



## MINUTES

### Meeting Monday 9th January 2023 in the Village Club draft

**Members Present:** - Julie Hutchison; Grace Edmonds; Kate Ramsden; Evelyn Macdougall; John Gray; Andrew Thompson; Rob Davies; Pamela Lee; Eleanor Balfour

**In attendance:** M Vass, SCDT; I Mills, Church + 6 residents

**Apologies:** There were no apologies

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

#### 1. Welcome from the Chair and declarations of Interest

JH wished everybody a happy New Year and welcomed them to the January meeting. She thanked the members of the CC who helped to put up and take down the Christmas lights, especially JG and AT who replaced the lights when they stopped working.

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 2. Minutes of December meeting and matters arising

The minutes had been circulated to CC members and were accepted, proposed by AT seconded by KR

Matters arising: JH read out the reply that we received from Carol Beattie regarding our complaint about lack of information about road closures during roadworks on the A81.

We were successful in obtaining a Community Pride grant for the trees to commemorate the late Queen's jubilee. JH will organise the purchase of 6 cherry trees to be planted at the new library.

The For-sale sign attached to the chevrons on the A81 has been removed.

A resident had asked who cleans the bus shelters. JH spoke to SC and the result was that in fact nobody cleans them.

The bridge that has collapsed on the WHW belongs to Scottish Water. They are making it safe but access to it is part of Duntreath Estates. Scottish Water plans to liaise with Duntreath regarding more permanent repairs and will contact us once they know what is happening.

We are still in discussion with SC regarding funding to hold meetings in the VC. GE has emailed Bookings about this and will also Email Councillor McGarvey to see if he can help.

JH will speak to Angela McGibbon again regarding extending the proposed 20mph limit to the new houses. She has said that this is not possible, but we do not understand why.

KR asked if the barriers on the pavement at Station Road could be removed or if there is more work to be done. GE will email Steven Bly about this.

#### 3. Confirmation of new member

As Rob Davies has met the criteria for full membership of the CC JH asked the members present if they agreed that we should do this. He was proposed

by JH and seconded by GE. He was elected unanimously and is now a full member.

#### **4. Police Report**

Constable McNulty sent the report for December

On November 26<sup>th</sup> 2022 Police Sergeant Sarah Stephenson commenced her new role as Community Sergeant for the Forth and Endrick ward as well as supervisor for the Community policing Teams at Callander and Dunblane. She has eighteen years Policing service, having previously worked in Callander.

Anti-social behaviour:

There have been three separate crimes of a similar nature in relation to damage recorded during the relevant period. These have involved windows being struck by ball bearings, possibly propelled by a slingshot or similar from the roadside. Due to the similarity of the ball bearings used these crimes have been linked and enquiries are continuing.

A male was found in possession of a personal quantity of Cannabis and was issued with a Recorded Police Warning.

Road Safety:

There was a road traffic collision near Queen's View when a car came off the road and collided with a tree. No serious injuries were reported.

There were various incidents regarding cars stranded or coming off the road near to Mugdock Country park, due to inclement weather. No serious injuries were sustained. The Park had an evening event in December which they will use to plan future events to try to minimise vehicles using the "Khyber Pass" during icy weather. Both Stirling and east Dumbarton Councils had to attend to close their respective sided of the road.

A male was arrested and charged with drink driving as part of a festive drink/drive operation. He will appear in court in 2023.

Theft:

There was one Theft by Housebreaking recorded in the area during the material time, whereby a car was stolen.

There was an attempted break in of a domestic garage, but nothing was stolen. There have been similar incidents in nearby villages and the Police recommend that residents remain vigilant.

A resident reported that there had been several break-ins and a suspicious vehicle at Netherblane. GE will email Constable McNulty to ask if these should be reported via calling 999 or 101.

#### **5. Elected member's Report**

There was no elected member present and no apology had been received. AT suggested sending the elected members a Zoom link to the meetings. JH will email the elected members to see if they are planning to attend.

#### **6. Planning and Licensing**

As requested, JG had been investigating planning permissions and possible breaches of conditions at the Ardoch House campsite. Two prior planning applications were identified: No: [20/00385/FUL](#) and previously [19/00603/FUL](#).

Photos confirm that conditions such as screening and planting have not been fulfilled. Light pollution is also a longstanding complaint. JG will draft comments for approval by the CC members.

Another case for potential enforcement is the development now called Graham Lambie Brae below the Devil's Elbow was nearly complete and partially occupied (Adam Homes and Rural Stirling Housing Association; Ref. No: 20/00564/FUL). JG had reviewed the permissions granted and noted conditions relating to footpath and street lighting, as well planting of shrubs etc. required on the engineered landscape. It was also noted that the footpath South from the site entrance towards the hairpin had been churned by workers' vans and should be restored by the developer. JG will draft comments for approval by the CC members. Finally, the CC noted rumours had been circulating that the social housing component of the development would not after all be delivered on site. This was categorically untrue, according to MV.

A resident of Moor Road had contacted JG to express surprise that there was no advertisement or consultation on the granted proposal for a farm manager's house on Dumbrock Moor. ([Erection of dwelling house and additional works to support existing farm business Land 765M Southwest of Bracken House Strathblane Ref. No: 22/00583/PPP](#)). This was discussed at the October CC meeting. In 2009 a similar proposal had been very contentious and refused after major opposition. Being an isolated plot, of course there would be no routine "neighbour notification". JG and KR will consider whether and how planning cases can be made more available, but in principle planning matters are available to all the public, and the CC had not seen this one as particularly contentious. The CC only insists that any building in the Green Belt is examined and justified strictly in accordance with the adopted policies.

Finally, it was noted that we still have to organise community consultations to develop a new Local Place Plan as part of the Local Development Plan renewal. Scottish Government has informed CCs of a software platform and JG will apply for one of the limited free licences.

## **8. Finance**

Current Account - £2634.04

Instant Saver - £1375.27 Interest was 56p this month.

Donations from the Christmas lights switch on were £

We gave our usual donation of £50 to DWE.

## **8. Correspondence**

We received an email asking if we would like to be involved in a group considering Community Newsletters. We do not have a date for this yet.

Valerie Brand emailed about the bus service. She is unhappy about cancellations and the condition of the buses.

## **12. AOCB**

RD mentioned a landslip on the John Muir Way. A resident had already highlighted this and SCDT have contacted SC. The area is being repaired.

A resident raised the issue of the agreement between Forth Valley and Glasgow Health Boards. NHS 24 does not seem to understand the protocol that residents can use Glasgow hospitals. In an emergency we will still be taken to the nearest hospital. KR said that ambulances will use Forth valley if they think long term care might be needed. GE will email Evelyn Tweed about this and copy the original agreement to her.

A resident raised the fact that there is very little paint on the two mini roundabouts and drivers don't see them. The chevrons at the Devil's Elbow are also missing due to collisions JH will email Angela McGibbon about this and also about the broken bollards outside the VC and the Church.

EM reported that the road signs at the junction of Cuilt Road and the A809 have been knocked down. She will email Steven Bly about this.

M Vass reported that they are still hopeful that the new library will be open in mid-February, but they are still waiting for papers to be signed by SC.

GE will email Steven Bly regarding the date for CC elections.

JG mentioned that Derek Edward is retiring after 47 years in the village. The Community Council wish him and Julie well in his retirement.

**12. Date of next meeting Monday February 6th, 2023, at 7.30pm in the Village Club.**

**Contact us at [contact@strathblanecc.org.uk](mailto:contact@strathblanecc.org.uk) Also on our website [www.strathblanecc.org.uk](http://www.strathblanecc.org.uk). Telephone numbers for Community Councilors are on the notice boards, in the library and in the Blane Valley Bulletin**