



MINUTES
Monday 4th February 2019 in the Village Club
Draft

Members Present: - Marian Lever; Grace Edmonds; Julie Hutchison; Mandy Watson; John Gray

In attendance: Councillor Graham Lambie; Police Constable Martin, Police Scotland; M Vass, SCDT; C Ramsay, +7 residents.

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

Apologies and Declarations of Interest:

Apologies: Evelyn Macdougall; Philip Graves

There was a Declaration of Interest from John Gray regarding Planning Application 19/00003/FUL

1. Welcome from the Chair

ML welcomed everybody to the meeting. She announced that Mike McNulty has stepped down from the CC for personal reasons, leaving us with 7 members. If we lose anyone else the CC will no longer be viable, so she asked everybody present to publicise our need for more members.

ML thanked Mike for his hard work on our behalf and wished him well.

2. Police Report

PC Martin reported that there had been a theft from a building outside the village and that enquiries are continuing. He reiterated that any suspicious vehicles or people should be reported to the police and that they always take these reports seriously.

He spoke to the owner of the overgrown hedge along the A81 at the Care Home. The landowner said it will be cut back, but that he is waiting for the birds to nest. The opinion of the meeting was that there is time to cut it back before the birds nest this year and PC Martin will pursue this.

There were two road accidents in our area. A car collided with the Broadband box opposite the Kirkhouse and the driver has been charged. There was a serious accident near Glen-goyne Distillery and a driver has been reported for this.

There had been reports of deer being hit on the roads and PC Martin asked the public to be aware of wildlife on the roads.

ML thanked PC Martin for attending.

3. Minutes of January meeting and matters arising

The minutes were accepted, proposed by JG and seconded by JH

Matters arising: Parking issues within the village will be discussed with the Council at the parking consultation later in the year. GL said that this is likely to focus on work-based parking charges, which SC might choose not to implement anyway.

ML reported that we are still thinking about the Christmas lights.

We will talk to the Chair of the SCDT about the Housing Strategy

JG mentioned our decision to remove two disused notice boards. We hope the Council will remove these for us. GL said that he would look into this. MV pointed out that we need to make sure that the litterbin is left in place.

4. Continuation of the BVB

ML recorded a huge thank you to Alan Hutton who has produced the BVB single-handedly for 7 years, a total of 68 issues. He will be replaced by a team of 4. EM and GE will collect information and organise pages; ML will write the CC report and JH will organise delivery. We are very lucky to have Cami Ramsay, who has volunteered to do the desktop publishing for us. She is happy to have contributions sent in Word. At present we will keep to the format used by Alan, although Cami has some interesting ideas for the future.

JG hopes to get the calendar on to the website in a format that will allow Cami to lift it into the hard copy. We hope that a young volunteer will be able to help with this.

5. Feedback from the Participation Meeting on Road Safety

We have had a lot of comments about the proposed changes to the road layouts on the A81 and on Campsie Road. ML pointed out that the road safety discussion was generated by Primary 5 pupils, who produced an excellent video outlining their concerns. The participation Group has been working with traffic engineers to find the best options. The suggested traffic island and hatching at the steps to the Village Club will allow pedestrians safer access to the VC, the Bowling Club and the Tennis Club, all of which are used by children. Members of the public have voiced concerns that the resulting slowing of traffic will result in congestion at peak times. The traffic officers will monitor the situation over the first year and the island can be removed if they are not successful. PC Martin and GL both thought that this solution should be tried.

A resident asked if the hedges on either side of the VC could be cut back to increase visibility. JG said that we will contact residents about this but have had no success in the past. GL has asked individual owners to trim the hedges but this has not happened. He will ask again and PC Martin will also speak to the owners concerned.

A resident asked about 20MPH signs on the A81. We asked about this but SC did not think these would be effective. A resident said that data from the Speed Audit shows that changing the speed limit makes little difference to speeding traffic. A physical change in road layout is needed and he thinks that the proposed change might work.

A resident asked about double white lines on the A81. MV said that we didn't pursue this at the Participation meeting but that we will raise the possibility at the final meeting. The CC agreed that we are prepared to try the proposed changes.

There is a proposal to put an island on Campsie Road, opposite the church. SC has offered to provide signs for the church car park to deter walkers from parking there on Sundays. A representative from the church said that the general feeling is that an island there will not help people to cross the road safely. She suggested that traffic calming measures should be positioned beyond the brow of the hill. A resident in the area agreed with this. He said that traffic needs to be slowed down further out of the village and suggested using the existing traffic calming measures as a basis for creating a chicane effect. ML will contact SC to ask that the final Participation meeting should take place soon, which will allow us to ask about changing the proposed island to something more suitable. MV suggested asking if the bolt down solution could be used on Campsie Road. ML will speak to the traffic officers tomorrow.

MV said that the 40MPH zone would be reinstated on Campsie Road, leading in to the 30MPH area.

6. Feedback from The Big Conversation

ML gave a brief overview of the comments in the feedback brochure from SC. It is going round the members of the CC at present and will then be put in the library for members of the public to look at.

SC is looking at ways to cut costs, but also at ways to raise revenue. GL said that it is vital the SC raises revenue alongside cost cutting. A good example of this is Mugdock Country Park, which aims to be self-funding within 5 years.

7. Elected Member's report – Councillor Graham Lambie

The SC budget meeting will be held on Thursday 21st February 2019 so GL could not give many details about this. The Council has a savings target of £24 million between 2018 and 2023 and is also looking to generate income from a variety of sources.

In January GL visited Falkirk Police station to see the custody cells. The visit was prompted by the closure of the cells at Stirling Police station, which means police officers from Forth, and Endrick ward will have to transport detainees to Falkirk or to Clydebank or Maryhill.

GL said that the roads programme in 2018 was the most extensive he had seen. The challenge is to maintain this level of repair in future years. The council are currently looking at a 10 year capital programme which would include road investment and which would allow officers to plan ahead with respect to budgeting; staffing; equipment; materials etc. There are still outstanding repairs required at Blane Burn (Killearn) and Cattermill (Croftamie) both of which are used by residents in our area. GL does not expect the work on these to start this year.

GL attended a public meeting in Killearn in September regarding a proposed development at Finnoch Glen. The plans presented included car parking; footbridges; viewing platforms; toi-

lets and a visitor centre all aimed at safer access to the Glen. Feedback was largely positive and the consultants have received positive responses from potential funders also. GL and RD plan to contact the landowner to check on plans to date.

The road maintenance budget still has to be approved by SC but GL is confident that there will be an increase in funding. JH raised a concern about the carriageway on Station Road, which is being undermined by the burn. It is not possible to see this problem from the road, but it is obvious if looked at from the burn. Access is possible through Netherblane. GL will look into this and suggest a site visit from an engineer.

There have been some changes to the Winter Service Policy following the severe weather last year. The proposal is that the Senior Manager will be able to activate the Tayforth Machinery Ring much more quickly. If we want more grit bins we need to include this in our community resilience plan. ML said that we asked for gritting to be extended to the Co-op from the main road to allow their lorries to access the shop. GL said that we should include this in our resilience plan and then send a copy to him.

Ownership and Clearance responsibilities regarding the Blane burn erosion and tree removal has been passed to officers.

Education officers have assured GL that the overhanging branches at the primary school will be dealt with.

Officers have been tasked with identifying the owner of the broken wall at Kirkhouse Road and what actions could be taken to resolve the problem.

The Co-op manager supports the provision of parking bays opposite the Co-op and GL has passed this on to planning officers.

A resident asked if the management team at Mugdock Country Park had considered a mini bus from Milngavie. JH said that there used to be a bus and GL suggested that this could be considered at the next management meeting.

8. Planning and Licensing

19/00003/FUL -Erection of two additional; 8 metre poles with LEED light fittings at the Tennis Courts.

JH asked if the neighbours had been consulted. This is the Council's responsibility. MW asked what the new lights would achieve. They should spill less and illuminate better and should be more economical. No one has approached us with any objections and ML said that, as the light will be more contained, we would have no objections. The CC members present agreed to support the application.

19/00009/FUL – Erection of dwelling house with attached garage – garden of Dumbrock House, Old Mugdock Road.

We previously looked at outline planning permission for this site and opposed it on the grounds of traffic on OMR. SC gave approval in principle. JG said that it might be worth commenting again as the outline permission may have lapsed. It was agreed that we will put in an objection on traffic grounds.

9. Community Comments

ML gave advanced warning that Mugdock Road between Mugdock Village and Milngavie will be closed for several months in the spring to allow Scottish Water to replace pipes. PG, who has taken over the roads remit from Mike McNulty, will keep us informed about this. A resident mentioned that the new fencing along the burn in the park has not been finished off properly and could cause injury, especially to young people playing in the area. He will forward his photograph to GL, who will raise this with SC.

Sheila Hall asked about the orange plastic fencing on the Ash Track. Nothing has yet happened with this.

MV had approval from the SCDT to share their response to the Housing Strategy survey. The meeting agreed that this was an excellent response regarding the types of housing we want in our area and ML will use this as a basis for our own response to SC. She thanked the SCDT for sharing it with us.

JG mentioned that Graham's Dairy won their planning appeal in the Court of Session. We are unsure if this will affect Gladman's appeal, but GL said that he didn't think the Gladman appeal followed the same process.

JG also mentioned an announcement to restrict parking on OMR at the beginning of March to allow yellow lines to be painted. It was suggested that these should be delayed until the Park-

ing Consultation but JH said they were agreed two years ago in response to access by emergency vehicles. It was agreed that the yellow lines should go ahead.
Parking opposite the Co-op will be discussed at the Parking Consultation later in the year.

10. Finance

Current Account: £1977.84

Instant Saver: £1338.33

These figures are the same as last month but EM is waiting for a bill for the BVB

11. AOB

There was no other business.

12. Date of next meeting March 4th 2019 in the Village Club

Copy date for the BVB - February 10th 2019

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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