

## BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Balfron Community Council met in the Balfron Campus on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Archie Bell, Jean Browning, Pam Campbell, Dr S. Cumming, Christine Davey, James Davey, PC Campbell Dunn, Jill Dykes, Anne Fleming, Gladys Farquharson, Kate Griffith, Tom Hillis, Elizabeth Holmes, Erik Johnston, Duncan McLaren, Councillor Colin O'Brien, Sandy Shearlaw, Mike Stone, Mike Tortolano, Cathy Walker and Mary Young.

**Speaker:** Mike welcomed Dr Cumming who explained he was Locality Co-ordinator for the new health services provided by the six local practices, the Cherry Tree Centre and a Teenage Drop-In centre in the High School and he linked with NHS 24 to work out problems and concerns in the rural area. Delay in training of paramedics to provide enhanced care had resulted in some problems but the training should be completed by September 2006 and then paramedics contacted via NHS would provide immediate emergency care or assess the situation and convey patient to hospital. Some concerning incidents had been reported about NHS 24 and people should report any such incidents to their GPs. In response to a question, Dr Cummings assured us that all doctors based in Stirling now have SATNAV (satellite navigation) in their cars to ensure speedy arrival at homes of patients in rural areas to speed responses, local GPs feed details of patients with complex needs to NHS 24. Asked if we were vulnerable because rapid response set-up will not be fully operational until September, Dr Cumming assured us that our paramedics are highly skilled and every effort will be made to ensure an adequate service from the Ambulance Service.

Mike thanked Dr Cumming for his contribution and he then left.

**Apologies:** John McLean

**Minutes:** These were checked and adoption proposed by Sandy, seconded by Duncan.

### **Matters Arising**

1. Post Box – Secretary had received letter from Postwatch to say Royal Mail network would begin investigation about possibility of a post box at lower end of village because of steepness of hill and elderly population.
2. Upper Endrick Nature Trail – draft report mostly positive. Steering group will meet with consultants on 20<sup>th</sup> March.
3. Stirling Council Project Grant – money has been paid into Community Council account.
4. Flying Fox – Mike had been in touch with Colin McKay –Children's Services to be told it was not to be replaced.
5. Notice Board – Secretary is pursuing matter of costs of replacement.

**A.O.B.**

- 1. Wind Farm – Ballindalloch Muir.** Mike had protested to NPower because utilities usually contacted Community Councils but they had not done so. Npower said they would be interested in speaking to Community Council if project went ahead. Stirling Council had been notified and Colin had been offered a briefing but he declined stating he would only see them with the Community Council. Discussion on potential benefits to community followed and Mary Young summarised main points from the NPower meeting, which, she indicated, was more of a marketing and less a consultation event. It was decided to invite NPower formally to a Community Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> April.
- 2. Elizabeth** had been asked if Neighbourhood Watch could have a page on the Community Council web-site if they paid hosting costs. This was agreed in principal but consultation with Danny Owens would take place before final decision is made.

**Date of next meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2006 at 7.30pm in Balfron Campus.**