



BANNOCKBURN

WORTHY AND STRONG

Bannockburn & District Community Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 07 February 2008

Present:

Kirk McInnes, Chairperson
Ian Dawson, Vice-Chairperson
Terry Barlow, Secretary
Linda Masterson, Treasurer
Danny McPhail, Planning Officer
Willie McEwan
Steve Traynor
Ian McMenemy
P.C. Hatrick, Central Scotland Police
David Ramage, Community Officer for Hillpark
Wilma Comrie, Stirling Council Community Worker

In attendance:

Jacqueline Lynn, Active Stirling
2 representatives from Bannockburn Hillpark
2 residents of Bannockburn

Kirk opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming.

Apologies:

John Grant
Councillor Margaret Brisley
Councillor Alasdair MacPherson
(Both Councillors were attending a special meeting of the Council and had expressed the hope of attending the Community Council meeting later if possible – both Councillors did arrive later)

Police Report:

P.C. Hatrick submitted his report for the previous month, for which he was thanked.
Report is available online at:
http://www.centralscotlandpolice.uk/local_policing/stirling_stirling_bannockburn.php

Arising from Report

- Main Street had been coned off from 12 p.m. to 8 a.m. on Saturday. Ian had gone to the Police Office but the Police had not been aware of why the road had been coned off.
- Willie asked about Police involvement in schools and was advised that every primary school and every secondary school can arrange for a visit and a talk from the Police. P C Hatrick had only recently visited Bannockburn High School, and there is a Liaison Officer dealing with primary schools.
- Police had been carrying out “test purchases” in the area (alcohol-related). Trading Standards are responsible for cigarette-related “test purchases”.
- Kirk had been asked for advice by a resident who was fed up phoning the Police as there was never a response from them. Kirk’s advice had been to keep phoning and P C Hatrick confirmed that this was the correct advice – he would pick up on any missed calls.
- Terry asked what happened to confiscated alcohol and was informed by P C Hatrick that it is poured down a drain in front of the offender.

- Member of the public queried if Police were still patrolling The Brae and was told that the situation is being monitored, in particular Main Street, The Brae and Ochilmount. The member of the public said that the situation has been a bit better recently, but that she would not like to see the situation regressing.

Kirk thanked PC Hatrick for his report.

Active Stirling:

Jacqueline Lynn explained that Active Stirling are responsible for leasing pavilions to football clubs, but not pitches. Kirk asked who leased the pitch, and was advised by Jacqueline that clubs have home team status of the park and have first take, but not exclusive rights, on using the park. Jacqueline was asked when the rules had been changed, as it used to be the case that whoever rented the pavilion automatically rented the park, and bookings had to be done weekly. Jacqueline advised that Active Stirling had not set up the procedures; they had adopted the existing procedures of Stirling Council.

It was pointed out by one of the representatives from Hillpark that it seemed unfair that clubs should pay £250.00 to lease a pavilion and then have to maintain it without Council assistance.

When asked who had placed the application for the pavilion Jacqueline replied that Stirling Council had put it in, Corporate Asset Management were involved, Sport and Leisure were involved, and Bannockburn Amateurs were involved.

Apparently, the original plan had been for there to be changing rooms in the new Hillpark Community Centre. Money which had been laid aside for this was then used to upgrade the existing pavilion.

Jacqueline advised that bookings are being taken at the moment, so no-one has home team status, and confirmed that letting is being done on a week-to-week basis.

Kirk expressed the view that the park must be available for community use, and that whichever team has home team status should not be allowed to stop others using the pitch.

Ian added that Active Stirling's work within schools has been excellent and that Milton also work well with local children. The issue is that sometimes the local children, BB teams, etc. want to play football and are told that they cannot use the pitch.

Jacqueline will prepare a statement explaining the rules.

Siting of Pavilion:

Community Council had objected to the siting of the pavilion and Bannockburn Trust were never consulted about the siting. The consensus of opinion is that the pavilion should be at the bottom of the park beside the pitch. There has been an asset taken from the village without consultation.

In 2006 Alison Hotchkiss had said that she would see the pavilion project through to completion on behalf of the Trust. Jacqueline confirmed that Active Stirling are progressing it. Jacqueline was asked if Active Stirling would refund the money which the Trust had spent on improvements to the park, only to see a pavilion stuck in the middle of it – Jacqueline said there is still consultation to be done.

Kirk thanked Jacqueline for attending the Community Council meeting and asked her to convey to Active Stirling that Bannockburn Community Council are not happy with the situation regarding the pavilion.

Minutes of last meeting:

Ian McMenemy had been omitted from the list of those present.

Acceptance was proposed by Linda Masterson, seconded by Steve Traynor.

Business arising:

- Grass-cutting – Les Goodfellow had not in fact been invited to attend tonight's meeting of the Community Council but has organised a slot in the March meeting of the Forum to discuss grass-cutting, etc. Terry will ask Les Goodfellow if we can be provided with a schedule.
- Bannockburn Sign – Has already been made and will be erected next week. Terry apologised to Councillor MacPherson for failing to ask him to put the erecting of the sign on hold. Do we still go ahead with trying to raise the money required for a "proper" sign?

- Bannockburn News – The “before and after” pictures of the benches had not been available. Ian expressed disappointment at the coverage given in the Bannockburn News to the benches.
- Web Site – It was agreed that as soon as Ian receives a report from any of the Councillors the report will be put on the web site immediately and will not have to be put to the Community Council prior to that action.
Regarding the leafleting of householders adjacent to the cemetery, Councillor MacPherson said that, with the greatest of respect, he was entitled to leaflet whoever he wanted to and did not require the Community Council’s permission to do so.
- Local Organisations – Willie asked if e-mail addresses could be obtained for local organisations, churches, schools, etc. so that copies of the Community Council minutes can be forwarded to them.

Councillor’s Report:

A written report was received from Councillor Brisley and this will be available on the web site.

Treasurer’s Report:

Linda reported that the grant should be through within the next week. Otherwise, there was no change.

Correspondence:

- Letter had been received from Traffic Management Support Officer regarding the closure of Station Road.
- Executive Meeting of Stirling Council next Tuesday morning.

Planning Report:

2 planning applications had been received, both concerning proposed siting of hoardings, one to the east of Corbiewood Stadium and one to the south. It was decided that as long as the hoardings were kept within the boundaries and caused no obstruction, Community Council had no objection.

Report from Bannockburn Trust:

First meeting of Directors had been held last week. Office-bearers had been elected and next meeting will be on Tuesday 26th February 2008.

Wilma thanked the Community Council for supporting the Trust and working alongside them.

Turbines:

Ian advised that the fund will provide one turbine for Bannockburn Primary School and one for Bannockburn St Mary’s School. Ian was thanked for this.

Youth Activities:

Natasha had noticed quite a lot of young people hanging around and asked if there were any organised activities for them to take part in. Advised that there was a Youth Club one night per week but it was very difficult to get volunteers interested in helping.

- Perhaps young people might be interested in a DJ Workshop.
- Community Council might demand a service from the Council.
- Community Council and Trust could work together on this.
- Is there a strategy we could take forward?
- Could we look at the model used by the young people in Cowie?

On behalf of the Trust, Terry will invite Mark McMeechan to the next meeting.

Any other competent business:

- Plaque
Willie had obtained 2 prices for the remembrance plaque for Hooky - £115 and £133 – both with wooden plinth. Ian brought a sample marble plaque to the meeting. This had been given by an anonymous donor, who had made the offer a couple of years ago. Ian McMenemy queried whether, under the Code of Conduct for Community Councils, we would be allowed to accept an anonymous donation such as this and he suggested that proper advice be sought. Terry will see Mr Jack from the Council and seek guidance from him. Linda will contact Mrs McCabe and ask her opinion on the style and siting of the plaque.

- Public Meeting

Members present were given a copy of an e-mail which Terry had received from Lyn Kennedy. The e-mail mostly concerned Councillor MacPherson's concerns about how the public meeting had been advertised, i.e. as being hosted by Councillor Brisley without a similar opportunity being given to Councillors MacPherson and O'Brien. After discussion it was agreed that any future public meetings will be hosted by all three Councillors, or at least they will all be given the opportunity to do so. Steve did request that it be minuted that he wanted to know why Councillor MacPherson had gone through Lyn Kennedy and had not come direct to the Community Council. Councillor MacPherson, because of tonight's special meeting of the Council, had not planned to be present at this Community Council meeting.

Comments on Web Site

If something is put on the web site it must be discussed and if one point is going to be discussed then they must all be. This was agreed by the Community Council.

Rota of attendance for Councillors

Councillor MacPherson confirmed that Councillor O'Brien, owing to shifts, can not totally comply with a fixed rota. It was agreed that, if at all possible, either Councillor Brisley or Councillor MacPherson will attend all Community Council meetings. As Councillor O'Brien has not been in attendance at a Community Council meeting for some time, it was decided that Steve will contact him and invite him to the next meeting.

Steering Group (Memorial)

The three elected members are all interested in being part of the process, although not as members of the Steering Group. Perhaps four members of the public, and four community councillors – two from Hillpark and two from Bannockburn. The two representatives from Hillpark present at tonight's meeting will refer this to the next meeting of Hillpark Community Council. Members of the public who put their names on the sheet will be contacted by letter to see if they would be interested in joining the Steering Group. There is also an offer on the table from a tradesman willing to work with the Group, but legal advice will be sought on this matter.

Provost's Pool

Great disappointment was expressed at the Council's decision to close the Provost's Pool following the recent damage done there. There is no other pool in Stirling with a shallow end or small pool for kiddies. It was queried why all the facilities had had to be closed, not just the damaged area, but Councillor Brisley advised that Health and Safety had ordered immediate temporary closure. Although there is to be a pool at the new Sports Village, it will not have a shallow end or separate pool for kiddies, and it was considered that the decision to close the Provost's Pool so quickly, with such a loss of facilities and no facilities available locally, was a disgraceful one.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 6th March 2008 at 7.30 p.m.