

## BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Balfron Community Council met in the Balfron Campus on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Bill Astley-Jones, Archie Bell, Jean Browning, Pam Campbell, Christine Davey, P.C. Campbell Dunn, Gladys Farquharson, Anne Fleming, Kate Griffith, Duncan McLaren, Betty McVean, Sandy Shearlaw, Jan Stewart and Mike Stone.

**Apologies:** Tom Hillis, Councillor Colin O'Brien

**Minutes:** The minutes of meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> March were checked for accuracy and their adoption proposed by Sandy seconded by Duncan.

### Matters Arising

1. **Additional Post Box.** Since nothing had been received from Royal Mail authority about the results of their investigation the Secretary is to check if Post Watch have been informed.
2. **Nature Trail – Upper Endrick.** The halfway stage has been completed on the Feasibility Study and the same consultants are now proceeding to survey a specific route, in process of which they will meet with landowners and also with local residents.
3. **Flying Fox.** The cost of replacement would be £10,000 and so alternative equipment – a Stretching Post that would cost £645 and a Hanging Frame which would cost £1,350 suitable for 7-14 year olds has been chosen. Additional funding is being sought from various local groups and the Community Council was asked to increase its donation from £500 to £650. This was agreed. After consultation with Colin MacKay, honeycomb mats are to replace the bark round the new equipment, which will be installed by Stirling Council Play Services. In 2007-08 equipment for 13+ age group is being considered. £10,000 is the cost of equipment and £2,000 for installation. Fund raising events will be necessary.
4. **Notice Board.** Secretary had twice contacted Stirling Council for help on servicing this to no avail. Pam offered to try to find information.
5. **Neighbourhood Watch.** They have been told that their request to use web-site has been agreed in principle but web-site is to be upgraded first. Provision has been made to train two more people in site-servicing skills.

### Police Report

P.C. Dunn reported that on 25<sup>th</sup> March, two cycles had been stolen but thieves were caught on the bikes. The charity box was stolen from butcher's shop, there were four vehicle offences and one forgery. Bogus workmen/doorstop callers was an issue as victims, mostly elderly, suffered greatly and within two

- Complaint about litter in Donaldson Park. Mike had contacted Stirling Council – their officer cleared park in morning but litter came at lunchtime from High School pupils. Secretary to write to Head Teacher as Park is officially out of bounds and Stirling Council is to be asked if Park could be cleared in the afternoon.
- Information from Scottish National Heritage about site monitoring of Endrick Water.
- Reply from Craig Gardener in response to Mike's letter about abandoned cars, caravan and blue container in the Co-op car park – cars had been removed and blue container will be removed once all Council bathrooms have been upgraded.
- Stirling Council will assess situation to see if three paper recycling bins are required and re-locate them to a better position away from trees.

#### **A.O.B.**

1. Proposed wind farm. Mike had spoken with Davin Aiken and a meeting to discuss issue was fixed for 22<sup>nd</sup> June but since this is School awards ceremony evening an alternative date is to be arranged. Liz Arthur had sent a letter expressing concern over lack of detailed information eg no mention of fact each pylon requires concrete base the size of an Olympic swimming pool. Public meeting will give occasion to put forward specific questions on whole proposal.
2. Christine asked if a letter of support could be sent to Leader Plus to which she had applied for financial help. Mike will consider if he can comply with this request.
3. Sandy informed us that new hospital at Larbert would have only limited car parking; visitors are to park at Larbert Station and board hospital bus there.

Date of next meeting – AGM and regular meeting **8<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at 7.30pm** in Balfron Campus.