members Present:** - Margaret Vass, Alan Hutton, Richard Arnold, John Gray, Grace Edmonds, Rob Davies, Sue Rand, Marian Lever, Avril Keen and Elspeth Neill

**In attendance:** Cllr Alistair Berrill + 2 residents.

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

### **1. Welcome from the Chair and any apologies**

**Apologies** – Julie Hutchison, Willie Oswald, Police Scotland, Ian Denvir

### **2. Declaration of interests –**

MV declared interest with Rural Stirling Housing Association

**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. There has been a spate of thefts in our area and several minor road traffic accidents. No mention was made of the fatal accident on the Lennoxton Road a few weeks ago and JG thought it would have been useful to have Police comments regarding the gravel surface on parts of that road. MV will contact the police to ask if an officer will attend the next meeting. The full report can be viewed on-line.

### **4. Minutes of August meeting and matters arising**

The minutes were approved by AK and seconded by ML

Matters arising: There has been a great deal of correspondence with Mr. McMillan regarding the hedge at the VC and AH and WO visited him. AH reported that the meeting was not particularly useful and that Mr. McMillan has regarded it as an opportunity to vent his annoyance about our correspondence. The hedge has been cut, but not far enough back for safety. Graham Lambie is going to contact Mr. McMillan on behalf of the VC asking him to cut the hedge back further. Jim McGregor from the Roads Dept. agrees that the hedge must be cut so SC will also deal with the issue and will be able to decide how far back the hedge should be cut. MV has asked GL and the JMcG to keep us in the loop.

We were successful in obtaining Community Pride funding of £750 for the School 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. This was less than we had hoped but the school will be able to bridge the gap from other sources.

Older people's bungalows: SC has now withdrawn from building these and passed responsibility on the RSHA. They would be funded partly by grant and partly through RSHA funding. The Government currently has a target of 30,000 affordable homes so councils have to plan to meet this target, however MV said that housing in our area is unlikely to be prioritized in the immediate future. JG asked how much warning we are likely to get to consult on bungalows in the future and MV said that there would be plenty of time for discussion.

MV said that members of the CC will be invited to attend the official opening of the affordable housing in the village on September 21<sup>st</sup>. Hopefully there will also be an opportunity for members of the public to see them.

At the last meeting ID had mentioned a meeting about the city development plan in Buchlyvie hall on September 15<sup>th</sup>. AH volunteered to attend on behalf of the CC.

## **5. Draft Local Development Plan Consultation.**

JG had contacted SC regarding the introduction to the village. They acknowledged that part of the description had been omitted and this will be addressed. This is important because, if we are seen as facing towards Glasgow, this will have implications for funding.

JG noted that we had agreed to support a pedestrian access from the Devil's Elbow site and suggested that we ask that an access should be provided to the bus stop on the main road. AK said that this was brought up with Westpoint at a meeting and they said they would take this suggestion to SC. We will also raise this again with SC. JG will draft a response\*

MV had asked that we be included in consultations regarding the Killearn Hospital site, but she reported that the planners had not been very responsive to this request. AB said that he would contact them if they are difficult about including us on this consultation.

## **6. Health and Social Care Integration**

ML reported on the visit that she and GE made to Blanefield House care home. The facility is currently being upgraded and the refurbished rooms are nice. The residents seemed happy and several engaged us in conversation. There are quite a number of men, which is unusual. We met one of the owners who knows the residents by name. They are keen to be involved with the village and some of the residents regularly go to "Cuppa Time" in the church. They have a dementia café and hope to be able to offer day care in the near future.

ML and GE attended the integration meeting at BHS on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Strathendrick home – SC has accepted the report and budget proposals that went forward so the home is no longer under threat of closure. The buildings will be maintained by SC and the day-to-day running costs by the Integration Board. There was some discussion about whether there was any point in continuing the group, but it was decided that we should continue in the meantime to look at the current locality plans, which need to be developed by March 2017.

The team is beginning to develop Neighbourhoods of Care, based on a Danish model, "Buurtzorg". Each area is developing a multi-disciplinary team. Currently some people being supported at home see as many as 5 different people. The team wants to cut this

number by having multi-tasking staff. They acknowledge that in some cases a specialist helper may be needed but in many instances multi-tasking is possible.

The meeting viewed a video from Gillian Taylor's test site. It was very interesting, but much of the work had been done by local organizations before the test sites were set up. Balfron church currently provides meals for local residents on a weekly basis in their hall and they intend to expand this into a Meal Makers scheme, where meals will be delivered to housebound people. ML raised issues of Disclosure and hygiene, but these can be dealt with when they arise.

The team is still working on the idea of video conferencing with doctors for people in rural areas. This is being piloted in the Crianlarich area.

They are also proposing an inter-generational project for young people to help older people to use computers, i-pods etc. M

ML had received information about a Public Partnership Forum on September 21<sup>st</sup> when there will be an update from the Scottish Ambulance Service. She will try to attend.

## **7. Transport Strategy Consultation**

There is a drop-in session in Strathblane Library on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. It is important that as many people as possible go along to this to comment on the strategy. They want comments on bus routes, cycle routes, walking paths etc.

JMcG is looking at the bridge on Station Road to see whether the road can be prioritised to slow traffic coming into the village. He is currently waiting to see where the link path will join the road. He is hoping to upgrade the pavement in the meantime to avoid pedestrians having to step on to the road.

AK mentioned support for the link bus to take people to Milngavie to connect with transport to Glasgow. More transport to Stirling is also needed. Demand responsive buses are likely to be a possibility.

JG asked if the previous consultation about buses is part of this consultation. MV said that this consultation is much wider in scope.

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## **8. Primary School 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

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The afternoon tea for Senior citizens will be on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 2.0pm.

The invitations have been designed by Primary 7 pupils. They will attend the tea and will talk to the senior citizens about their memories of the village.

The play will be performed in the week beginning October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Further information will be available soon.

## **9. Democratic Deficit**

Discussion of this was postponed until the next meeting, as WO could not attend this meeting.

## **10. Community Comments**

There have been a lot of comments regarding the traffic calming measures at the Cala development. The entrance is not visible in the dark and there have been several crashes and near misses due to the road narrowing. The speed restriction

signs have not yet been relocated and drivers do not slow down. There is no signage to indicate a new road layout either. MV has emailed comments from RA and Bob Sharp to JMcG. She asked AB if he could help with this issue. All emails sent to SC are copied to ID who will also take this up. JG noted that visibility is poor in sunlight also.

The paper banks at the library are full again. MV posted a picture on Facebook and there have been no concerns raised about these banks being removed. SC is happy to remove them. People have asked for the textile bin to remain although there are bins at the co-op and the school. It is unclear who gets the revenue from the bin at the library and MV suggested that the CC could benefit from having our own bin at the library. EN will look into this.

EN had contacted John Barr about the padlock for the path into the park. This has apparently been put back on the bollard. RA asked how the padlock would be managed. Previously everyone who needed access had a key, but the lock keeps disappearing. A meeting on site is needed to discuss the issue. RA will take this forward. Scottish Water is still working on site so the bollard cannot be replaced until this work is complete.

JB said that SC plans to plant daffodils in the park. EN will point out drainage and dog walking problems with the planned location of the daffodils and agree to go ahead.

EN has maps of the areas where SC cuts grass in the village. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

ML asked to record that the community appreciates the benches on the new railway path. ML also approved comments that the tubs in the village looked especially nice this year and thanked EN for her hard work organising these. GE will write to the CDT to thank them and also to Keith Vass who built the benches.

## **11. Planning and Licensing**

A lot of work is taking place at the Country House hotel, which is being changed to a private house. We have had no information about this. There will need to be change of use application. AK will contact Planning about this.

The Fishery has placed a sign advertising a café at Carbeth. This should not be advertised on the road. There may be parking issues and planning consent will be needed. JG will write to Planning regarding this, as AK is a close neighbour. There is a new application for two houses adjacent to the Kirkhouse Inn car park. The applicants appear to have taken on board our comments on their previous plans so there were no real objections to this. AK will submit our comments to Planning.

Licensing: MV had information regarding a further review of the licensing policy. The purpose is to ask if we think that there is over provision in our area. This is not an issue for us.

## **12. Elected Member's Report – Cllr Alistair Berrill**

The work at BHS is now complete and all other schools in SC have been surveyed. New checks are now in place to ensure a similar problem is unlikely to

occur in the future. The costs for repairing BHS will be met by the management company. JG raised the question of criminal malfeasance over the problems. MV asked about the restructuring in SC as it is often unclear who has responsibility for what. AB said that the restructuring is still in progress and people are changing roles so individual responsibility is still unclear. New refuse bins are being distributed over the next 6 to 8 weeks along with information about collections etc. The old boxes will be taken away once all the new bins have been distributed. SC is again thinking about the PBB process. AB thinks it has become less useful. The next financial year looks a little better than the previous ones. People in Killearn have expressed concerns about derelict buildings where businesses have closed. SC is looking at tidying up the buildings in the short term. Carol Beattie, the Rural Development Officer, will be talking to KCC about plans for businesses in the rural area at their October meeting. AB will ask if she will attend one of our meetings also.

### **13. Website Demo**

This could not take place as there was no internet access.

### **14. Finance**

Current Account	£4033.99
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Instant Saver Account	£2339.59
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The Current Account includes money for the War memorial that is about to be paid to SC. RA will ask SC for an invoice for this. It also includes the grant of £750 for the school, which will also be paid.

MV suggested that the money owed to us from the War memorial charitable trust should be deducted from the bill before we pay SC. There was some discussion about this and it was agreed that RA should ask SC if this money could be used to contribute to the work done.

The admin grant has not yet been received.

### **16. Date of next meeting – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016 in the Primary School**

**Blane Valley Bulletin Copy date Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September**

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

