



MINUTES
Monday 13th May April 2019 in the Village Club
Draft

Members Present: - Marian Lever; Grace Edmonds; Julie Hutchison; Mandy Watson; John Gray; Evelyn Macdougall, Kate Ramsden

In attendance: Councillor Graham Lambie; Gillian Lynas, Rural Stirling Housing Association; +16 residents.

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

1. Welcome from the Chair

ML welcomed everybody to the meeting.

2. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies: Philip Graves; Margaret Vass; Police Scotland; Pam Campbell. There were no declarations of interest.

3. Police Report

There were four cases of antisocial behaviour in the area last month. The police responded to these and one male was arrested for assault.

There was a theft of temporary traffic lights on Campsie Road. There was a theft from an insecure garage on Milngavie Road, but the items were returned when the homeowner challenged the male. The police arrested two males on suspicion of theft and enquiries are ongoing. There was a report of poachers on Craigallian Loch and police attended. However the males escaped on the other side of the loch.

The police warned about doorstep scammers and reminded residents not to hand over any payment at the door if they are suspicious and to call the police immediately.

There are still parking issues at the Devil's Pulpit and on the A81 at the distillery. The police are continuing to monitor these areas.

ML will let the police know that a resident has offered a piece of land on Campsie road for the camera van.

4. Minutes of April meeting and matters arising

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

Matters arising: ML said that KR's details will be included in the BVB in future and apologised that these were not added last month.

The CC has submitted several bids for the Participatory Budget exercise and we have received some interesting comments on these.

ML reported on the meeting with representatives from both health boards, the ambulance service and local doctors, chaired by Bruce Crawford. It was a very interesting meeting and Bruce Crawford tasked the health boards with setting up a protocol for health care, which will meet the needs of the village. ML will ask Bruce Crawford for an update on this. The ambulance service told the meeting that patients have the right to choose where they are taken by ambulance. A representative from the ambulance service will attend a future meeting of the CC to provide information about their future plans. There is a suggestion that every household will be issued with a card to say that they can choose where to go.

ML reported that the Glasgow University biodiversity project did not deliver the promised bird boxes. She will enquire about this.



Councillor Davies contacted ML to say that SC has sourced a seat for the bike path to Lennox-town.

JG informed the meeting that the planning application [19/00168/FUL -Erection of dwelling house – Garden Ground of Punchbowl House 44 Old Mugdock Road Strathblane](#) has been withdrawn.

5. Invasive Species

Carolyn Bryce from the Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust did not attend the meeting.

ML said that the CC agreed to support the initiative to remove invasive species from the area and that volunteers will be needed to help with this work.

6. Allocations Policy Consultation – Gillian Lynas, RSHA

RSHA is currently reviewing its allocation policy and Gillian talked us through the main changes that will have to be implemented to meet the requirements of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2014 which is about to come into effect. Most of the changes concern the number of points allocated for different categories, with points for existing tenants, rapid re-housing for homeless and those leaving tied housing all being increased. There is also a proposal to create one Living with Friends and Family category at the highest level, to replace the three current categories.

7. Trossachs Search and Rescue

There was no representative from SAR present at the meeting. ML reported that this group no longer want to talk to the CC. She will attempt to find the reason for this. GL also offered to speak to SAR about this and GE will forward the email we received from them.

8. Report from the Neighbourhoods of Care meeting 13/05/2019

ML and GE attended this meeting. SC has allocated its budget to include spending on Strathendrick House. There is now only one resident and eleven respite beds available. At present the Board is considering how to allocate respite care. ML tried to push them to tell us if they propose to retain the facility at Strathendrick House, but they would not commit to this.

The Cherry Trees building will be demolished, as it is unsafe. The care Team has moved to the Health Centre in Buchlyvie. We are promised that there will be a single phone number to access the Care team. We will publish this in the BVB when we have it.

There is now a team coach who helps to coordinate the various services available.

It is now possible for service users to apply for a budget to provide their own personal care. This is often successful but is not straightforward to organise initially. A representative from Personal Assistants Network Scotland gave a presentation on some of the issues involved and how they can help personal assistants with any issues they may have. There is a sister organisation which helps the service users. We will put information on these organisations in the library.

We also heard from the volunteer car scheme in Killin. This scheme provides transport for local people who cannot access public transport. The charge is 20p per mile. The scheme benefits both the users and the drivers.

There was a presentation from Strathcarron Hospice. They have plans to introduce a Snowdrop café in Strathendrick House to allow local residents to benefit from the company this provides without the arduous journey to Strathcarron. Strathcarron is holding an open day in the McLintock Hall in Balfron on June 4th at 10.00.

ML asked the Strathcarron Community Contact if she could organise a drop-in session at Strathblane library to advise people on completing their end of life plans. She asked the meeting if they agreed that this is a good idea. There was general agreement that it would be.

The representative from Croftamie CC reported that there are plans to move the Nursery to Drymen. While this is not necessarily a bad move, the Nursery building is the only public building in Croftamie and if it is closed the community will lose all its public space. She asked for support to retain the building. ML said that Strathblane CC would support Croftamie. There is a meeting in



Croftamie Nursery on May 21 at 7.0pm and ML asked as many people as possible to support this. GL thinks that the Nursery will move but agrees that the building should be retained.

9. Elected Member's Report – Councillor Graham Lambie

The 20mph speed limit in Gargunnock has had positive feedback. Other villages are looking to install 20mph limits, including Strathblane.

Work is due to begin on the A811 on May 13th with night time closures. Day time events in the area will not be affected.

There are still ongoing issues at Finnich Glen. The landowner has ambitious plans including car parking, footbridges, toilets and a visitor centre. SC road officers see no issues with access from the B834. GL thinks the work is unlikely to be completed until next year and would like to see some car parking put in place as soon as possible.

GL reminded the CC that if we want any new grit bin sites in the village these must be noted in our Resilience Plan.

GL has received differing views on the Trunk upgrade of the A811, as this would mean increased volumes of traffic. He has requested a 5 year projected traffic flow survey for the A811. He hopes this will be available for the Rural Southwest Forum meeting on May 20th.

Following a re-tendering process some of the BHS routes were awarded to Carrs of Loch Lomond. GL has asked for clarification on the impact on remaining school bus routes; the impact on non-school routes; the impact on the Balfron Depot and the impact on after school activity transport.

GL noted that Strathblane has submitted 7 out of 107 projects to Your Stirling You Decide. Voting on these will begin on May 27th.

ML asked for feedback on our Participation Request for road safety measures. She has been unable to get a response from council officers regarding this. GL will chase this up.

JH mentioned that drainage work at the entrance to the village has left bollards out of place resulting in the chevrons warning about the sharp bend also being displaced. Lorries unaware of the bend have been mounting the pavement on the other side of the road – a serious danger for pedestrians.

A resident queried the speed signs on the A809 and suggested that the 40mph signs should be moved out to Queen's View. The CC agrees with this, as does GL. He has asked for this previously and will do so again.

10. Planning and Licensing

[19/00316/FUL – Erection of dwelling house on land adjacent and North West of Troughstone Cottage Strathblane](#)

A Planning application for this was refused last year and this application has no real differences. JG proposed that we write again to the planners opposing this application. This was agreed by the CC.

[19/00262/FUL – Extension to existing nursery and a new staff entrance Strathblane Nursery Southview Road Strathblane](#)

We will obviously not oppose this, as the new accommodation is necessary. However we were told by Hubco that there would be no need for an extension.

[19/00254/FUL – Demolition of existing house and erection of 2No. buildings each containing two self contained flats](#)

We have received a lot of comments about this proposal, as has SC. The key areas of concern are increased traffic, the height of the buildings, drainage, septic tanks and the historic signifi-

cance of the house. Local residents have done very thorough research into the plans and discovered the historical nature of the house as the birthplace of local author Helen Lillie. They would like to have the house listed. JG asked if they know how this process works. A building can be listed according to a person who lived there and/or architectural interest. The residents are looking for support from the CC for a listing application and asking the CC to support their objections to the planning application.

There is a suggestion that the house might be "Doran" construction, but the older parts cannot be constructed in this manner.

The architect for the plans pointed out that there is no standard building line for residences in the area. There is a need for apartments in the village so these would meet local need. There is a similar building in Dungleigh View, but this is different in terms of access. The architect accepted the difference in access between the two sites. Parking in the proposed site has been designed to allow cars to enter and leave without reversing on to Mindavie Road. The current wall will be moved to improve safety at the junction of Milndavie Road and old Mugdock Road. The CC has no objection to flats being built in our area but this is not a good site for this type of build.

A resident said that the flats would provide much needed accommodation in the village where housing supply is poor. Several residents said that the model is a valid one, but not in the right place.

GL said there are enough objections to generate a Planning Panel. He suggested that the CC should request a Panel and ask for a site visit. MW said that it is disappointing that the house has been allowed to fall into disrepair.

There was a brief discussion about possible breaches of planning conditions at Edenmill. There seems to be an extension of activities beyond the agreed hours of use.

11. Community Comments

We have had notice about work at Milngavie Water Works, although the extent of the work is unclear. We could invite a representative from Scottish Water to a meeting to tell us what their plans are.

EDC is proposing to provide a cycle path along the reservoir to link with Mugdock Country Park.

JH asked GL about the situation with the collapsed wall at the bottom of Kirkhouse Road. GL said that the wall is the responsibility of the homeowner. He is seeking legal advice on the situation.

ML asked about the letterbox. GL is continuing to pursue this matter.

A resident asked about the trees on the Netherblane side of Station Road. Neither Netherblane nor SC accept responsibility for the trees, and local residents are concerned that they may fall and cause damage. The burn is eroding the bank under the road due to the debris from the trees displacing the water. A local group is working to clear the burn but the trees remain the major issue. JH said that the trees are unmanaged. GL will ask the SC tree expert to advise on this issue.

12. Finance

Current Account - £1410.86

Instant Saver - £1338.33

The books are currently with the accountant.

13. Correspondence

We have had a letter from Crossreach Development regarding their proposals for Dumbrock House. We will invite the project leader to attend a CC meeting.

JH has had information from Donna Mills regarding the playground equipment. The roundabout and tower should be installed soon.

A resident reported that people might have been concerned about the water level in Dumbrock Loch. The loch was emptied to allow repairs to be carried out and will fill up again as soon as it rains.

There has been a complaint from a resident regarding speeding traffic at Ballewan Crescent.

JH will contact Steven Robertson at SC to agree a time to replace the flower tubs.

JG mentioned that a resident had expressed concern over broken Perspex panes in the school bike shelter. GE reported that the panes have been removed.

12. Date of next meeting June 10th 2019 in the Village Club, following the AGM

Copy date for the BVB - May 20th 2019

.

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