

# BALQUHIDDER LOCHEARNHEAD AND STRATHYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Chair:** Pamela Hopkins, Earnknowe, Lochearnhead FK19 8PY t: 01567 830 238 e: enquiries@earnknowe.co.uk  
**Secretary:** Alan Clarke, Tulloch Lodge, Balquhidder FK19 8PQ t: 01877 384338 e: alan@tullochlodge.co.uk

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 9TH APRIL 2008 IN BALQUHIDDER HALL AT 7.30 PM

**Present:** Pamela Hopkins (Chair), Mal Dingle, Marguerite Kobs, Tom McClean, Malcolm McNaughton, Catriona Oldham, Moira Simmons.

**In Attendance:** Duncan Cameron (Strathyre resident).

**Apologies:** Angus Cameron, Alan Clarke, Mal Dingle, Cllr Tony Ffinch (Stirling Council), Owen McKee (National Park), Suzanne Player (Stirling Council), Andy Ward (Central Scotland Police), Cllr Fergus Wood (Stirling Council).

### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING 27th FEBRUARY 2008

Approved as correct: proposed by M McNaughton, seconded by C Oldham.

### 2. POLICE MATTERS

PC Andy Ward's monthly statistics were distributed to all present (a copy is available from the CC Secretary).

Regarding the policy on roadside shrines, this is awaiting follow-up from PC Andy Ward. It was noted that some Local Authorities have banned roadside shrines. It was also noted that an incident recently occurred on the A84 at the Falls of Leny when a lorry had to swerve suddenly to avoid a woman parked just over the brow of a hill attending to a roadside shrine, almost causing a major traffic incident. These matters will be followed up with the Police.

### 3. MATTERS ARISING

#### 3.1 Pavement at Lochearnhead from the Watersports Centre

It was reported that letters will go to all landowners in Phase 1 within about a week, followed by a 14-day consultation. No CPO for Phase 1 will be necessary, although a servitude issue is to be settled on one plot, which according to TranServ is not likely to cause a problem. Following the consultation a final letter of intent will be issued stating the date of start of work - hopefully June this year. Then the Phase 2 process will start, which will involve a CPO.

#### 3.2 Strathyre village gateway signs

The work to extend the speed restriction to the south of the village is ready, but the process has been delayed because there has been one local "objection", by a person in the north of Strathyre requesting that the speed restriction be also extended in the north. Attempts have been made to get the letter re-phrased to overcome the technical difficulty, but the person concerned has not seen fit to do anything. As a result, the whole process is suspended. Strathyre Community Councillors will attempt to resolve the matter.

#### 3.3 Review of Community Action Plan

The final version of the new Community Action Plan will be distributed by post to all households in the week beginning 14th April. There will be a "launch party" at the Kings House Hotel on Saturday 19th April - a drop-in event from 3 to 5 pm.

#### 3.4 Community Noticeboards

A change of management at Glenochil Prison has resulted in this project being put low down on their agenda. Local joiners are not interested in the job. Other suggestions were made and will be followed up.

### **3.5 Ratification of Constitution**

The change of name to “Balquhidder Lochearnhead and Strathyre Community Council” has now been formally approved by Stirling Council. The new Constitution with this name change has been signed and will be forwarded to Stirling Council for countersigning.

### **3.6 Road signs at the A84/A85 junction in Lochearnhead**

Awaiting a reply from TranServ.

### **3.7 Road drain problems at Vorlich Road, Lochearnhead**

No information was available at the CC meeting. [A Cameron subsequently reported that this is now fixed.]

### **3.8 Co-opting of Community Councillors for Strathyre**

It was unanimously agreed that Duncan Cameron be co-opted to the CC. There is still one vacancy in the Strathyre Ward which can be filled by co-option.

### **3.9 Community Council Youth Members**

It was agreed that the CC Secretary will approach MacLaren High School at the start of the Autumn 2008 term.

### **3.10 Broadband in Balquhidder**

A letter has been written to Bruce Crawford MSP, and a reply from the Scottish Government is awaited. C Oldham will follow up with the consultant involved in the survey of broadband needs. M McNaughton will follow up a possible Vodafone broadband solution.

## **4. ANY FURTHER BUSINESS FOR THE LOCAL COUNCILLOR**

These matters are on-going, in the absence of a Stirling Councillor for the second consecutive CC meeting. It was reported that the formation of road clearance squads is still to come before the Council for voting. The CC secretary will write to request action.

## **5. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

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

- 5.1 From a Fife resident, re graffiti on old railway bridge, Glen Ogle.  
Apparently this is an ongoing matter. It will be referred to the Police, and the Fife writer informed.
- 5.2 From a Balquhidder resident: copy of letter from Stirling Council (SC) re Stroneslaney “back road”.  
This will be filed for further use when dealing with SC on roads issues.
- 5.3 From SC: training for Community Councillors on planning  
A discussion took place on the role of the National Park (NP) when using the current Stirling Structure Plan. The matter will be referred to O McKee.
- 5.4 From NP: financial accounting training for community organisations. A Clarke will attend.
- 5.5 From NP: a email asking if there any projects suitable for volunteer organisations to help with.  
The matter will be referred to the new BLS Community Trust.
- 5.6 From Scottish Broadcasting Commission: request for consultation. No-one able to reply.
- 5.7 From SEPA: information seminar on Thermal Treatment Criteria. No action taken.
- 5.8 From Forestry Commission Scotland: request for consultation on draft Climate Change Action Plan by 6th June. A Clarke to reply.
- 5.9 From Scottish Government: request for consultation on Planning Modernisation. No-one able to reply.
- 5.10 From Scottish Government: questionnaire on role of Association of Scottish Community Councils (ASCC). A Clarke has already replied.

- 5.11 From Forestry Commission Scotland: request for consultation on Forest District Strategic Plans. A Clarke will attend the meeting requested.
- 5.12 From SC: request for consultation on Stirling Cultural Strategy 2008-12. No-one able to reply.
- 5.13 From Postwatch Scotland: Newsletter. M Simmons will explore the issues.
- 5.14 From Enterprising Britain Competition: a competition to find the most enterprising place in the UK. After a very brief consideration, it was decided not to enter the BLS area for the competition.
- 5.15 From ASCC: Newsletter
- 5.16 From NHS Forth Valley: Newsletter
- 5.17 From SC: Committee Minutes Nov 2007 to March 2008. A Clarke will scan for anything relevant.
- 5.18 From Bruce Crawford MSP: discussion with CC Chairman about roads especially Glen Ogle which suffered two more fatalities recently. The CC will write to Bruce Crawford and Central Scotland Police, specifically regarding the Glen Ogle road. It was suggested that double white lines could be implemented.

## **6. PLANNING MATTERS**

- 6.1 Erection of dwelling house and garage at Riverview, Strathyre. Following consultation with local residents, the CC neither recommends refusal nor recommends acceptance.
- 6.2 Conversion of unfinished garage to dwelling house, Strathyre. The CC is recommending refusal on three grounds: (a) the fenestration does not conform to a standard for Strathyre (the CC to determine what this is); (b) it appears that a right of access by foot to two houses to the east is being denied; and (c) two small garages in the southeast corner of the plot appear to have no access, and the owner or occupier of one of them was not informed of the plans.
- 6.3 Extension and alterations to the Old Schoolhouse, Lochearnhead. This was refused by the NP, apparently on the grounds of access to the main road, and is the subject of an Appeal. The CC will write to Tony Ffinch in support of the owner.

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **7.1 Felling of Trees at Keip Road Strathyre**

It was reported that felling of 30 or more trees had been carried out in the vicinity of Mary's Garage (where there had been an application, now withdrawn, to create a wood-pulp facility), possibly breaching statutory regulations.

## **8. NEXT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Wednesday 21st May 2008 at Lochearnhead Village Hall**

(the hall will be open for the Stirling Councillors' surgery at 7 pm)

**7.30pm: AGM**

**7.45 pm: normal business meeting**

Future meetings are as follows, all on Wednesdays at 7.30pm:

- 2 July (Strathyre)
- 13 August (Balquhidder)
- 24 September (Lochearnhead)
- 29 October (Strathyre)
- 10 December (Balquhidder)