



MINUTES
Monday 10th June 2019 in the Village Club, following the AGM
Draft

Members Present: - Marian Lever; Grace Edmonds; Julie Hutchison; Philip Graves; John Gray; Evelyn Macdougall; Kate Ramsden

In attendance: Councillor Alistair Berrill; Councillor Rob Davies; M Vass, SCDT; Pam Campbell SC + 8 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: Mandy Watson. There were no declarations of interest.

3. Police Report

There were two cases of antisocial behaviour reported this month. There was a theft of a watch from a property in Netherblane and housebreakings reported in neighbouring villages, so the police ask everybody to be vigilant and to report anything suspicious. We were warned to be aware of doorstep scammers and again to report anything suspicious to the police.

There were two road traffic accidents on the A809 in May. No injuries were reported in either case. There was a more serious accident on the A81, where two people were injured and the road was closed for some time.

At the weekend there was a report of a mugging on the track near Wood Place. This was a targeted attack. The police investigation is ongoing.

4. Minutes of May meeting and matters arising

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

Matters arising: ML said that we were disturbed by the fact that Trossachs Search and Rescue has decided not to work with us, especially as she hoped to use the telephone boxes to house defibrillators for use in the village. These are apparently unsuitable and we need to find out why. ML said that she would ask GE to write to the Chair of SAR to try to determine why they no longer wish to communicate with us.

MLK had asked Councillor Lambie to find out about our participation request. She has been assured that the work will be carried out.

JG looked at the planning application for Troughstone Cottage [19/00316/FUL – erection of dwelling house on land adjacent and north West of Troughstone Cottage Strathblane](#), and again opposed it on our behalf. He also sent a response opposing the application from Blue Risk [19/00254/FUL – demolition of existing house and erection of 2No buildings each containing two self-contained flats](#). ML reiterated that we do not oppose the building of flats in the village, but not on this site.

ML has had no more information about the post box on Kirkhouse Road.

She reported that some progress has been made regarding the wall in Kirkhouse Road, but that ownership of the land is unclear.

Some members of the CC met with two of the Crossreach Project Team to hear about their plans for Dumbrock House. We currently have no update regarding planning permission for what they want to do. The team are happy to answer questions about their plans, either via an information session or directly to the neighbours.



JG said that a group of volunteers cleared the burn at Station Road. He offered congratulations to all those involved on an excellent job. A member of the public expressed surprise that the residents of Netherblane do not accept responsibility for the trees which are on their land. The work on the bridge at Station Road has not happened.

5. Invasive Species

The representative from Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust did not attend

6. SCDT Issues - M Vass

MV told the meeting that the AGM of the SCDT is on August 26th 2019 and everybody is welcome to attend.

The SCDT is working with Rural Housing Scotland to carry out a housing survey in the village to determine what type of housing people want. They hope to launch this at the end of June with a housing fair in the library that will run over the summer.

The SCDT wanted to inform the CC that they are currently applying for funding for capacity building, which will allow them to have a member of staff to work with the community. They are also applying for project funding. These applications mention the close relationship between the SCDT and the CC. ML said that we could listen to the community on behalf of the SCDT. ML asked the CC members present to confirm that they are happy to support the SCDT. All agreed.

A member of the public asked MV about grants for self-build housing. This is being considered by the SCDT. Another member of the public said that we need to wait for the results of the housing survey before any meaningful discussions can take place. MV agreed with this. She said that the exercise is all about the community taking control of housing built in our area.

7. Your Stirling You Decide

ML said that the poll has been open for some time and people need to vote. We need to emphasise this on Facebook and on our website. JH pointed out that people are not well informed about the voting process. A resident asked if it is possible to use the same email address for several people and PC said that they are aware that some families share one email address. PC said that council officers will be in the Village Club on June 13th 2019 from 3.0 – 4.0pm to help residents who do not have access to computers. ML asked how this has been publicised and PC said that there are posters in the village and that Home Services personnel are promoting it. ML said that we could put posters on the CC notice boards also and PC will send these to GE who will put them up.

ML asked everybody to make people aware of the process and encourage them to vote.

8. Elected Member's Report - Councillor Alistair Berrill

AB reminded the meeting that, while the voting system for Your Stirling You Decide is better than last year, it is still a rehearsal for next year when the voting will involve routine council funds, likely in the region of £2 million.

He mentioned the proposed closure of Croftamie Nursery. This is partly due to the fact that the building does not meet the criteria set out in Scottish Government guidelines. It is not a matter of saving money, as it will be more expensive to build a new nursery in Drymen than to bring the existing one up to standard. The closure is still under review. A resident said that there is the issue of the building remaining accessible to the community, for example as a voting venue. If it is closed Croftamie will no longer have a community facility. ML is pleased to hear that the local

councillors support the village in keeping a facility. PC said that councillors and officers welcome comments on this issue.

The parking Strategy for Stirling city centre has been announced and AB thinks it looks sensible. No strategy for rural areas has yet been announced.

Councillor Davies said that the seat on the John Muir Way is likely to be installed towards the end of the year. JG asked if the local paths group has been involved in the choice of site for the seat. RD thought not. He will suggest to Anne Muir that she contacts the people who asked for the seat.

A preliminary planning application for the Killearn Hospital site has been submitted. There will be an exhibition about this in Killearn from 2.00 – 8.00pm on August 21st 2019.

A resident raised the issue of Strathendrick House. RD has queried plans for this and is waiting for a response. The decision was made some years ago that Strathendrick would move to respite care. ML said that we are keeping a firm eye on any decisions made.

9. Planning and Licensing

[19/00318/FUL Edenmill](#). JG said that we heard at the last meeting about the application to extend opening hours at Edenmill farm. We have received several representations from neighbours about this. The CC plans to oppose the application. The bunkhouse application was approved with conditions about opening hours for the café, 8.00am - 6.00pm, and improvements to the road junction with the A809. Some of these conditions have been met, but not all of them. The new application is to change the opening hours to 7.00am – 9.00pm. The justification given on the application does not seem adequate. Various activities have been advertised that do not meet the conditions on the previous approval.

JG produced a draft submission to the Planning officer for consideration. ML asked for an assurance that one sentence will be altered in the final submission. JG said that it would.

A resident queried our statement that the CCs most pressing concern regarding the application is road safety. JG said that we cannot take sides in neighbour disputes so our main objection regards safety in the area.

A resident mentioned an unapproved landscaping business, which continues to expand on the site, and the cumulative effect of this on the area.

A resident said that it was a pity the Mark Gibson had not kept the CC informed of his plans as he has done in the past. ML asked if we should invite him to a future meeting to discuss his plans. This was agreed. JG will circulate a final draft response to CC members.

10. Community Comments

ML has been asked about the trees at Netherblane. This was discussed earlier. She said that we also need to pursue the broken side of the bike shelter in the school playground. The broken Perspex has been removed but not replaced.

ML had information about a proposed wood development at Auchineden Hill. She will circulate information regarding this.

11. Finance

Current Account - £1658.87

Instant Saver - £1339.89

12. Correspondence

There was no correspondence this month



13. AOB

JH had an email from Donna Mills regarding the new equipment in the Play park. This should be installed before the school holidays. There is £1580.00 left in the account and DM suggested that we could apply for a Community Pride Grant to buy another piece of equipment.

ML reported that two members of the community had been refused ambulance transport to Glasgow despite assurances from the two Health Boards and the Ambulance Service. Bruce Crawford is looking into this.

14. Date of next meeting September 2nd 2019 in the Village Club

Copy date for the BVB - June 17th 2019

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