



MINUTES
Monday 2nd March 2020 in the Village Club
Draft

Members Present: - Grace Edmonds; Julie Hutchison; John Gray; Kate Ramsden; Evelyn Macdougall; Philip Graves; Mandy Watson; Andy Thompson

Apologies: There were no apologies

In attendance: Cllr Alistair Berrill; Cllr Graham Lambie; Cllr Rob Davies; M Vass, SCDT; Pam Campbell, SC; PC Graham, PC Martin Police Scotland; Abigail Kennedy BHS +9 residents.

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

1. Welcome from the Chair and declarations of Interest

JH welcomed everybody to the meeting. There were no declarations of interest.

2. Co-option of new member.

There was no co-option this month. JH reiterated her appeal for new members.

3. Police report

PC Graham reported that there had been a report of a fight between two females in Dumbrock Drive. Police attended but it was a dispute between friends.

There were two road traffic accidents, one on Strathblane Road and the other at Duntreath. There were no injuries. Pc Graham reminded the meeting about winter driving.

There were reports of people trying doors in the Kirkland Avenue area in the early hours of 3rd February. These were not reported to the police until hours later. Enquiries are continuing. Extra patrols have been carried out to look for suspicious persons and as a result three window cleaners were issued with warnings for failing to have a required licence. There was a theft of alcohol from Strathblane Co-op. Enquiries are continuing.

There was a report of a male being taken from a house in Glasgow and driven to Queen's view where he was assaulted. He escaped and summoned help. Police attended and obtained details, but the enquiries into this incident are being carried out by officers in Glasgow.

8. Report from SCDT - M Vass

This item was moved up the agenda to allow Abigail Kennedy to leave the meeting early.

MV reported on the work streams currently being undertaken in parallel by members of the SCDT to advance the plans for the new library.

A. Making sure that SCDT Governance documents are up to date, which is necessary for the community land asset transfer process and for possible grant applications for further funding.

B. Thinking through the best model to deliver the development e.g. a Community Benefit Society, where all profits will be cycled back into the development, making it easier to raise funds from the community.

C. Establishing close working relationships with SC to ensure that the Council will continue to provide library services, including the staff.

D. Engaging professional support where funds are available to do so. An Awards for All grant of £5000 has funded the appointment of architects.

E. Community Engagement which will run until the end of June and which includes:

1. Establishing support for a new library hub from residents of all ages. This has been done.

2. From mid March SCDT will talk to the community about where the new library should be, what it should offer and how the building should be designed. This will involve public meetings, focus groups questionnaires and FAQs. The members of the SCDT are well aware that a modern library needs to have space for a variety of activities. Possible additions to the building could include a business hub if there is a case for this and Out of School Care which could be an important anchor tenant to achieve viability of the development.

3. Display plans in early June and confirm residents' support.

F. Can the social enterprise model deliver what the community is asking for? How can SCDT raise the money needed? They need to establish capital costs and revenue needed to operate the building. A business case will be produced which must demonstrate financial viability in the long term.

JH asked if the site needs to be decided before plans are drawn up and MV replied that the architects would draw up plans for the two most likely sites.

MV is currently working to involve pupils in both the Primary school and BHS in the planning process. Abigail Kennedy, who is the Senior Prefect for Strathblane, will be responsible for providing information to pupils from our area.

4. Minutes of February meeting and matters arising.

Under the Councillor's Report it should have been noted that Cllr Berrill voted against the closure of Croftamie Nursery.

With this amendment the minutes were accepted; proposed by MW and seconded by PG.

JH thanked the SCDT for putting our papers on their website while ours is down.

Matters arising: JG reported that the website is almost ready to go live, hopefully in the next few days.

Killlearn CC asked about the Strathendrick Care Home at the South West Forum. Pam Campbell has asked her colleagues in the health partnership to clarify the position and what the proposals are for the home.

5. Update on flooding issues

Some flooding in gardens on Southburn Road during the storm last weekend was caused by a wheelie bin being blown into the burn. A resident reported debris at the culvert at Kirkhouse Road and noticed that there is now a padlock on the grid at the culvert and residents are concerned about access for emergency services. PC will seek reassurance from her colleagues about this.

A resident reported continued issues with flooding in the gardens at Edenkilt Place, caused by run-off from the field behind the houses. The drainage ditch has silted up allowing water to flow into the gardens. SC said they would follow this up with the landowner but nothing has been done. The resident met with Ian Diamond who agreed that the ditch needs to be cleared and that SC would arrange for this to be done and bill the owner. This did not happen and Ian Diamond is now trying to link the issue with planning permission for housing on the field. AB asked for a copy of the emails between the resident and Ian Diamond and will try to make sure that Council officers are doing everything in their power to deal with the situation.

KR reported that a landslip has sent mud down Jenny's Burn and that the recent heavy rain has moved boulders down the burn, blocking the culvert again. The retaining wall was not repaired after the problems last June. Residents are meeting for a

site visit with Scottish Water next week. GL said that there is evidence of the wall in the burn giving way.

KR will email Maria Lucey regarding a fallen tree, which is leaning over the burn in the park.

6. Update on the Resilience Plan

This is our severe weather response, which is aimed at helping people to work together. SC has published a Community Resilience Toolkit, which MW will use to update our plan. To help formulate the plan MW will put an article in the BVB asking for volunteers to come forward if they have the necessary skills and/or equipment.

7. Report from South West Forum– February 24th 2020

MV reported on the Engaging Young People programme at BHS and JH said that it was nice to see Abi attending our meeting.

The focus of the Forum was to introduce us to Angela Simpson, the Access and Sustainable Travel Officer, who is responsible for core paths in SC. She is undertaking an audit of the paths in the SC area and is looking for help from local communities to tell her about paths. She made it clear that there is no money available from SC to maintain paths. She will clarify what the official width of a path has to be to be able to apply for grant funding. There was a discussion about the West Highland Way where it crosses Cuilt Road. The previous landowner was happy to release a strip of land to allow the path to be rerouted behind the wall to ensure that walkers did not have to walk on the busy road. However the land has been sold and the new landowner will not allow this. There is no national funding to maintain the WHW. PC said her colleagues were being honest in saying that there is no money to update the WHW or to maintain core paths. A resident suggested that a CPO could be used to obtain land to make the WHW safer. RD suggested that the planned developments at Finnoch Glen and the Killearn Hospital site should be connected to the WHW.

9. Elected Member's Report - Cllr Alistair Berrill.

Last Thursday SC met to discuss the budget and set a Council Tax increase of 4.84%. This will be confirmed after the Scottish Government budget is announced and the council knows how much money it will have.

AB raised the issue of Strathendrick Care Home again and has asked for clarity about the situation. To a great extent this is out of the Council's hands.

More charging points for electric cars have been installed. There are 4 in Killearn, but none in our area.

The X10 bus service is now running on Sundays. AB said that residents need to use this service in order to retain it.

The Fire Service and Police are running a Water safety even in BHS on May 29th for P7 and S6 pupils.

The road from Balmaha to Drymen is being closed for repairs, but there is no alternative route for residents to use.

PC will raise the issue of traffic calming measures agreed for the A811 and ask why the Village Club was notified about dates while the CC was not.

10. Planning and Licensing

[19/00603/FUL](#): Change of use of part of the garden ground to camping/caravan site at Ardoch house Blanefield G63 9AW. JG found a change of use application for "Bed and Breakfast" plus the camping facilities which has been pending since July 2019. JG proposed that we should write to SC to say that the CC is in favour of business in the area but it is in nobody's interests to have commercial activities operating

in limbo. The Council should decide on this application one way or the other. This was agreed by the CC.

[19/00444/FUL](#): Demolition of existing house and erection of 2No. buildings each containing two self contained flats at Bluerisk 2 Milndavie Road Strathblane G63 9EL. We opposed an application for flats last year. Revised plans have now been submitted although the CC was not informed of this. JG believes that this is unsatisfactory. The new plan is still for two blocks of flats, although they are lower than the previous plans. Most of the neighbours have opposed these plans and JG will comment on this and ask to speak if the case goes to the planning committee.

[20/00069/FUL](#): Formation of all weather turn out area/arena for domestic use at Troughstone Cottage Strathblane G6 AB. We would support this providing it is used solely for domestic purposes and not as a future "brownfield" site.

[19/00995/FUL](#): Erection of dwelling house on land at the former The Wildings Moor Road Strathblane: JG commented on this on our behalf. [19/00845/PPP](#) Erection of dwelling house on land adjacent to Auchenberg House Blanefield: JG also commented on this.

[19/00950/FUL](#): Partial change of use of land for siting 3 tourism pods at Blane Valley Inn Blanefield. This application was refused. JG will ask SC if a change of use would have to be submitted if the pub is sold for housing. He will ask that the CC should be kept informed about this site.

A resident mentioned that we should comment on plans for the Killlearn Hospital site, regarding increased traffic through the village.

11. Finance

Current Account - £1856.93

Instant Saver - £1342.36

12. Community Comments

JH had been contacted about an overflowing bin at the end of the railway line. SC will clear this tomorrow.

Old signs left on the A811 need to be removed. A resident has asked SC to remove these. EM said that contractors from Morrison's Telecom have left a lot of mess on Cuilt Road. RD said that this has largely been addressed but more clearing needs to be done.

A resident has offered to raise money for more Christmas lights in the village, but the issue is how to attach these to lampposts. SC will not do this although there are companies that are licensed to do this work. JH will inform the resident that money can be raised but that there will be ongoing costs involved.

13. Correspondence

Balfron CC has emailed regarding the proposed closure of the Bank of Scotland. The CC agreed to put our name to their petition.

BBC Scotland Debate Night is in Stirling on March 11th and is looking for an audience. We will put this on our Facebook page.

12. AOB

MW mentioned the delay in building new nursery provision at the school as the contractor has gone into liquidation.

12. Date of next meeting April 6th 2020, 7.30 in the Village Club

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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