

MINUTES OF BANNOCKBURN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE
ON THURSDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2008

Present:

Terry Barlow
Tommy Cattigan
Danny McPhail
Willie McEwan
Steve Traynor
Ian Dawson
Councillor Margaret Brisley
Councillor Alasdair MacPherson
Councillor Gerard O'Brien
Wilma Comrie, Stirling Council
Lesley Malkin, Stirling Council Corporate Asset Management
Tony Cain, Stirling Council Head of Housing
Graham from Hillpark Community Council
Colin from Hillpark Community Council
David Ramage, Central Scotland Police
9 members of public
Joan McCann from Eastside News

Apologies:

Linda Masterson
Kirk McInnes
Natasha Reynolds

Terry opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Police Report:

P C Ramage presented the month's report – this is available at http://www.centuralscotlandpolice.uk/localpolicing/stirling_stirling_bannockburn_php

Anti-social behaviour teams have been in the area on Friday and Saturday nights in plain clothes and in uniform. Less vandalism has been reported, considerable amounts of alcohol seized, and off-licences are being visited regularly.

Analysis of Bannockburn crime figures for the first 4 months of this financial year show a 28% drop.

Police appeal for anyone who has information on drug dealing to contact either Central Scotland Police or Crimestoppers.

It was felt that Stirling Council should be made aware of the problems with litter in the park. P C Ramage will pass this on.

Stein Square Park – no incidents have been reported but P C Ramage will check the situation.

How does Bannockburn compare to other local areas? P C Hatrick will be asked to report to our next meeting.

Painting of double yellow lines is due to start on 5th September, weather permitting. On completion of the painting the situation will be monitored. P C Ramage was thanked for his attendance and for presenting his report.

Presentation by Lesley Malkin and Tony Cain:

Their visit to tonight's meeting was a follow-up to the public meeting held a few months ago. Lesley's proposal was to hold an "Engaging the Community" day in the hope of finding out how the residents of Bannockburn think the area might be improved. Provisional date for meeting was Friday 17th October/Saturday 18th October, to be preceded by activities during the school holiday week to involve the young people of the area in the process. It was suggested that there could be different sections at the day for Bannockburn past, present, and possibilities for the future. Lesley offered to organise the day, to contact Childrens Services and ask for their input, but said that she would require help from the Community Council. People will need to be encouraged to come along on the day and put their views forward. Following the meeting the results will be examined and feed-back gathered.

Some of the public attendees at the meeting voiced concerns that Stirling Council were intending to build flats after the sale by the Council of the Quakerfield shops, these flats to accommodate the overflow from Cultenhove. Tony assured the meeting that the Council has no specific plans to build there and said that Council houses would not be built where they are not wanted.

Question was raised about what would happen to the money from the sale of the shops. This will go into the housing revenue account.

It was agreed that the Community Council had made a commitment to listen to the Stirling Council officers' reports and that enough had been heard to take this forward to the planned "Engaging the Community" Day. Terry thanked Lesley and Tony for their attendance.

(Councillor Brisley left the meeting at this point)

Minutes of last meeting:

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Steve and seconded by Tommy with the following notes:

Bannockburn House – John Dreczkowski objected to Terry's remarks at the July meeting that John was not a member of the Community Trust. John insisted that he was a member of the Trust, but Terry had doubts. This will be checked.

Recycling Skips at Quakerfield Car Park – Councillor MacPherson wondered why one remark by him had been singled out and put in the minutes as a

direct quote. Terry had authorised this as he felt that Councillor MacPherson's comment had directly contributed to Terry's decision on the recycling skips.

Business arising:

Recycling Skips at Quakerfield Car Park – Area is now clean and tidy. Anyone who wants an extra recycling box can get one from the Council. In the future there could be a possibility of a properly managed recycling facility.

Proposed erection of 4 flats on land at Bannockburn Arms Hotel – Application has been withdrawn.

Murrayfield U F Church – Gates are too high and will have to be reduced in height, but will not be removed by the Planning Authority. Possibility of court action at some point in the future.

Provost's Awards Ceremony – After consulting with Kirk and Linda, Terry had nominated Bannockburn Women's Group for an Award. However, nomination had not been accepted.

Grass-cutting – It was noted that this has been a bad year for grass-cutting owing to inclement weather. Councillor MacPherson offered to look into the problem of the grass-cutting at the hill in Ladywell Park.

Bridge – Willie reported that he had looked into forthcoming projects. Telford Bridge and Spittal's Bridge are being considered for taking forward.

Treasurer's Report:

In Linda's absence, no report was presented.

Councillor's Report:

Councillor MacPherson presented his report to the meeting. This will be posted on the website.

Items arising from Councillor's Report:

Open Space next to Greencornhills Roundabout – Not perfect but a big improvement.

Recycling Skips at Quakerfield Car Park – already discussed earlier in the meeting.

4 Carpet Close – no time-scale yet.

Major Growth Area (Durieshill) – Council are meeting next Thursday to appoint a Steering Group.

Bannockburn Cemetery – The Community Council noted Councillor MacPherson's comments about the state of the grounds and the lack of bins. Progress is being made with provision and emptying of bins.

Stein Square Park – This was covered in P C Ramage's report.

Planning Report:

Most planning matters have been discussed earlier in the meeting. ATM at Post Office – application has been approved.

Trust Report:

- 1) Money has been paid back to the Lottery Awards Scheme. A new application is to be submitted.
- 2) John Dreczkowski is trying to trace a book written by Alan Rennie which was apparently given to the Community Council by the Trust. No-one present at tonight's meeting could throw any light on the whereabouts of this book.

Forum Report:

- 1) Subject to support from the public, the obtaining of enough funding, and planning permission being granted, Central Scotland Fire and Rescue Service are hoping to create an extra Fire Station, near to Bannockburn Bus Station. Questionnaires were given to everyone at tonight's meeting.
- 2) New Acute Hospital – At the last Forum it was agreed that a meeting be arranged and that Government representatives should be invited to attend. Government has to be made aware of the concerns of residents of Stirling Council area.
Mention was made of £5,000,000 which had apparently – during the consultation process – been set aside towards a slip road.
Investigations will be put into place to find out what happened to this money.
- 3) Next Forum is on 24th September in the Lecture Theatre at Stirling Royal Infirmary.

Correspondence:

- 1) A new enquiry service is to be set up. Terry had a letter from Stirling Council giving full details. He will write to the Council to say that a 15-day response time is too long. It will have to be found out whether it will be better to use this service or to continue contacting the Council officer concerned direct.
- 2) New draft Code of Conduct received, based mostly on Stirling model.
- 3) Purchase of Council houses – Apparently questionnaires have been issued – what will happen if the results of the questionnaires are not in agreement?

Any other competent business:

None.

Date of next meeting:

Thursday 2nd October 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in the Community Centre.