

Strathblane Community Council Meeting

1 March 2010 at 7.30pm in Strathblane Primary School

Attendees

Margaret Vass	Chair of the Community Council
Joan Hoggan	Vice Chair
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
Colin O'Brien	Councillor, Forth and Endrick Ward 2
David McNally	Police Constable, Central Scotland Police
Moira Drennan	Minute Taker
	Members of the Community [10]

Apologies

Pam Campbell Rural Development Worker, Stirling Council

Agenda

- 1 Welcome from the Chair
- 2 Minute of the February meeting and Matters Arising
 - a Community Council elections
 - b School Crossing Patrol
- 3 Police Report: David McNally, Police Constable, Central Scotland Police
- 4 Community Council links with other village groups
- 5 Issues from the Community
- 6 Financial Matters
 - a Budget
 - b Funding applications
- 7 Elected Member's Report: Councillor Colin O'Brien
- 8 Roads
 - a A81 and Speed/Traffic Management
 - b Other roads' issues
- 9 Environmental issues.
 - a Village 'welcome noticeboards'
 - b Community Action Days
 - c Other issues
- 10 Planning
 - a Edenmill Farm relocation of landscape business 10/0027/FUL
 - b Any other planning matters
- 11 Correspondence
Community Council Induction 27 March 2010
- 12 AOCB
- 13 Date of next meeting: 12 April 2010 in the Village Club

1 Welcome from the Chair

Margaret Vass opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

2 Minute of the February 10 Meeting

The February minute was accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. The minute was proposed by Alan Hutton and seconded by John Gray.

Matters Arising

Page 5 The collapsed banking on the River Blane had been reported to Stirling Council. Richard Arnold had written to the Council.

- Community Council Elections

This item was deferred to the April agenda

3 Police Report

13 February Craighfern Drive, A house alarm had been activated, but there had been no successful break-in. It was believed that perpetrators were from out with the area. The attempted break-in had taken place at 7.30pm on Saturday. This was a concern, as break-ins usually occurred from Monday to Friday during the day.

If anything suspicious is noticed, the Police should be phoned.

17 February A party advertised on Facebook and hosted in Blanefield, caused £10,000 worth of damage to the property.

Parking

PC McNally had submitted an article to The Blane on the subject of parking. An 'abandoned' car on the pavement in Milndavie Crescent and blocking the view of traffic onto Old Mugdock Road, had been towed away. PC McNally stressed that cars should not be on the pavement. Pavements were for pedestrians.

Glasgow Road Parking

PC McNally advised parking on the Glasgow Road and not on the pavement. This would help to slow down traffic.

Kirkland Avenue: inconsiderate parking continued. PC McNally would persevere.

Brown's

Several people commented on the loss of the parking in-shot opposite Brown's store and Post Office, although it was agreed that there had to be a balance between accommodating cars and discouraging the use of cars.

There had been no prior consultation with the Community Council. This would be remedied in future.

11 February A car went off the road at the Cuilt Brae.

4 Community Council links

Already there had been 2 positive responses, to Margaret Vass's email. The development of links would be discussed at the next meeting.

5 Issues from the Community

Public Information Notices

The Council was no longer obliged to put adverts in the papers, at huge expense. John Gray suggested re-negotiating a cheaper option and believed it was a real loss. Philip Graves suggested posting copies in the village noticeboards. Margaret Vass pointed out that it was only a consultation at the moment. The Strathblane Community Council opposed the loss of public notices in newspapers

The caravan at Braehead had been removed.

6 Financial Matters

The Community Grant Scheme had been oversubscribed in February and as a result the Community Council's application had been unsuccessful in that round. There would be a re-submission for the £1000.00 in April 10.

The Community Pride Fund application had been successful.

Community Pride Fund

Comb binding machines x2	£75.00
Digital camcorder	£150.00
Digital Camera	£250.00
Dictaphone(s)	£50.00
Display board(s) including table top and full size	£325.00
PA system	£150.00

Richard Arnold and John Gray would oversee the purchase of equipment. Margaret Vass and Fiona Murray would draft a borrowing contract for individuals and community groups, based in the local library.

7 Elected Member's Report

- Councillor O'Brien confirmed the advertisement of the posts for School Crossing Patrol Officer and Village Officer.
- There had been a campaign for additional grit bins and a request for Stirling Council to examine the priorities on their gritting schedule.
- Food waste collection bins were to be distributed to the area. At present 45% of waste is recycled. The bins would raise the percentage by a few points.
- The proposed yellow line street markings outside the primary school would soon be painted.
- Auchineden House: It was believed that the projected Forestry Commission planting might upset the water supply to the 7 apartments in Auchineden House. This may be an issue for either the Killearn or the Strathblane Community Council. Philip Graves believed Auchineden House to be in the Blanefield ward.
- The power line from Beauly to Denny. There had been an unsatisfactory meeting with the Scottish government. The power lines were considered a major eyesore and a blot on the landscape.
- Mugdock Country Park: there was to be a development of the courtyard building at the Visitors' Centre involving a roof renovation and the creation of a theatre bar.
- Willie Oswald raised several issues on behalf of local resident: faulty street lighting in Blane Crescent. Faults should be reported to Scottish Power. There was a request for replacement lids for grit bins; for a central grit reservoir and an increase in the overall number of grit bins.

8 Roads

Willie Oswald was dissatisfied with his reply from Stirling Council. Another invitation would be extended to the Roads Department to attend a Strathblane Council meeting on 12 April. This meeting would allow Stirling Council to outline Council policies on traffic management and other current road issues and to field questions from the Community Council and members of the community.

Willie Oswald will continue to negotiate an informative, up-to-date map of the village, showing the land and pavements owned by Stirling Council and those in private ownership.

Richard Arnold had notified Stirling Council of a personal injury accident, due to poor road maintenance. There had been no response. Councillor O'Brien would follow it up, if necessary.

Country Park Road

Mugdock Country Park was the 8th most visited free Country Park amenity in Scotland, yet the road leading to the park was horrendous. The road was a priority on this year's maintenance programme.

Old Mugdock Road potholes: Margaret Vass advised everyone to keep reporting faults. Councillor O'Brien will also report faults and pointed out that all roads had suffered badly because of the weather. Patsy Fishbacher suggested prioritising pavements which had restricted access for people with disabilities.

9 Environmental Issues

Village Welcome Boards

The designs were ready. The designer had added an outline of the Campsies. This work was done on a voluntary basis at no cost and was greatly appreciated. The members approved the suggested designs. The joiner had submitted cost. The invoice should be processed as soon as possible.

Community Action Days

Douglas Flynn was looking for dates and suggestions for potential projects. He suggested a weekday but a weekend was considered preferable. Joan Hoggan suggested promoting the event at Balfron High School, to attract students working for the community service element of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

The Restorative Justice Team might also be approached for helpers.

Monday 31 May was the proposed date.

Elspeth Posnett informed that Sybil McLean owns the land on which the Post Box is situated at the foot of Kirkhouse Road.

10 Planning

Margaret Vass and Elspeth Posnett attended the area forum meeting last Monday, at very short notice. Due to an oversight, there had been no communication of this meeting to newly appointed councillors.

The main items for discussion at the area forum meeting were community consultation for the Local Development Plan, the local housing strategy and the open space strategy.

The consultation date for the Local Development Plan will be Saturday 29 May, from 10.00am until 4.00pm; an important opportunity for members of the community to put forward their views. Stirling Council will advertise this event. Discussion on Community Council involvement will take place at the next Strathblane Community Council meeting on 12 April.

Margaret Vass, John Gray and Willie Oswald attended the Planning Training on Saturday. Items on the agenda were Planning Application principles and processes, Local Development Planning and the consultation process and the new Liquor Licensing laws.

Edenmill Farm Blanefield 09/00341/FUL

Proposal: change of use and operations to form level additional land space

Edenmill Farm 09/00584/FUL

Proposal: demolition of redundant agricultural buildings and the erection of a new house

Both of the above cases were judged to comply with policies and were not considered to increase traffic volume. Although consideration was given to Strathblane Community Council's objections, both proposals were approved.

Edenmill Farm 08/00825/DET

Proposal: proposed part change of use to form tearoom and play area

Edenmill Farm 08/00027FUL/

Proposal re-siting of landscape business

There was some discussion on above planning decisions and on the two further proposals.

The Community Council decided to ask for a Hearing and for the Hearing to include all Edenmill applications at the same time.

The Community Council was not opposed to these commercial developments in principle, but deplored the way the owner continued to ignore the need to provide a safer access route to the main road. Margaret Vass and John Gray will attend the Planning Panel, even if there is no hearing.

Mugdock 5 houses appeal PPA-390-2001

The Reporter had written to Stirling Councillor further information. Strathblane Community Council had no opportunity to input directly.

11 Correspondence

All correspondence had been dealt with.

Community Council Induction Day, 27 March 10

Margaret Vass and Richard Arnold will attend; an extra place was requested for Fiona Murray.

12 AOCB

Draft minutes were to be published within 14 days following the meeting.

Margaret Vass requested that on receipt of the draft 1 minute, Council members send amendments to the minute taker within 4 days, or at their earliest convenience.

Nil returns were required.

13 Date of the Next Meeting:

7.30pm on 12 April 2010 in the Village Club

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

