



MINUTES
Virtual meeting Monday 7th December 2020
Draft

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

Apologies: There were no apologies

In attendance: Cllr Graham Lambie; Cllr Rob Davies; M Vass, SCDT. + 8 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. JG declared an interest in a planning application on Kirkburn Drive and handed this application to PG.

2. Minutes of November meeting and matters arising

Point 2 – AT noted that the library should be the Thomas Graham library.

With this amendment the minutes were adopted, proposed by AT, seconded by KR

3. Police Report

PC Gary Martin sent the police report for November.

Anti-social behaviour

There was a report of loud music from a residential property. Police attended and the matter was resolved.

There was a report of suspicious persons in a van on the outskirts of the village. The van was traced and found to be a delivery. PC Graham stressed that all of these calls are welcomed by the police in Balfron.

There was a report of persons possibly trying doors in the village. Police attended and a search was carried out with no trace of any persons. Again the police welcome these calls.

Road Traffic

There were several reports of inconsiderate parking with roads blocked at Mugdock Country Park. There was a minor accident caused by ice at the Park.

There was a report of flooding on Station Road. No accidents were reported and the road was cleared.

There have been reports of deer and cows on roadways on the outskirts of the village and the police ask drivers to be careful.

The Balfron police have taken delivery of “pop up Policemen” for traffic issues. These have already proven to be a great asset, with residents reporting slower traffic.

Theft

There was a theft from a vehicle at Mugdock Country Park. Enquiries are ongoing. The Police remind people never to leave valuables in sight in their cars.

A further theft of a quad bike was reported from the Park.

There have been several calls regarding house alarms activation. Police attended these and confirmed that all was in order.

4. Paths - Kate Ramsden

KR met with Angela Simpson from SC regarding issues with gates being left open to the fields at Cuilt Farm, resulting in horses escaping. Chickens are also being attacked by dogs. The resident has padlocked the gates but this is not allowed, as it is a core path. Angela agreed to put up signs reminding walkers that dogs should be kept under control. She also suggested putting in two or three stiles to allow access to the fields. A long-term solution might be to create a new path alongside the field.

A resident voiced concerns about the speed of bikes on the railway path and GE mentioned the speed of cars at the same place, which are apparently being given permission by the Stables to drive along the path.

Alan Hutton said that the Paths group of the SCDT has made contact with Angela Simpson about the future of the paths in our area. PG has been invited to join the Paths group and will be a link to the CC. Alan said that the railway path is a multi-user path, but noted that the horse community do not contribute to path upkeep. He suggested that the pole at the bridge into the park should be re-instated, but JH said that SC will not replace the padlock until Scottish Water is finished working. JG suggested that the landowner might help to resolve the issue. PG said that he has emailed the landowner who will talk to the stables.

A resident said that, as the path is a bridleway, cars should give way

5. New Members

AT was co-opted to the CC in February. JH asked the CC members to confirm him as a full member. This was agreed unanimously.

We put a call for new members in the recent edition of the BVB, with a closing date of 31st December. Two people have indicated interest and have been sent the requisite forms.

6. Elected Member's Report – Councillors Rob Davies and Graham Lambie

RD told the meeting that the roll out of new bins has started, with a few issues. A resident raised the issue of the bins in Milndavie Crescent not being emptied as parked cars prevented the lorry from accessing the street. He suggested that double yellow lines on one side of the road might help. RD said that he will raise the issue of parking at the next council meeting. He thought a dash-cam in the lorries would be a good idea to highlight access problems.

GL had sent CC members a link to Covid information from the government. SC is confident that we will move to Level 3 next week.

GL has asked the flooding engineer for a site visit to Station Road. A resident asked him to raise the traffic risk from flooding here also. JH said that she thought the flooding would have been avoided if the drain had been kept clear and a resident said that SC are legally obliged to keep drains and verges clear. GL will take this back to Roads. Margaret Vass said that some years ago SC tried to argue that there had never been a footpath between Blanefield and Milngavie when the CC tried to argue that weeds should be sprayed and pathway kept clear.

JG asked the elected members to ask the council to deal with contractors who do not do their jobs properly. RD said that there is a process to pursue contractors.

JH thanked RD and GL for their contributions.

7. Planning and Licensing

JG reported that there have been no further developments with the application for houses on the land at the Devil's elbow.

[20/00745/FUL](#): Auchenloch Lodge Blanefield. This is a new application for a replacement house at Carbeth. The existing house is old and in poor repair. JG said he has not seen any objections from neighbours. We will neither support nor oppose.

[20/00590/FUL](#): Land South East of Aros House Strathblane. JG said that this appears to be a reincarnation of a previous application. He and PG will investigate and report at the next meeting.

[20/00777/FUL](#): Extension to rear of dwelling house 7 Kirkburn Road, Strathblane. JG declared an interest in this and PG will look into it on our behalf.

8. Finance

Current Account - £2725.07 (this includes £500 Covid relief grant)
Instant Saver account - £1342.97

JG warned EM to look out for fake callers pretending to be from the bank who are targeting organisations like us.

9. Correspondence

JH said that a local farmer has volunteered to help clear snow from the roads if necessary this winter. GL said that the farmer should talk to SC about this and GL will clarify the position regarding insurance for any damage caused. JH will email the farmer.

JH had had an enquiry about the availability of the "Walks Around Strathblane" booklet. Alan Hutton said that there are only a few copies left and that these could be put into Coffee at the Wilson's.

We received an email regarding speeding on Cuilt Road where there are 40mph signs on the road as drivers approach the traffic calming coming into the village. He also noted that the rumble strips are very noisy. Another resident emailed to raise the issue of cars swerving at the island on the A81 where children wait for school buses. JH asked if we need a petition regarding speed limits in the village. Margaret Vass reminded us that we still have an ongoing Participation Request about road safety. EM raised the issue of speeding drivers at the junction of Cuilt Road with the A890.

Greenheart Growers are hoping to grow vegetables at Ardunan Farm and the SCDT are meeting with them tomorrow. The primary school has asked for advice regarding funding for an outdoor classroom. JH suggested that the allotments might be more able to help them. PG raised the problem of inconsiderate parking on the road between Mugdock and Milngavie. This is an issue for EDC. We have had an email from Milngavie CC to enquire if we have any knowledge of new forestry planting near Carbeth. We have had no information regarding this proposal as it is in EDC.

10. AOCB

AT asked about SC clearing leaves from footways. This should be done regularly, but SC will clear pathways if contacted. The Village Officer used to do this. GL will bring this up with SC. AT also mentioned that his contact number is still wrong in the BVB. GE promised to correct this in the next edition.
JH thanked everybody for attending the meeting.

11. Date of next meeting February 1st 2021, 7.30 on Zoom.

Copy date for BVB 19th February 2021

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