



MINUTES
Virtual meeting Monday 7th September 2020
Draft

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

Apologies: Cllr Rob Davies

In attendance: Cllr Graham Lambie; M Vass, SCDT; W. Oswald

*(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. MV declared an interest in the planning application for the A81

2. Minutes of June meeting and matters arising

The minutes were accepted; Proposed by JH, seconded by EM
There were no matters arising.

3. Update on the Library Project

M Vass reported that progress is continuing on the project, although this appears slow at present as they have been waiting for three architects to submit plans. A recommendation of the preferred design will be made to the SCDT board and they hope to be in a position to engage with the architect by the end of next week. The SCDT is still working on acquiring the land for £1 via asset transfer. They hope to have a video showing the new design ready for our next CC meeting in October. There will be a shortfall of funds and they cannot submit planning permission or engage building contracts until they are confident that the extra funds can be raised. AT said that they are looking at the tax basis with advice from a VAT specialist. The intention is that the completed library will be community owned and controlled but that is in discussion with the council. JH thanked MV and AT for their report.

4. Update on the Flood Forum

KR reported that they have held the first official meeting of the Flood Group. This was successful and members have a variety of different experiences to bring to the forum. The first meeting was largely a presentation from Maria Lucey showing the findings of the hydraulic survey. The group need information from residents about historical flooding and KR has maps that people can use to indicate areas where any events have been seen. She noted that SC still refers to 1/100 and 1/50 years events and wondered if they accept that the process is accelerating and we see these events much more often. JG said that we need to participate in the survey to ensure that we stay on SEPA's radar. KR also noted that some trees have fallen near the burn at Blane Crescent. Some of the trees in the area are diseased and the council will decide if they have to be taken down. JH thanked KR for her contribution

5. Update on Broadband.

PG had forwarded an email from Bruce Crawford to CC members. Our area seems to have missed out on Government funding for Broadband. PG is waiting for an estimate from Outreach to connect 40 houses in Mugdock but expects this to be considerable. Our MP and MSP are supportive of our issues regarding Broadband but the

rules are complex. PG does not see anything happening with Broadband in this area for some time. He does not think our village will get any grants as we have had fairly fast Broadband over the last five years or so. AT wrote to Shaun Marley, the Broadband advisor at SC who said that he would send details of a project called R100. We will invite Shaun to our next meeting in October.

6. BVB

Cami Ramsay has said that she will do more for us to allow time to find somebody else to take over. Purple Edge is working again so printing will not be a problem. EM suggested that now might be a good time to move to having the BVB on the website instead of paper copy. JH pointed out that people without computer access would be cut off. The members present agreed that we should keep the paper copy. Articles for the September issue should be submitted by September 21st.

7. Elected Member's Report – Councillor Graham Lambie

PG had raised the issue of the fence around the quarry in Mugdock Country Park. GL has put this on the agenda for the next MCP management meeting in September. Flooding at the park seems to be partly caused by draining of farmland and GL thinks this issue needs to be a co-ordinated effort by SC and EDC. GL agreed that Shaun Marley is the best person to talk to regarding Broadband issues. GL thinks that fibre to individual houses is the best route for Mugdock.

GL will send us a sheet he has created regarding the new bin collections. The need to save money and low recycling rates are the reasons for the new system, although GL thinks the low level of recycling is mainly confined to urban areas. The Q and A section on the SC website gives good information about the new system. PG said that people are concerned that there is no food waste bin and that they will have to pay even if they have no garden waste. He will forward the SC link to Mugdock residents. JG asked if there was any information about when the special uplift service is likely to resume. GL will find out about this.

JH passed on details of a resident who wants advice about hedges. EM asked if a neighbour is allowed to lop trees if they are encroaching. GL said that you could cut overhanging branches, but that these should be returned to the owner.

There is a case of COVID-19 in BHS. The school is still open but some pupils have been asked to isolate.

GL will visit Station Road to look at the work done on traffic calming. MV mentioned that the issue at Station Road is linked to the new link path. Alan Hutton is trying to find a solution with Sustrans.

The car parking plans for Finnich Glen will go to a full council meeting in October.

GL also reported that the Balfron bank would close in March.

8. Planning and Licensing

WO attended the meeting to talk about Planning Democracy. The Gladman case in Inverclyde flagged up the method that the company had used to calculate housing needs. Kilmalcolm CC and Planning Democracy prepared detailed comments on this. The Government has launched a consultation, saying that they did not mean the calculation to be done by the method that Gladman and the Court of Session used and have suggested other methods. The deadline for the consultation is October 9th. JG and WO attended a Zoom meeting with Planning Democracy. JG will share the presentation with the CC members. The Government proposals do address our concerns but there is worry that few CCs will bother to comment. Planning Democracy would like us to encourage other CCs to take part in the consultation. WO said that it

is good news that the Government has seen that Gladman has found a hole in its intentions and is moving to plug this. He said that there was some letter writing to the Chief reporter and Head of Planning immediately before the consultation was announced. These letters basically said that attacks by Gladman and their like mean that no piece of land could be safely designated as green belt etc. The focus of the consultation should be on preserving the integrity of the planning based system. WO has written a letter which he will circulate to CC members. GE will email this to Pam Campbell and ask her to circulate it to other CCs. She will also check that PC has notified all CCs about the consultation.

[20/00564/FUL: Erection of 11 dwelling houses on land to the rear of 2,4 Eaglesfield Milndavie Road Strathblane.](#) CC members have seen the outline plans for this site. There will be four 1 bed flats for Rural Stirling Housing association. JG has asked about a footpath to OMR from the development. He has attempted to find out who owns the land to allow access. GL will ask the council lawyers to look into this. MV said that if we are publicising the application we should remind residents that anyone in need of housing should be on both SC and RSHA lists. AT said that the entrance on the A81 looks dangerous and we should suggest an entrance on OMR. JG said that we don not want any more traffic on OMR. He will publicise the application on the website.

[20/00385/FUL: Ardoch House campsite](#) This application has been approved subject to suitable plans for waste disposal and refuse. JG will write to SC regarding enforcement of these conditions, given that the site has been running for several years.

[20/00430/FUL demolition of existing house and erection of two new houses at Corrieknow Campsie Dene Road Strathblane.](#) This has been approved with no conditions. MV said that residents are concerned about safety, but SC says that it is a private road and not their concern. GL will consult with Angela Simpson regarding core paths.

9. Finance

Current Account - £2344.97
Instant Saver account - £1342.94

EM said that the Current Account includes the £500 grant made to the Volunteer Group and the admin grant.

10. Correspondence and AOB

JH spoke to Pam Campbell about the AGM. She has no guidelines at present for this.

JH spoke to Angela McGibbon regarding the Participation Request for road safety on the A81. AM met with a resident regarding queuing traffic. She has had 22 complaints about the new traffic calming measures, but said that that is not many. Lynne McKinley said that the current measures were the least favoured by the council officers. JH has asked her to forward the minutes to show what they did want. AM was meeting with LM and Caroline Fraser today and JH asked her to forward the minutes of that meeting also. AT thinks that we need to pursue the traffic calming measures. Some possible solutions would be the responsibility of the police rather than SC. WO suggested asking SC and Police Scotland about the possibility of a trial with average speed cameras. GL thought that would be a good idea.

JH asked about the hedge along the A81 towards the Care Home, which needs to be cut back. MV volunteered to look into who owns this. MV said that the hedge opposite the Village Club also needs to be cut. This is the responsibility of the council.

JG asked what should be done with the old PA system. The general view was that it should be disposed of.

EM asked about the wreath laying ceremony. GL said that there probably would not be a ceremony, but that wreaths could be laid individually.

11. Date of next meeting October 5th 2020, 7.30 on Zoom.

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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