

BALQUHIDDER LOCHEARNHEAD AND STRATHYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Secretary: Alan Clarke, Tulloch Lodge, Balquhidder FK19 8PQ t: 01877 384338 e: alan@tullochlodge.co.uk

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19TH SEPTEMBER 2007 IN LOCHEARNHEAD VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30 PM

Present: Angus Cameron, Alan Clarke, Marguerite Kobs, Vina Crichton, Pamela Hopkins (Chair), Catriona Oldham, Malcolm McNaughton.

In Attendance: Helen Geddes (Stirling Council), Suzanne Player (Stirling Council)

Apologies: Neil Gregory, Owen McKee (National Park), Paul Owens (Stirling Council)

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of meeting 8th August 2007 approved: proposed C Oldham, seconded V Crichton.

2. MATTERS ARISING

2.1 Pavement at Lochearnhead from the Watersports Centre

The CC Secretary has written to TranServ and Transport Scotland requesting that the project revert to the two phases originally proposed. No reply has yet been received.

2.2 Strathyre village gateway signs

The CC has received a copy of a proposed Order from Transport Scotland (via TranServ) to extend the 30mph limit at the south of Strathyre and also implement a 40mph limit from 100 metres south of the entrance to the caravan park. The CC has replied in support of the proposed Order.

2.3 Caravans by Lochearnhead car park

These have now been removed, plus most of the litter.

2.4 Broadband in Balquhidder Glen

The Scottish Executive project is awaiting funding from the new administration, so no progress to report.

2.5 Review of Local Action Plan

A Clarke reported on progress in setting up the Trust, commenting that recruitment brochures are being printed for use at the Community Gathering on 20th October. The Trust has funds of £500, but the banks are very slow in setting up Treasurer's accounts. The CC agreed to provide bridging funds for up to £500 pending the opening of the Trust's own account.

2.6 Strathyre paths

No discussion took place at this meeting.

2.7 Blocked drains in Balquhidder

The matter is still in the hands of the Stirling Councillors to follow up. H Geddes reported that Stirling Council is setting a squad to take preventative measures such as unblocking drains, cundies and the like. The news was greeted with approval by the CC, which has lobbied for this for a long time.

2.8 Community Noticeboards

P Hopkins has contacted Glenochil Prison, which is interested in carrying out the work. An estimate will be obtained from the prison, and then the CC will apply to Stirling Council for a Community Grant for the work. S Player will assist in this. H Geddes recommended that the work should be done before Christmas 2007.

2.9 Christmas Lighting

No funds are available from Stirling Council. It was agreed to continue with the same local arrangements as last year. H Geddes will investigate whether CCs are covered by insurance for such projects.

2.10 Strathyre Suspension Bridge over the Balvaig

Apparently this is a matter for the Forestry Commission. T Ffinch still has this to follow up.

2.11 Meeting of Maintenance of Rural Roads

A Clarke reported on a meeting attended by himself and C Oldham in Port of Menteith, at which Stirling Council explained how the extra £500,000 for roads would be spent. It was agreed at that meeting that the various rural communities would again meet to lobby the Stirling Councillors to put more money into the roads budget, because the backlog for roads maintenance (now estimated at £14 million) is growing. A Clarke to contact Michelle MacDonald to set up this meeting. A Clarke will also write an article for The Villagers explaining what action is taking place by the communities to address the whole issue.

2.12 'No Cold Calling Community'

It was agreed not to implement any areas designated as 'No Cold Calling' at the present time, but it was agreed to obtain leaflets from the Trading Standards office to be made available to vulnerable people in the community area.

2.13 Meeting with Bruce Crawford MSP

P Hopkins reported on a meeting which took place with our MSP to review local issues.

2.14 Community Council Membership

Vina Crighton resigned from the CC, as she is shortly moving away from the area. The CC wishes her every success. C Oldham agreed to act as Treasurer.

H Geddes reported that Community Council elections will be taking place in January and February 2008. Co-opted members must stand for election at that time. A public notice is provisionally scheduled for 10th January. It was agreed to wait to ratify how many vacancies our CC has at the CC meeting on 31st October.

3. RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTION, AND SETTING OF WARD BOUNDARIES

3.1 H Geddes will make two copies of the Constitution available for signature at the next CC meeting.

3.2 H Geddes produced large-scale maps for the CC to delineate the boundaries between the Balquhiddier, Lochearnhead and Strathyre wards. It was agreed to include Balquhiddier Station in the Lochearnhead ward. H Geddes recommended that the boundaries follow natural features. A Clarke and P Hopkins will make a draft for adoption at the next meeting.

4. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

(Copies of correspondence are available from the CC secretary if required.)

- 4.1 From Old Station Court Tenants and Residents Association, Strathyre
- 4.2 From NHS Forth Valley: meeting of Public Partnership Forum 29th September
- 4.3 From Stirling Licensing Board: applications to extend licensing hours
- 4.4 From Stirling Council: adoption of Local Plan Alteration 1A
- 4.5 From Fallin Community Enterprises: Recycle-a-Bike initiative
- 4.6 From ASCC: various matters including questionnaire on new powers for CCs
- 4.7 From Forestry Commission Scotland: A consultation on an Indicative Forest Design Plan for Auchubhnmhor Hill (on the lower slopes of Meall an t-Seallaidh), showing that no felling, planting or road construction work is planned within the next ten years.
- 4.8 Other circulars etc:
 - Town Break Stirling Group
 - NHS Forth Valley Community News
 - Planning Aid for Scotland brochure
 - Central Scotland police Annual Report 2006/7
 - Integrated Plan for Children's Service in Stirling Council area
 - Rural Stirling Housing Association Annual Report 2006/7

5. PLANNING MATTERS

- 5.1 The application to build 3 houses north of Vorlich Rd Lochearnhead went to the National Park Planning Committee on 17th September. [Note: the application was passed at this meeting.]
- 5.2 An application to extend The Boathouse, Lochearnhead, was lodged with the NP, and approval given.
- 5.3 The application to demolish Kirkton Cottage and replace with a similar design has been withdrawn.
- 5.4 The application to alter Clach an Seallaidh in Glen Buckie has been approved by NP with conditions.
- 5.5 Renewal has been requested for existing planning permission for a house at Grigg, Ravenscroft Rd, Lochearnhead.
- 5.6 The CC has received copies of the detailed application for 7 houses and renewal of the lodge at Stronvar Chalets (plots 3 to 10 following outline planning permission), and revised plans for Plots 1 and 2 on the same site. Initial inspection of the plans shows that there may still be several issues. It was agreed to ask the NP for a time extension for the CC to reply (up to 3 months if possible) and also to contact Planning Aid for Scotland for advice in how the CC should respond to these applications. It was also noted that some of the plans had no dimensions (a matter that is one of the issues) and the CC will ask the NP for copies of plans with dimensions added.
- 5.7 Good housing design: CC members were previously circulated with a form to nominate good recent buildings and good old buildings, as part of advice requested by the NP Planning Department. Only a few have been returned to the CC Secretary, so that matter will be put on the agenda for the next CC meeting.

6. AOB

6.1 Road signs at the A84/A85 junction in Lochearnhead

Residents living at the junction have reported potential difficulties with drivers unsure of the way. It was therefore proposed to ask that the word 'NORTH' be added to the sign to Crianlarich. The CC will contact TranServ.

6.2 Tigh na Shian, Balquhidder

It was brought to the attention of the CC that one condition of building the replacement house was the demolition of the existing 'dorran' house. The CC will write to the Enforcement Officer at the NP Planning Department regarding this matter.

6.3 Reporting CC matters in The Villagers

It was agreed that the CC Secretary will continue to provide an extract of CC meetings for publication in The Villagers. The extract will refer readers to the local noticeboards and Stirling Council website for full minutes.

6.4 Compost available from Stirling Council

H Geddes informed the CC that compost is available from the Household Waste Recycling Facility at Lower Polmaise. Bags are available if required but people are encouraged to bring their own bags.

7. NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 31st October 2007 at Strathyre Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Please note other scheduled BLS CC meetings in 2007:
12 December at Balquhidder, 7.30 pm