

## BORESTONE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of meeting held in Borestone Primary School Wednesday 19 March 2008

**Present:** Jim Bruce (Chair), Maureen Allan, Alec Black, Mary Bruce, Mary Burns, David Cooke, Tricia Cooke, Ian Crawford, Matt Curry, George Weir

**In Attendance:** Councillor Scott Farmer, Councillor Andrew Simpson, Andy Davis, Jim McBrier & Kimberley Bryce (Waste Services), Colin McMenemy (Children's Services), David McDonald (Kings Park Community Council), Mr & Mrs Robertson, P.C. Will Hogg, Jean Houston (notes)

#### 1. Apologies

Pat Coyne, Alex Smith

#### 2. Minute of Previous Meeting

The Minute of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008 was approved as a correct record of proceedings.

Proposed by Matt Curry  
Seconded by Mary Burns

#### Matters Arising

Building Improvements at Borestone Primary School – It was noted that work to the roof was now in progress.

Chartershall Bridge – Ian Crawford stated that traffic volume count was in place and BEAR were putting temporary turning places in place. Councillor Simpson reminded the meeting that a decision on whether the bridge would be reinstated for vehicles would not be taken until later in the year, with public consultation expected in June. He had a copy of the traffic survey which he would make available to the Chair. Alec Black thought improved signage was needed as vehicles were going up the road at some speed, clearly unaware that they would have to turn.

Somerfield – The Community Council had been pleased to read in the press that Lidl had purchased the Somerfield site. Councillor Simpson said that he had met with Lidl and suggested that a “no charge” cash dispensing machine be reinstated, as it was the only one in St Ninians. He had also suggested a bench on the corner of the wide pavement would be a benefit, especially to the older community. Councillor Simpson welcomed any further suggestions from the community to take to Lidl management. There would be a replacement one-storey building with 94 parking spaces – plans would be available in the near future. It was anticipated that the new shop would open Spring 2009.

Stirling High School – At the last meeting, members of the Community Council had expressed an interest in seeing round the school. They asked Councillor Simpson if he could make arrangements for this.

#### Action:

Councillor Simpson to make arrangements for tour of Stirling High School

### **3. Waste Awareness Initiative**

Jim McBrier (Waste Projects & Communications) and Kimberley Bryce gave a presentation on the initiative which was being rolled out across the Council – St Ninians and Whins of Milton were scheduled next. Jim advised that at present Stirling Council is recycling 41-42% of household waste; they are looking for this to increase to 50% by 2013, and eventually 70% by 2025.

Part of the initiative was to encourage householders to put out bins with lids fully closed – it was noted that staff had been injured with overfill (including incidents of sharps) falling out of overfilled bins. The initiative would help identify householders who may need help in recycling. Staff would walk the route to check for problems before the lorry arrived to empty bins. Bins that are not fully closed or put out incorrectly would have a waste collection advice notice put on them which would let the householder know what the problem was and how they could rectify this in future. Bins that are noted to be overfilled for a second time will have a large yellow sticker put on them. This will initiate contact between the service and the householder and a member of the team will go out to meet the householder to give advice if required. A third offence will trigger a £50 fixed penalty. Jim advised that no fixed penalties had required to be issued so far in any of the areas where the initiative had already been introduced.

Benefits had been seen already as a result of this initiative. There had been an increase in recycling; because bin lids are down, there has been reduced wind blown litter resulting in cleaner areas; there has been reduced litter strewn by birds.

Jim advised that all plastic bottles could now be put in the recycling box, and tetra paks would follow soon.

Members of the community were reminded that there is a pull-out service for those who are unable to pull out their bins, and there is no charge for special uplifts for pensioners or those on benefits.

Matters raised by members included –

- Commercial waste – Jim confirmed that due to different legislation, everything goes in one bin, unsorted.
- Empty bins blowing over in the road – Jim was aware that there had been problems during recent windy weather, but the time required for the waste collectors to return empty bins/ boxes to gardens would not be practical.
- Uplifts on one side of the road (Bannockburn Road) – It was brought to Jim's attention that this is a very busy road and it is unreasonable and unsafe to ask householders to cross the road with a bin. Jim agreed to look into this and was happy to resolve individual issues wherever possible.

### **4. Police Report**

P.C. Hogg reported that since the last meeting of the Community Council, there had been 22 crimes reported – 7 detected, 15 undetected but 3 of which had suspects. There had been 16 road traffic offences – mobile phones and seatbelts. He was pleased to report that some outstanding cases had been closed.

He advised the meeting that P.C. Anderson had been appointed as School Liaison Officer and would be responsible for dealing with school talks.

There was brief discussion on a recent incident on Glasgow Road, involving what was probably a gas powered BB gun.

Mr Robertson reported incidents at Arnold Clark of vehicles obstructing access to the pavement on the north side of Glasgow Road; occasions of transporters unloading onto the road; and transporters reversing onto the road. P.C. Hogg agreed to make necessary road traffic manuals checks.

Councillor Simpson had contacted Lynne Currie, Planning Enforcement Officer, who had notified him that she would serve a Planning Contravention Notice on Arnold Clark in respect of the breach of planning condition regarding visitor parking. This did not represent the initiation of formal enforcement action, but was a precursor to any formal action that may be deemed appropriate in future. Arnold Clark would have 21 days to respond to the notice.

Lynne Currie had advised that Arnold Clark were submitting an application to have the same planning condition discharged as they did not wish to provide forecourt parking spaces.

Councillor Farmer had expressed concerns to Lynne Currie regarding lack of consistency in planning decisions. Whilst she had concurred, Lynne indicated that the issue of access had to be resolved, and that changes in Arnold Clark management had not helped the situation.

## **5. School Catchment Areas**

Colin McMenemy briefed the meeting on the widespread schools' review being undertaken to address population changes as a result of house build, and possible changes to school catchment areas. This would be subject of a consultation exercise in the autumn.

He explained that there were 13 schools within the city area, some of which were under pressure already.

He indicated that 10% of admissions were currently placing requests. However schools now had to take account of reduced class sizes as well as added pupils from new house build – all reduced capacity, increased pressures and the likelihood of refusals of requests. There was not always the option to build extra classrooms at some schools, as other areas of the school such as assembly hall and dining area could not cope with added pupils.

The effect of the review on Borestone could be to bring some of the current St Ninians area into the catchment area as Borestone Primary School was only around 50% capacity and did not need extra classrooms to cope with added numbers.

## **6. Future Funding for Play Facilities**

Councillor Simpson advised that at a meeting of the Executive on 9<sup>th</sup> March, a decision had been taken to ring fence planning gain money from new build developments to fund play facilities across the council area, rural and urban areas. This would ensure that the areas with no new build taking place would also have funding for play facilities. The impact on Borestone was that the £100,000 from the Wordie Road development would now be part of this ring fenced fund. Whilst it was likely that much of the money would be spent in the Borestone area, there was no guarantee of how much.

Tricia Cooke stated that Stirling Council had to provide proper funding in the budget, and not rely on planning gain. The Chair made it clear that this decision would be opposed.

## **7. Planning Matters**

Jim Bruce reported that three planning applications had been received – none of which were contentious; the application for the proposed change of use of ground at Cambusbarron Cemetery to set up a display of headstones for sale had been refused; an enforcement action had been taken out on 188 Cultenhove Road.

Some members had noticed building taking place at the rear of Klondyke, which had never been reported on. It was noted that if this was agricultural build for agricultural use that no planning application was needed – notification was all that was required.

## **8. Environmental Problems**

Flooding at Nailer Road/Borestone Place – Councillor Farmer gave a brief update. As the Heritage Centre had taken no action, this had been passed to Legal Services to enforce.

Pedestrian Crossing, Glasgow Road – still not repaired

Carron Place – it was reported that occupants could hear water running deep underground beneath the houses

Flooding outside Mr & Mrs Robertson's house had been inspected but no work had been undertaken on the drain.

Paragon housing – Councillor Simpson reported that legal notices had been served to resolve the continuing neighbourhood problem of rubbish building up in a garden. George Weir advised that the rubbish had in fact been uplifted.

## **9. St Ninian's Community Development Trust**

Maureen Allan reported on a meeting she had attended on 25<sup>th</sup> February. She reported that

- Braehead Primary School had applied to 'Grants for Learning' for funding for paths round the school;
- North Parish Church/Craigs Community Council had asked the Trust to apply on their behalf to Stafford Trust for funding for landscaping of a community garden, which would thereafter be maintained by community groups;
- The Mayfield Project funding request had been turned down by TSB, but would reapply;
- Since redevelopment of the Scout Centre, membership has increased especially from C.O.P. area;
- Any projects in Borestone area requiring funding should apply with a plan giving details of the amount required, management of the project and length of time it would run for.

A copy of the annual report is attached for information. The next meeting of the Trust would take place on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the Mayfield Centre.

## **10. Correspondence**

Correspondence received since the last meeting of the Community Council included –

- Copy of "The Community Councillor"
- Letter from Carol Hamilton re closure of local office
- Letter from Bruce Crawford regarding funding for roads

## 11. Any Other Business

- David Cooke raised concerns about the C.O.P. Green & Open Spaces Plan. He was keen to see tree preservation orders put on the better trees in the area so that they didn't disappear in the process. The Chair suggested that he should identify the trees he wanted to see retained and write to Tony Oteniya, Tree Officer at Stirling Council, and also suggested that David speak to Andy Davis about his concerns.
- David McDonald (Kings Park Community Council) had come to the meeting to ask members of Borestone Community Council to support and sign a petition asking Stirling Council to reconsider closure on Saturday afternoons of Central Library.
- Tricia Cooke was most concerned about the proposed closure of ERIS which seemed to assume that in the electronic age, children don't need books. She was worried that resources already donated to ERIS may go astray. Some of these resources – period costumes and artefacts - were personally donated by Tricia and she would wish to see them returned.
- The Chair congratulated Councillor Farmer on his appointment as portfolio holder for Corporate/Resources, Economy & Appointments in the new administration on the Council.

### Action:

- David Cooke to speak to Andy Davis about protection of trees and the Green & Open Spaces Plan
- Tricia Cooke to contact Children's Services re the return of ERIS resources

## 12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council was scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 7.00pm.**