

BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 10TH JANUARY 2008

AT 7.30PM IN BLAFRON CAMPUS

Present: Bill Astley-Jones, Jean Browning, Mary Young, Alison McGregor, Gary Scott, Anne Fleming and Sandy Shearlaw.

In attendance: Kate Griffith, Gladys Farquharson, Councillor Graham Lambie, PC Campbell Dunn and Elizabeth Holmes.

1. **Welcome:** Bill welcomed everyone to the first meeting of 2008.

2. **Apologies:** Pam Campbell.

3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting of 15th November were checked for their accuracy and their approval proposed by Jean Browning and seconded by Mary Young.

4. **Matters Arising**

4.1 **Street Name Plates:** The name plate for Cotton Street was now in place but the name plate for Roman Road would not be put in place until after the start of the new financial year in April.

4.2 **High School Turbines:** Bill had tried to contact Val Corry, the high school head teacher, on two occasions but had been unable to speak to her about the issue. Councillor Lambie said that the local MSP was aware of the issue and knew that the turbines were noisy. Jean said that a resident in South Lomond Terrace had told her that she could hear the turbines from her house. It was agreed that the CC should continue to try and contact the school about the issue.

4.3 **CC Website:** Mary said that she had spoken to Danny Owens about the CC website and he told her that he was prepared to set up a new site with someone from the CC who would keep it regularly updated. The meeting then discussed whether or not it was necessary for the CC to have its own website when the task of updating the site could be time-consuming. After further discussion it was agreed to contact the High School to ask if there was a pupil or pupils interested in servicing the site as a project.

5. **Police Report**

PC Dunn said that there had been several cases of vandalism reported in the village since the last meeting. Officers had issued community social behaviour on the spot fines of £40 to people causing a nuisance and 30 litres of alcohol had been confiscated from party-goers in Killlearn. In the wider area, the police force started a winter vehicle safety and driving standard campaign on 7th January. PC Dunn also asked the CC members what they would like the police take particular action on locally. The issues brought forward were youth disorder and the need to curb noise coming from people leaving local public houses in the late evening. Mary asked if there was any feedback about a zebra crossing in the village and PC Dunn said that plans were still being formulated as part of the Safer Routes to School initiative.

6. **Finance Report**

Sandy reported a bank balance of £5566.18. The meeting also considered a letter from EVAG asking if the CC was prepared to make a financial contribution towards the group's campaign against the development of a wind farm on Ballindalloch Muir. Bill suggested that the CC should donate £1000 towards the campaign and this was agreed. Gary and Mary, who are members of EVAG, thanked the council members for agreeing to make such a generous donation to the campaign.

7. Planning

1. Application from West Point Homes for eleven 5 and 6 bedroom houses in gap site in Donaldson Way . The CC agreed to request a meeting with the developers as the members felt that Balforn did not need any more executive homes but more low-cost homes. Concern was also expressed about the effects on the infrastructure and services especially the schools, sewerage, car parking and traffic.
2. Application for a five-bedroomed house in Dunmore Street, next to Rose Cottage, by Mr Douglas Warnock. The CC had no objections to this application.
3. The application by Careth Landscapes to develop land at the entrance to Meikle Camoquhill as a base for the business was considered by Stirling Council Planning Panel on 19th December but was not granted. However, the panel agreed to a site visit. Councillor Lambie said that he supported the application as the applicants were a local firm employing local people.
4. The CC had no views on a proposed extension at 50 Kirkmill Road.

It was reported that the application from Npower for nine turbines on Ballindalloch Muir had been submitted to Stirling Council planners but that the company had failed to comply with certain conditions of application. Npower were asked to re-submit the application and to comply with the conditions. Information was available from EVAG for residents who wished to object to the application. As previously agreed, the CC would be objecting to the proposal. Councillor Lambie said the the local MSP, Bruce Crawford, had expressed his opposition to the development. He also said that the Carron Valley was perhaps the area the council were isolating for wind farm developments.

8. Any other specific items

Jean said that she had attended the last meeting of the Area 5 Community Planning Forum. The next meeting will be held on Monday, 25th February.

The unsatisfactory condition of the pavement outside the Co-op was brought to the CC's attention.

9. Correspondence

Sandy said that Balforn Church would be writing to the CC to ask for its support to have Stirling Council improve the area of the war memorial .

Date of next meeting --- **Thursday, 21st February 2008 at 7.30pm** in Balforn Campus.
