

## BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY , 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2007

AT 7.30PM IN BALFRON CAMPUS

**Present:** Sandy Shearlaw, Jean Browning, Anne Fleming, Gary Scott, Mary Young, Alison McGregor, Betty McVean and John McLean.

**In attendance:** Gladys Farquharson, Archie Bell, Ian Nicolson and Elizabeth Holmes.

**1. Apologies:** Bill Astley-Jones, Cllrs Colin O'Brien and Graham Lambie, Constable Campbell Dunn, Kate Griffith and Pam Campbell.

Betty McVean, vice chair, chaired the meeting. Jean informed the meeting that the chair, Bill Astley-Jones, was unwell and had been in hospital.

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting:** The minutes of the meeting of 30<sup>th</sup> August 2007 were checked for accuracy and their adoption proposed by Alison McGregor and seconded by Anne Fleming.

### 3. Matters Arising

**3.1 Greek Thomson Benches:** Jean had contacted the Norrie Gilmour of the Criminal Justice Team and they had projects on their books until the end of the year. Jean suggested that the CC members varnish the benches in the mean time. Sandy and Jean would look at suitable paint colours.

**3.2 Website:** Jean said she would speak to Danny Owens about the website as there was nothing to report on this item.

**3.3 Woodland Behind Dunkeld Court:** A letter had been drafted to Carvill Homes by Jean and would be posted as soon as she had their address.

**3.4 Name Plates for Streets:** Some name plates were now in place.

**3.5 Donaldson Way Play Area:** Extra money had been found for the play area by Stirling Council and the CC was waiting to hear further about this from Pam Campbell.

### 4. Police Report

Jean read out PC Dunn's written report which stated that there had been a theft and an assault at the high school, both of which had been detected and the theft of handbag from the Pirn Inn which was undetected at present. Trailer thefts had been a problem in the surrounding area and there was security advice on PC Dunn's web page relating to this.

### 5. Financial Report

Sandy reported a balance at the bank of £5073.59. He had paid for paper and meter readings from the library photocopier although there was a reduced income from both the photocopier and the laminator. The CC were also paying the Balfron in Bloom expenses this year.

### 6. Planning Report

Gary said that there had been no planning schedule this week and nothing in the previous week's schedule although he had seen a notice that Balfron Community Futures Development Trust had submitted a planning application for the re-development of the former social work office. The meeting also discussed the proposal by Keith Harvey of Careth Landscaping to move his business from its present unsatisfactory site to one at the entrance to Meikle Camoquhill. Fourteen local people were employed by the firm and Mr Harvey had agreed with the high school to take on apprentices over two

years. A report on the woodland site where planning permission was sought for the proposals was also circulated and this indicated that the development would not be at the expense of the woodland. It was agreed that the CC should support Mr Harvey's application as a suitable new business in the countryside. Gary undertook to draft a letter of support.

## 7. Ballindalloch Wind Farm

The meeting discussed further the proposals for the wind farm on Ballindalloch Muir and what would happen when Npower submitted the planning application for the development. There would be a 16 week consultation period when objections could be lodged but any objections had to be on valid planning grounds. It was suggested that the CC might leaflet the village to inform residents how they could express their opinions for and against the wind farm. It might also be necessary to hold another CC meeting outwith the normal schedule of meetings. EVAG were organising a public meeting on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Lecture Theatre at Balfour Campus which would be addressed by several speakers, including ~~representatives from Npower~~. Questions would then be invited from the floor.

JWB

*Npr have been invited*

## 8. Correspondence

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- a) Area Forum meeting on roads, health and community facilities.
- b) Talk to Your MSP, Falkirk, October 13.
- c) FACT – Forth Valley Acute Care Team – attending Area Forum meeting.
- d) Transport Co-ordinator to be appointed to oversee transport from this area to to new hospital at Larbert.
- e) Roads meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm in Council Chambers, Viewforth, Stirling.

## A. O. B.

- 1) Litter Pick: The CC agreed to hold another litter pick in the village on Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> November.
- 2) High School Wind Turbines: Local resident Ian Nicolson of Balgair Road spoke to the meeting about the noise made by the two wind turbines situated within the grounds the Balfour Campus. In particular he said that his house and others in Balgair Road could hear the noise made by the turbines day and night, seven days a week. Mary said that that none of the residents in Balgair Road and Kiltrochan Drive had been informed of the proposal although the High School said that 6<sup>th</sup> year pupils had visited residents in both streets to inform them of the plans. She added that one resident in Kiltrochan Drive could hear the the noise from the turbines inside their house with the windows closed. Gary pointed out that the turbines were also higher than the 4 metres the CC were told they would be. Their height was nearer 9 metres and planning permission might be required for the structures. It was agreed to write to the High School stating that the CC had received a complaint from a local resident about the level of noise coming from the turbines and that people living close by had not been consulted about the proposals. It was also agreed to clarify the height requirements before planning permission was needed for the turbines. John suggested that the turbines could be turned off in the evenings and at weekends.
- 3) Meeting Dates: The next meeting of the CC would be on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in Balfour Campus and subsequent meetings were scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> January 2008, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 15<sup>th</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> June which would also be the AGM.

