

BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 26th JUNE 2008

IN BALFRON CAMPUS

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

In attendance: Kate Griffith, Archie Bell, Pam Campbell, Elizabeth Holmes, Cllr. Alastair Berrill, Ed Wilson and Ann Johnston.

1. Welcome: Bill welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for cancelling the meeting arranged for 12th June.

2. Apologies: Betty McVean, John McLean, Gladys Farquharson and Cllr. Colin O'Brien.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved and their adoption proposed by Gary Scott and seconded by Sandy Shearlaw. It was noted that the amendment to the minutes of the meeting of 15th April should have been raised as a point of order at the meeting in May.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Signposts: It was agreed that council officials Brian Roberts and Alan Ogilvie should be asked to the next meeting of the CC to discuss signposts and how to tackle speeding traffic in the village. It was also agreed to ask Sgt. Swan to attend the meeting.

4.2 High School Wind Turbines: There was still some doubt as to what the planning regulations were for the high school turbines and Pam Campbell, rural support worker, said she would clarify what the regulations were for the next CC meeting.

4.3 Website: Peter Wilks from Killearn Community Council is to be invited to the next meeting of the CC to discuss the website.

5. Police Report: There was no police report for this meeting but it was noted that PC Campbell Dunn was on sick leave.

6. Finance Report

Sandy reported that the current balance at the bank was £4274.29

7. Planning Report

A planning application had been submitted for the conversion of the building currently occupied by Balfron Sports Cars into a three-storey office building. A letter of objection is to be sent by the CC stating that the development would lead to an over provision of office space in the village. It would also mean the loss of an existing business and there appeared to be no provision for car parking.

The CC agreed to send a letter to Stirling Council about the application by Mr and Mrs Ian Galloway to change the use of a flat at 40 Buchanan Street into a nail bar and beauty parlour. There appeared to be no car parking provision for the proposed development and councillors were concerned about the effects this development would have on traffic using Buchanan Street and Buchanan Court. It was also noted that there appeared to be no disabled access.

8. Items of Other Specific Interest

8.1 Woodland Behind Dunkeld Court: Jean said that she had phoned Tilhill Forestry about the

wood. She was told that Tilhill had a contract with Carvill to take down the existing trees, re-plant the ground and put in a path. They did not have an ongoing contract to maintain the new woodland. It was agreed to pursue the issue further with Carvill's chairman, the Forestry Commission and Scottish Water.

8.2 Neighbourhood Watch: Ann Johnstone and Ed Wilson from the Balfron Neighbourhood Watch group attended the meeting. They said that the group was having difficulty finding a new chairman but would continue for one year to try and recruit someone new to the post. They had held discussions with other local villages and they were encountering the same difficulties.

9. Correspondence

- a) An acknowledgement had been received to the CC's letter to the Scottish Government requesting reconsideration of the inclusion of the Endrick Valley in the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park.
- b) Documents from the National Park Authority about the current review of the park.
- c) Letter from Killin Community Council re manning levels at rural ambulance stations.
- d) It was agreed to nominate Balfron Fire Cadets for the Provost's Community Awards following receipt of an invitation to put local people forward.
- e) Email from Helen Geddes about £8m available over 2 years through Keep Scotland Beautiful.
- f) Notice of fund-raising event on 5th July in aid of Wolfcraig Training Project, a mental health support group based in Stirling.

10. A. O. B.

- 1. **Area Forum:** Jean had attended the last Area Forum meeting which had talked about the new hospital at Larbert. The new hospital will be an acute facility which will house the accident and emergency department. Stirling will become a community hospital.
- 2. **Community Council Vacancy:** There is currently one vacancy for a community councillor and elections will take place in October to fill the vacancy.

Date of Next meeting --- **Thursday, 14th August at 7.30pm in the BCFDT Office, Buchanan Street (opposite the bank).** Please note change of venue.