

## Strathblane Community Council Meeting

12 April 2010 at 7.30pm in the Strathblane Village Club

### Attendees

Margaret Vass	Chair of the Community Council
Fiona Murray	Treasurer
John Gray	Planning/IT
Richard Arnold	Secretary
Philip Graves	Community Council member
Willie Oswald	Community Council member
Elsbeth Posnett	Community Council member
Alan Hutton	Community Council member
Marian Lever	Community Council member
Craig Brown	Stirling Council Roads Project Manager
Pam Campbell	Rural Development Worker, Stirling Council
Colin O'Brien	Councillor, Forth and Endrick Ward 2
Moira Drennan	Minute Taker
	Members of the Community [12]

### Apologies

Joan Hoggan	Vice Chair
David McNally	Police Constable, Central Scotland Police

### Agenda

- 1 Welcome from the Chair.
- 2 Minutes of the March meeting and Matters Arising
- 3 Community Council Elections/co-option
- 4 Police Report
- 5 Community Council Links with other village groups
  - a) planning for Local Development Plan day on 29 May
  - b) Summer Fair 5<sup>th</sup> June
- 6 Elected Member's Report
- 7 Financial Matters
  - a) Budget
  - b) Funding applications
  - c) Proposal for donations for loan of community equipment
- 8 Issues from the community
- 9 Roads
  - a) A81 and Speed/Traffic Management
  - b) Other roads issues
- 10 Environmental Issues.
  - a) Community Action Day 31 May
  - b) Other issues
- 11 Planning
  - a) 10/00153/FUL revised new house 65m East of Dorrans bungalow
  - b) 10/00159/FUL 2 new houses 47m North of Aros House
  - c) 10/00156/PPP new Police Office at 19 Glasgow Rd
  - d) 10/00118/MSC new house to rear of 10/14 Old Mugdock Rd
  - e) 09/00358/FUL 10 new close care units at Blane House
  - f) Feedback from the planning panel and any other planning issues
- 12 Feedback from Community Development Trust
- 13 Correspondence
- 14 AOCB
- 15 Date of next meeting 10 May 2010 in Strathblane Primary School

## **1 Welcome and Introductions**

Margaret Vass opened the meeting and welcomed Marian Lever to her first meeting as a Community Councillor following the February elections. Margaret Vass also extended a welcome everyone present and to the speaker Craig Brown, Stirling Council Roads Project Manager.

## **2 Minute of the March 10 Meeting**

The March minute was accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. The approved minute was proposed by Elspeth Posnett and seconded by Fiona Murray.

### **Matters Arising**

None

### **Craig Brown** Stirling Council Roads Project Manager **Roads**

- Zebra Crossing on the Glasgow Road

Questions were raised on the levels of illumination, the use of metal poles rather than banded illuminated poles, the siting of the crossing and the forward visibility to the crossing

Mr Brown replied that the levels of illumination would have been checked, metal poles would have conformed to the British standard and the street lighting and forward visibility would have been satisfactory. John Gray pointed out that trees required to be trimmed back and that no action had been taken through Talk Back system. Craig Brown offered to check out the points raised by John Gray and look into the Talk Back record of calls received and actions pending.

- Traffic/ Speed management on the A81 Glasgow Road

Mr Brown reported that had been a cut back in finances, Stirling Council's budget was much reduced. The Atkins Report was raised. It was pointed out that there had been no agreement with the Community Council on the two areas detailed in the letter to Stirling Council of 17 December 2009. Designing any scheme was expensive but Craig Brown would look into the matter. Mr Brown advised that a full implementation of the A81 Blanefield to Strathblane plan would not be viable due to financial constraints and that it would be more realistic to concentrate on one section or possibly a re-design.

The Station Road traffic lights were a long way off. Vehicle speed had to be first reduced. Philip Graves suggested investigating some cheaper solutions, successful in other towns.

Craig Brown offered to represent Strathblane Community Council's wishes for funding for road improvements. Councillor O'Brien suggested making a list of priorities.

There followed some discussion on the traffic light issue.

The Community Council were in favour of traffic lights but one resident expressed disagreement, as she believed traffic lights would cause access difficulties to her house. Difficulties had occurred during the recent road improvements She considered a mini roundabout at Ballewen would be more effective. Alan Hutton pointed out that the traffic lights would not operate similarly to work lights and that the proposed Station Road lights would only operate when cars needed to come out.

Old Mugdock Road

Mr Pickard requested Type One hardcore be deposited on the verges of Old Mugdock Road.

## **3 Community Council Elections and co-option**

It was agreed to open the 2 remaining vacancies for co-opted volunteers from either ward, to bring the Community Council up to the full complement.

#### **4 Police Report** Email from David McNally

- 3/3/10 Daytime theft of a Rover 75 motor vehicle from the East Car Park at Mugdock.
- 5/3/10 Attempted Murder at Carbeth Huts. A 39 year old male was stabbed in the throat, late on 5/3/10. A 70-year-old male has been apprehended and has appeared at Stirling Sheriff Court. A trial is pending. Neither of those involved resided in the Strathblane/Blanefield/Mugdock areas.
- 19/3/10 A break-in to a vehicle occurred in the area of Old Mugdock Road where a SatNav was stolen.
- 22/3/10 An overnight break-in occurred at a outhouse/store near to Cuilt Road, Blanefield whereby a number of power tools and equipment was stolen.
- 23/3/10 7.20pm : A £24000 Land Rover briefly parked outside the Spar Shop, Glasgow Road was stolen. The owner of this vehicle could not account for how he lost the keys to the vehicle. **It is imperative that people do not leave cars running when they go into shops in the village, or leave cars running in the driveway at home.**

With the coming of the spring/summer season and in accordance with the Community Policing Plan, P.C. David McNally identified a new series of priorities to be specifically targeted between now and the end of June. These were as follows:

- 1 An increased presence and more robust policing in the area of Mugdock Country Park, Loch Ardingning and the areas around Carbeth and Craigallion Lochs. This is to counter the seasonal trends of disorderly behaviour in these areas, which includes poaching from the lochs, damage to Scottish National Heritage Property at Loch Ardingning and prevention and detection of crime around Mugdock Country Park.
- 2 Further measures to target speeding motorists on the A81 through Strathblane. There will also be heightened patrols of the Stockiemuir Road by marked and unmarked police vehicles to deal with the problems posed by motorcyclists during the coming months.
3. A continuation of foot and vehicle patrols throughout the village, mid week during the day, in order to prevent/detect the ongoing problem of domestic housebreakings, which remains an issue throughout West Stirlingshire.

#### **5 Community links with other groups**

There had been no further contacts with other groups.

- The Local Development Planning day has been scheduled from 10.00am to 4.00pm in Strathblane Primary School on 29 May, a Glasgow holiday and the date of the Drymen Show.
- Alternative dates in the local area:
  - 27 May 2.00pm to 8.00pm in the McLintock Hall, Buchanan Street, Balfour G630TS
  - 4 June in Buchlyvie.
- Summer Fair 5 June

It was agreed that the Community Council should participate in this major village event. Richard Arnold would contact Linda Barclay.

## **6 Elected Member's Report**

- Councillor O'Brien offered to check progress on the appointment of a village officer and the awaited re-opening of the public toilets.
- Councillor O'Brien advised that Balfron High School would not be adversely affected by the collapse of Jarvis.
- Willie Oswald had received the requested maps of the area from Stirling Council.

## **7 Financial Matters**

Fiona Murray reported that the budget was on track and that £1000.00 had been received from Stirling Council. Items were in the process of being purchased.

There would be no fee for groups or members of the community wishing to borrow the items, but a donation would be suggested. The purchased items would be housed in the library. A loan agreement would be drawn up and insurance cover arranged

The Community Council agreed to request donations and deposits for loan of equipment. The money would fund replacement equipment in the future. The availability of the equipment would be advertised in The Blane, in the Library and on the website.

## **8 Issues from the Community**

- Noise Pollution

Margaret Vass informed that complaints had been received about endless noise from chainsaws and weekend working on domestic extensions. She stressed that it was important that neighbours and nearby residents talked to each other and consideration be given to minimising disturbance to others. Complaints had been received about endless noise from chainsaws.

Colin O'Brien recommended Strathblane Community Council write to Stirling Council.

Carbeth

Trevor Scott spoke about how an agreement reached to create a conservation area behind the Carbeth Inn and to allow the remainder of the huts to disappear through natural wastage, was no longer the case. A whole new development seemed to be the new changed aim.

Mr Scott was disturbed by a number of new and unauthorised huts built on the Cuilt Road. Councillor O'Brien offered to check out these recent developments and communicate findings to John Gray and Mr Scott.

- Access to Blane Crescent

Access appears to be blocked at one end of Blane Crescent. Pam Campbell will contact Stirling Council for clarification

## **9 Roads [See earlier agenda item]**

## **10 Environmental Issues**

- Community Action Day Monday 31 May.  
Joan Hoggan, Richard Arnold and Marian Lever will liaise with Dougie Flynn; Elspeth Posnett will contact Restorative Justice. Dougie Flynn will decide on the level of skill needed for the work
- The Pillar box at the foot of Kirkhouse Road has been straightened
- The riverbank. Richard Arnold had contacted Stirling Council regarding the badly crumbled wall. Councillor O'Brien will check on progress with Stirling Council.
- An infill of tar has covered the drain in Kirkhouse Avenue. Councillor O'Brien will advise the Road Maintenance Department.

## **11 Planning**

10/00153/FUL revised new house 65m East of Dorran bungalow

A previous application was opposed by Strathblane Community Council and neighbours, but approved by the Planning Officer. The new application was for the same house, but moved and 'flipped'. This has moved the house further from the cluster, forming even less of a coherent unit with the other dwellings. It was reported however, that the new location was an improvement so far as the immediate neighbours were concerned and so the Community Council would not oppose the application, provided the other application was rescinded

10/00159/FUL 2 new houses 47m North of Aros House

This application was neither opposed nor supported.

10/00156/PPP new Police Office at 19 Glasgow Rd

The proposal was to create a self-standing Police Office separate from the Police house. No opposition.

10/00118/MSC new house to rear of 10/14 Old Mugdock Rd

The garden ground of 2 properties had been amalgamated. Parking was an issue. There would be 3 parking bays and a further 2 bays within the property. No objections.

09/00358/FUL 10 new close care units at Blanefield House

Although there was a need for such housing, the proposed development was away from all facilities and the residents would be tied to the Home. The arrangements were sketchy and it was felt that the existing proposals did not meet the criteria. Objection on Policy and character grounds

Feedback from planning panel and any other planning issues

The Edenmill café was refused, given the robust opposition from the Roads Department.

The landscape business at Edenmill and the close care units at Blanefield House were being recommended for refusal at the Planning Panel meeting, to be held on 13 April. Margaret Vass would attend to hear the discussion.

## **12 Community Development Trust**

Work was progressing on the report from the village survey. A joint meeting/social event with the CDT committee was to be arranged for the end of May.

## **13 AOCB**

Your Training Day

13 May in Balfron High School 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room 7.30 to 9.30pm. This information gathering session was open to any community group. For Information and leaflets, contact Pam Campbell. The information collected will inform the development of the Stirling Council Communities Team's training and support programme for 2010/11

Planning Sub Group

Marian Lever joined the Planning Group

## **14 Correspondence**

Contact Richard Arnold for list

## **15 Date of next meeting**

10 May 2010 in Strathblane Primary School

The meeting ended at 10.00pm