



MINUTES
Monday 1st October 2018 in the Village Club
Final

Members Present: - Margaret Vass; Willie Oswald; Marian Lever; Richard Arnold; Evelyn Macdougall; Mike McNulty; Grace Edmonds; Alan Hutton.

In attendance: Councillor Rob Davies; Councillor Graham Lambie+ 5 residents.

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

Apologies: John Gray; Sue Rand; Julie Hutchison; A Keen

1. Welcome from the Chair and any apologies

MV welcomed everybody to the last meeting of the current Community Council.

2. Police Report

There was no police presence at the meeting and no report had been received. GE will contact the new Community police team regarding this.

3. Minutes of September meeting and matters arising

Under Item 4, the roads participation request, there had been a misunderstanding and MV was mistakenly excluded from the sub-group. This will be rectified in the final version of the minutes and MV will be part of this group.

With that amendment the minutes were passed; proposed by WO and seconded by RA

Matters arising: Succession planning. MV drew attention to the posters and cards advertising the election. She has asked for laminated posters for attaching to lampposts but these have not yet arrived. MV will contact Sc again about these.

GE reported that she had sent letters to the resident who had asked about fly tipping near Blue Risk and to the resident who has been picking up litter on the West Highland way.

4. Elected Member's Report - Councillor Rob Davies

RD and GL both attended the information session on Finnich Glen on September 28th. The plans put forward by the landowner are ambitious and likely to be a long process. GL would like to see a first phase providing a car park to make the area safer, but is not sure if this is proposed. EM asked what the proposals were and GL said that plans include a restaurant and wedding venue as well as a new staircase and possibly a lift into the gorge. MV noted that this will create local jobs. GL said that he thought feedback to the proposals was favourable in general and people are encouraged that attempts are being made to solve the problem. Bruce Crawford was very supportive of the plans.

GL said that there are also plans to turn Craigend Castle into a working site by employing apprentice stonemasons there.

RD mentioned that a road sign in the form of an exclamation mark has appeared west of the Queen's View. He has asked SC what this means.

GL went out with the local police last month and noted that we do need a 40mph buffer on the Lennoxton Road. He intends to complain about Scott Craigie being moved from his position as Community Officer, as it is helpful for communities to have the same officer over an extended period of time.

GL told the meeting that there has been a change in the use of the machinery ring during severe snow. Now any duty manager can authorise activating the machinery ring to clear snow the following day. This is a huge improvement. SC also intends to be more lenient on road gradients for grit bins.

GL also reported that Mugdock Country Park raised £179,000 in commercial revenue last year and hopes to pay for itself within 10 years. This will mean a paid car park, but this could

be included as part of the Friends of Mugdock scheme with free parking included in a slightly more expensive membership cost.

EM raised the issue of diversion signs left on roads, causing some confusion for drivers. This is due to contractors.

5. Planning and Licensing

Neither planning correspondent was here, but MV said that nothing had been reported to her. The only thing she had noticed was an application to convert Carbeth Cottage into two holiday lets. She has looked at the plans and saw no cause for concern.

6. Aide Memoire

This was a list of things to be passed on to the next Community Council.

It is important that the CC email works for all email addresses. At present it does not send to BT addresses.

Somebody needs to have responsibility to keep the website up to date. MV suggested that the Community prefects from BHS might be able to do this.

The Resilience Plan is being updated and this will have to be further updated, as new names will need to be added.

MV has a box of resilience equipment. It was agreed at a previous meeting that we would store this in the Village Club and also that we would purchase a plug in phone and cord. This has not yet been done but WO thinks it should be done by the current CC. This was agreed. MMcN will purchase the phone and WO will ask the Village Club if there is a number.

RA will chase up the issue of the Heras fencing on the riverbank, which has been there for a considerable time.

The issue of the tree in Jenny's Burn has still not been resolved but JH is working with SC on this.

ML has already asked Dumbarton Wind Ensemble if they will play at the Christmas tree switch on again this year.

Somebody needs to take on the publishing of the BVB from January. AH is happy to spend time with whoever takes this on.

EM enquired who would lay the wreath on Remembrance Day. MMcN will do this as vice-chair. EM already has the wreath.

MV said that we will need to check with SC about additional Admin Grant funding to cover the rent of the Village Club.

Scottish Water's fencing along the ash track is rusting and quite dangerous. Scottish Water should have contacted us regarding this, but MV thinks they are likely to simply remove the fence rather than repair it. She thinks there is a heritage issue regarding the preservation of the Victorian infrastructure here.

The yellow lines on Old Mugdock Road and Campsie Dene road are in hand.

The defibrillators are still not in place in the telephone boxes. Some funding will be needed to repair the boxes before the defibrillators can be installed. Stuart Ballantyne promised to get back to ML with costs for this work but has not yet done so.

RA mentioned that the bench around the tree in the play park has still not been replaced and neither has the broken section of edging around the swings. JH is still working on this.

RA will keep the padlock keys at the moment. WO asked about another padlock at the Station Road end of the track and RA said that he couldn't get anyone in the council to agree to provide another padlock. WO will contact SC also.

WO reported that Scottish Water couldn't justify resources to demolish the old air raid shelter. WO has asked if they would consider sealing off the entrance, but has had no reply.

MV raised the issue of the wall and mailbox at Kirkhouse Road. GL has looked at the site and says that the wall is not on council land and is the responsibility of the householder. GL is prepared to work with the householder to find a solution. He asked if a fence would be acceptable and the CC thought that it would.

7. Community Comments

MV was contacted by a resident who is concerned that the Council has not cut the grass at the railway track on the way to Lennoxton. He was told that the Council no longer cuts this area and it would be up to the CC. The resident sent his gardener to cut some of it. MV asked RD and GL to take this up with SC. AH said that the SCDT paths group did some clearing work on this path last year and will do so again this year. He thinks that paths are now local responsibility. He noted that there was a fallen tree on the track recently and several others that need attention. He also mentioned that EDC cuts the verges on the track once it reaches their border. GL is working on a joint approach with Access officers from the National Park. MMcN was contacted regarding fly tipping at the entrance to the sewage treatment works. SC needs to follow up on this. WO asked about the possibility of installing CCTV in the area GL will discuss this with the police. This will be an issue between SC and Scottish Water, depending on who owns the land.

ML has been approached by the Lunch Club regarding an issue with insurance for the volunteers who run it. They have previously been covered by RVS insurance, but this may not continue unless all volunteers register with the RVS. Some of the volunteers have been involved with the club for a long time and do not necessarily want to join the RVS. The stringent hygiene requirements under the RVS may not be easy to meet in the Edmonstone Hall. ML is looking into the issue with the volunteers. She said that new, younger, volunteers are needed, as the current volunteers are getting older. A request for volunteers will be put in the BVB. A resident suggested using the Kirk Rooms instead which would only require one member per team to have a hygiene certificate and these can be gained through SC at no charge.

A resident enquired if the CC had any further information about what is happening on the land opposite Blue Risk. JG is still looking into this.

The hedge between the Care Home and the village is very overgrown. MV thinks the field is owned by Alistair Bain, who normally cuts the hedge in October. SC should have sprayed the weeds on this footpath also and GL will follow this up.

A resident raised an issue with the site at the Devil's Elbow. The removal of the trees here caused the soil to be disturbed and this in turn has led to water running off the field into the gardens at Edenkilt Place. He thinks the culvert on Glasgow road needs work to prevent the gardens from flooding. GL will talk to David Crichton, the Land Services manager about this.

8. Thank you to the current Community Council

MV thanked WO, RA, AH and SR for their service to the CC over the years as they are all retiring. WO has served on the CC for over 20 years, including many years as Chair. RA has been the Secretary and SR has been Treasurer. MV recorded enormous thanks to AH for all the work he has done on the BVB and a personal thanks from her for his support in his role as Vice-Chair. She also thanked all of the CC members who intend to remain, particularly JG for his sterling work on Gladman and on the LDP.

WO said that he hopes that the village appreciates that it needs to become more of a collective in order to be a buffer against the powerful influences of developers, councils and Holyrood. The new CC should foster this.

GE recorded thanks from a resident for all the work the CC has done for the community, which is much appreciated.

ML thanked MV and the others who are leaving and gave them farewell gifts from the CC.

16. Date of next meeting to be advised.

Copy date for the BVB is October 15th 2018.

Contact us at contact@strathblanecc.org.uk Also on our website www.strathblanecc.org.uk. Telephone numbers for Community Councillors are on the notice boards, in the library and in the Blane Valley Bulletin

