



## MINUTES OF STRATHBLANE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of Annual General Meeting Monday 12th June 2017 in the primary school Final for approval at AGM 2018

**Members Present:** - Margaret Vass, Alan Hutton, Richard Arnold, Julie Hutchison, Sue Rand, Marian Lever, John Gray, Avril Keen, Evelyn MacDougall, and Willie Oswald.

**In attendance:** Cllr Rob Davies, Ian Denvir of SC + 12 residents.

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

#### **1. Welcome from the Chair and any apologies – from Margaret Vass**

A warm welcome was extended to all. Apologies had been received from Grace Edmonds and Elspeth Neill.

A formal letter of retiral was received from EN who was stepping down after 14 years from the CC which she said had been interesting and enjoyable. A vote of thanks for Elspeth's services over the year was unanimously agreed.

All members introduced themselves and gave a brief overview of their role on the CC.

#### **2. Minutes of last AGM on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

There were no changes or corrections required and approval was moved by ML and seconded by SR.

#### **3. Reports from office bearers**

##### **a) Chairperson's report: Margaret Vass**

2016/17 has been another busy year. This is definitely my penultimate report and maybe my last report depending on successful succession planning .

We have done our very best to represent the views of the community through responding to consultations such as Stirling's transport strategy, local development plan, Scottish Government planning changes and individual planning applications and of course the pre application consultation on 70 houses at Campsie Road.

We have tried to ensure that services are provided well by taking up issues raised by the community and by holding senior managers to account through a programme of invitations to our meetings.

I am pleased to say that we have managed to maintain our full membership of 12 community councillors throughout the year and this bodes well for succession planning for the community council elections next year. Rob Davies resigned from the CC in May when he was elected to the Council and was replaced by

Evelyn McDougall. We say farewell and thank you to Elspeth Neill who is resigning from the Community Council at this AGM. Elspeth has held the environment brief and has been the lead for keeping our village tubs looking beautiful. Having advertised for interest in being co-opted on to the CC Mike McNulty has come forward to replace Elspeth. Next year 5 of us will not be standing for re-election so continuing to demonstrate the importance of the CC within the community will be vital.

Communication and accountability are very important to us. We have a new website, Facebook page and a new contact address. The BVB remains our main fully accessible way of keeping in touch.

Highlights and lowlights this year: Primary School 50th Anniversary, Refurbishment of the War Memorial, Opening of 14 new rented homes, Strathendrick Home Care Hub, Mugstock, A81 and Kirkhouse Rd resurfacing, Flower tubs and daffodils, locking pole at Park Place, closer working with Balfron High, the loss of the Country House Hotel and associated jobs, New bins, bus services, broadband, lack of police presence at our meetings, car parking, speeding particularly Campsie Road, pressure on Old Mugdock Rd due to the number of new homes approved in gardens and the perennial problem of dog fouling.

This Community Council is a team of very active community councillor's and I thank every one of you for the work you do on behalf of the community and for the support you give me.

**b) Secretary's report: Grace Edmonds, read by MV**

The main focus of my role as secretary is to take the minutes of meetings and distribute these to the other Community Council members. It is also my responsibility to ensure that Stirling Council receives a copy of the minutes once they have been accepted. I am also responsible for collecting the audio-visual equipment from the library and returning it after each meeting.

I also receive and distribute mail and other communications and write letters on behalf of the Community Council as necessary.

Arranging hall bookings and ensuring that the equipment is available is also part of my remit.

This year I worked with Sue Rand to secure two grants from Stirling Council; one from the Connect Fund for Succession Planning and the other from the Community Pride Fund for new Christmas tree lights, signs at the entrance to the park and a new anti-dog fouling campaign.

**c) Treasurers report: Sue Rand**

The overall financial figures for the year which ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 show a surplus of £181.

The total income received was £2,162. This figure reflects a most generous donation of £800 from the Bottomley Trust and £131 which was raised at the Christmas Light switch on.

The Administration Grant from Stirling Council was £574. Insurance cover of £65 was deducted by Stirling Council from the Grant. A further £90 was paid for Secretarial support. The SCC also received a grant of £488 to help towards the cost of a new website.

The Bank balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were £4,616.

The Blane Valley Bulletin cost £1,284 in this financial year. Sponsorship and donations raised £1,066. Alan Hutton continues enthusiastically to recruit Sponsors.

We spent £386 on plants for the Village tubs.

£372 was spent on Electrical work at the Village Club which will secure public safety when the Christmas Tree lights are on.

The Community Council continues to recognise all the financial support we receive which enables us to contribute to Village life.

On behalf of the Community Council may I thank Eric Strachan for his role of external examiner of the accounts.

Signatories for the Accounts 2016 are Sue Rand, Margaret Vass, Alan Hutton and Willie Oswald.

Accounts were approved by WO and seconded by JG. The CC supported SR's thanks to Eric Strachan for all his help over the years.

#### 4. Election of office bearers

Office bearers for the coming year were elected as follows:

		Proposed by	Seconded by
Chairperson	MV	WO	ML
Vice chair	ML	JH	RA
Secretary	GE	MV	AH
Treasurer	SR	MV	JH
Planning and Licensing	AK & JG	MV	ML

#### 5. Allocation of other responsibilities (approved by all)

Roads	JH
Environment	EMcD
Health	ML
Editor BVB	AH
Broadband brief	JG

A website communication group will be set up during the new CC season.

#### 6. Planning group membership

The following offered to serve on the planning group:

MV+AK+JG + JH+ML+EMcD + GE.

#### 7. SCC representatives on other groups in the village.

Community Development Trust MV, but it will be good to have a successor in waiting. JH agreed to take this role.

Village Club JG to continue

Mugdock Mgt Committee rep JH to continue

**8. Cheque signatories.**

The following would be added to the existing list who are MV, WO and SR :-  
GE and JH will be added.

**9. Co-option to CC** – unanimous agreement that Mike McNulty be co-opted on  
to the CC

**10. Date of next meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

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Visit us at [www.strathblanecc.org.uk](http://www.strathblanecc.org.uk) or email us at [contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk)  
Telephone numbers for Community Councillors are on the notice boards, in the library  
and in the Blane Valley Bulletin.