

**MEETING OF BRIDGE OF ALLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY 17 APRIL 2007**

- PRESENT:** Les Ferguson (Chair), Ian Anderson, Jim Christie, John Gill, Frances Hamilton, Keith Ironside, Alison Logie, Stuart Ritchie, Marjory Russell
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Councillor John Holliday, Jean Houston, Callum Campbell (Conservative Local Government Candidate)
- APOLOGIES:** none

**BA356 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minute of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2007 was submitted for approval.

**Decision**

The Minute of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2007 was approved as a correct record of proceedings.

**BA357 MATTERS ARISING**

**Local hustings** – The Chair confirmed that a hustings for local government candidates would take place the following evening, Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April, in the Allan Centre. Posters had been put up and leaflets distributed.

**Community Police Constable** – It was noted that once again P.C. Paul Colquhoun was not able to be present, but had taken up post.

**Community Council email address** – The Community Council email address [bofacc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bofacc@hotmail.co.uk) is up and running for residents to make contact. Members of the Community Council can access all emails.

**Tactran Report** – The Community Council has lodged an objection to the proposed road from Kildean to the University. Voluntary consultants are currently preparing a report so that a properly considered objection can be lodged via the Structure Plan process. A map showing the proposed route was circulated for information. It was noted with concern that various spur roads, presumably for future developments, appeared on the map. An officer of Stirling Council had indicated that the road would be “partly developer funded”. Other concerns were that the level crossing on Cornton Road appeared to be closed and that would mean residents at Forthpark would need to make a detour to access the local shops in Bridge of Allan.

**Names for new developments** – The Secretary had submitted suggested names for the developments at Chalmers Church and the Museum Hall but had not yet received a response.

**Fountain** – Ian Anderson confirmed that investigations were ongoing. It had been established that a copper pipe had been installed down the middle.

**BA358 POLICE REPORT**

As P.C. Paul Colquhoun was not present, there was no Police Report. The Chair offered to make contact with P.C. Paul Colquhoun to see if he would be present at the May meeting

**Decision**

The Chair would contact P.C. Paul Colquhoun regarding attendance at Community Council meetings.

**BA359 TREASURER'S REPORT**

John Gill had now taken over the financial records. He needed to complete and submit the necessary forms so that he could operate the account.

**Decision**

John Gill would submit forms so that he could operate the Community Council account.

**BA360 PLANNING**

Stuart Ritchie reported that in the past month five new planning applications had been received by the Planning Authority, none of which were contentious. He also reported an Enforcement Action – notice had been given to remove a fence surrounding property in Keir Street.

Frances Hamilton brought to attention that the Development Management Panel would be meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April at which time the Panel would consider the Mart application. Changes had been made to the retail element of the application to satisfy the Planning Authority. Any approval will need to be notified to the Scottish Executive as the application is a departure from the Development Plan.

**BA361 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence had been received since the last meeting of the Community Council:

- Disabled parking – Stirling Council had agreed to provide a space on Henderson Street.
- Advice that consultation would take place on a new Parking Strategy 2008. It is anticipated that metered parking will be proposed.
- It was noted that there had been correct reasons for the tree cutting at the Police Station.
- Trees at Blairforkie Drive – The Community Council needed to advise Tony Oteniya, Tree Officer, who owns the land on which the dying trees are located.
- Bus stop, Fountain Road – Letters had been sent to First Bus, the Police and Stirling Council regarding the situation of the bus stop, road marking and policing of illegal parking. Stirling Council are considering resiting of the bus stop and offered to meet with a member of the Community Council. Marjory Russell agreed to attend this meeting, preferably between 9-10am when the area is busy.

- Lyn Kennedy. Community Governance Manager, had made contact to confirm that Stirling Council has approved the appointment of a “champion” for each Community Council, at Service Manager level, to help progress enquiries that are not receiving a prompt response.
- Public Toilets – These have been closed since August 2006 and there has been poor response from Stirling Council. A surveyor’s report had been expected in November, as this was supposed to be a two-month analysis. The toilets also had the appearance of being padlocked when they were actually open – this discourages people from approaching them. It was also noted that if the building was in danger of collapsing, siting the portaloos against the wall of the building may not be the safest location! A letter would be sent on this matter.
- Area Forum – Barbara Allan had written suggesting a meeting of the Steering Group on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm to look at the future of the Forum. Whilst it was agreed that the three communities – Dunblane, Bridge of Allan, Blairlogie – have little in common, the Forum may be more appropriate when the new ward structure takes effect. It would be easier to have influence inside the Forum, rather than from the outside. Marjory Russell agreed to attend the Steering Group and Stuart Ritchie the planning meeting.
- Notice had been received confirming parking arrangements across Bridge of Allan. This was circulated for information.
- Grass cutting – Details of this year’s proposals had been received, along with maps and a questionnaire for completion by 11<sup>th</sup> May. The Community Council would request an extension to this deadline until after the May meeting. Proposals appeared to be similar to 2006 arrangements. It was agreed to put the map up in the library so that residents could give comments. Concerns include proposals to “cut and leave” at the football pitches and more important at Memorial Park.

It was agreed that an appropriate officer of Stirling Council be invited to the May meeting for feedback. It was also agreed that notice should be put in the Stirling Observer and Allanwater News advising that the map was available for residents to see.

- Tennis courts – Despite years of correspondence, these were not being properly maintained. A meeting would take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 4.30, attended by Gordon Pomphrey, to see the condition of the courts. Ian Thomson, who is carrying out an audit of sports facilities, would be advised of the meeting.
- Callum Campbell had sent a letter welcoming the hustings on 18th April.
- A letter inviting a member of the Community Council to attend a Community Health Partnership meeting had been received. Keith Ironside agreed to attend.

## **Decision**

It was agreed that:

- The Community Council advise Tony Oteniya, Tree Officer, on ownership of the land on which the dying trees are located
- Marjory Russell would attend a meeting concerning relocation of the bus stop on Fountain Road
- A letter would be sent concerning the length of closure of the public toilets and lack of surveyor’s report
- Marjory Russell would attend the Area Forum 3 Steering Group

- The Community Council would request an extension to the deadline to respond on grass cutting, until after the May meeting.
- An appropriate officer of Stirling Council be invited to the May meeting for feedback on grass cutting
- A notice be put in the Stirling Observer and Allanwater News advising that the map is available at the library for residents to see
- Keith Ironside would attend the Community Health Partnership meeting

## **BA362 COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Councillor Holliday circulated his report, drawing attention to the Bridge of Allan Victory Fund. Whilst Councillor Holliday will not longer be a member of external organisations after his resignation on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, he was keen to let the Community Council know that there may be money available towards the War Memorial. He intended writing officially on this matter.

## **BA363 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- War Memorial - Jim Christie reported on fundraising. Unfortunately there had not been a good response from local businesses so far. There had however been outstanding efforts by the Primary School. Jim intended approaching developers. An article would be written up for the Bridge of Allan Times asking for public donations and a “bucket rattling” needed to be arranged. An approach would also be made to the Pullar family, who donated the Memorial Park to the community.

It was noted that there are few Memorial Parks in Scotland, and as such a rarity it was important that it be well maintained.

- Museum Hall Trust – Jim reported on the inaugural meeting which took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. The Trust would be known as the Bridge of Allan Civic Trust. Legal and Accountant Trustees were in place, but a Chaplain had yet to be appointed along with a councillor after the May election. Specialists could be co-opted as necessary. The Trust needed to decide whether to be registered as a charitable company. A good Chair was needed and an approach had been made to a high profile person. Jim would report on this at a future meeting. The Legal Trustee would be meeting with Peter Broadfoot of Stirling Council regarding administration of the fund. Whilst Stirling Council had proposed to put the money into a separate Common Good Fund, this decision had been deferred and it was hoped administration of the fund would revert to the Trust.
- Stirling City signage – a new City sign had been erected close to the University entrance, but within Bridge of Allan. It was agreed that the sign should be located at the road leading to the Scottish Institute of Sport. It was interesting to note that the new sign coincided with where the proposed road from Kildean would emerge. A letter would be sent to Stirling Council objecting to the location of the sign and asking for a map and evidence used as a basis for this decision.
- Ian Anderson advised that the chicken run had been tarred. However, steps had been instated coming off the bridge. Stirling Council would be asked to consider a ramp for easier access for prams etc. Ian advised that the run was still badly affected by dog fouling.
- Ian also advised that the trial bus service at Cawdor Road was running successfully with some amendments being made to the route.

- He also raised the question of when the chicanes on the bridge would be reinstated.
- Ian stated that he was arranging a volunteer litter-pick in the Avenue Park/ Cawdor Road area. He would take “before” and “after” photographs and a letter would be sent to Stevie Harrower at Stirling Council asking that the area be maintained once cleaned.
- Keith Ironside advised that signs and bin had now been put up in Cawdor Road.
- Jim Christie again raised the state of the Hawes Park.
- Marjorie Russell briefed members on the audit of sports facilities being carried out by Ian Thomson. He had been quite surprised to find that three different services of the Council deal with the provision of facilities for youth. It was also considered necessary for there to be a youth leader to co-ordinate youth provision.
- Marjory also brought to attention that cars have been seen going down to the river edge at the parkland at the bridge on Henderson Street. This needs to be stopped now before it becomes a major problem.
- It was agreed that Bridge of Allan needs a traffic warden.
- Alison Logie noted that Union Street had now had the necessary work done to discourage drivers from wrongly driving against the one-way traffic.
- It was also noted that works were commencing along Henderson Street in front of the Royal Hotel. Members had to wonder why the works were taking place at this location when the worst section of road surface is on the road going north from the bridge up towards Lecropt.
- Broken glass continues to be a problem at the Fountain Road play area – even in the sandpit.
- Mrs Gilchrist, resident, asked what administrative procedures would be put in place at Stirling Council to ensure replies to enquiries in future.
- Mr Gilchrist, resident, brought to attention of members that the river bank from the back of the Fire Station is suffering badly from erosion. 50% of the pathway is affected. Wire cages of stones in the bank have been dislodged. Stirling Council would be invited to come and inspect this.
- It was noted that the yellow lining on Blairforkie Drive was excessive.

## **Decision**

It was agreed that:-

- A letter be sent to Stirling Council objecting to the location of the city sign at the University and asking for a map and evidence used as a basis for this decision
- Stirling Council would be asked to consider a ramp at the bridge end of the “Chicken run” for easier access for prams etc
- A letter be sent to Stevie Harrower after the volunteer litter pick at Avenue Park/ Cawdor Road asking for the area to be maintained
- A letter be sent to Roads requesting that the road surface be attended to on Henderson Street, northbound from the Bridge

- A letter be sent to Stirling Council regarding the broken glass at the Fountain Road play area
- A letter be sent to Stirling Council regarding the dog fouling on the "chicken Run"
- A letter be sent to Stirling Council inviting inspection of erosion of the river bank
- A letter be sent to Stirling Council regarding "over lining" of Blairforkie Drive

**BA355 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Community Council was scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 15th May at 7.30pm.

**AGENDA**

1. Present/Apologies
2. Approval of Minutes/Matters Arising
3. Police Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Grass Cutting Proposals
6. Planning
7. Correspondence
8. AOCB
9. Date of Next Meeting

The meeting was closed at 9.10pm