

**MEETING OF BRIDGE OF ALLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 21 AUGUST 2007**

PRESENT: Les Ferguson (Chair), Jim Christie, Frances Hamilton, Keith Ironside, Alison Logie, Stuart Ritchie, Sam Shortt

IN ATTENDANCE: Claire Gibbons, Councillor Callum Campbell, Councillor Graham Houston, Jean Houston,

APOLOGIES: Ian Anderson, John Gill, Marjory Russell, P.C. Paul Colquhoun

BA383 Les Ferguson reminded members that this would be the last meeting attended by Stuart Ritchie as Youth Member. On behalf of the Community Council, Les thanked Stuart for the contribution he has made as Youth Member and wished him every success at Glasgow University.

BA384 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minute of the meeting held on 17th July 2007 was approved as a correct record of proceedings.

BA385 MATTERS ARISING

Public toilets – This matter is still being pursued. Frances had written to David Crighton, Streetscape Team Leader, for an additional, large size portaloo and was pleased to report that this was in place. However, it was noted that no progress was likely to be made until an assessment of all public toilets was complete.

Area Community Planning Forum – An initial meeting had taken place with Terence O’Byrne, Chair of Dunblane Community Council. Further discussions were planned.

War Memorial – Les, Jim and Alison had met to discuss the up to date situation. There had been some generous donations and pledges. Jim indicated that it was necessary to rewrite the Articles of Association for the Museum Hall Trust to include the War Memorial so that it could be operate as a Charity, thus making it eligible for contributions by Gift Aid.

It was intended to write to Stirling Council Provost’s Panel for a contribution from the Bridge of Allan Common Good Fund. In addition, a village fundraising event was planned.

Fountain Road bus stop – Frances advised that she intended locating a copy of the new Bridge of Allan timetable into the bus shelter.

New Link Road –Sam Shortt updated members on this matter. He had challenged TACTRAN on the competence of the consultation process. TACTRAN claim to have unanimous support of Stirling Council for the road transport strategy. However the Council has yet to report on the consultation exercise at Committee and this will take place end September/ October. Councillor Houston advised that he had written to the Transport Minister asking that there be a delay in the decision making.

Small towns/villages transport consultation – Councillor Houston stated that whilst this consultation was being undertaken, there was no money to carry out works.

Fountain Road Playpark – The Landfill Tax Trust had confirmed a grant of £4,000 towards replacing some of the play equipment at Fountain Road playpark. However, it was disappointing to hear that there were not sufficient funds to contribute towards the Avenue Park playpark. It was noted that Sue Gutteridge was undertaking a review of all play areas.

Chalmers Church Development – It was confirmed that the planned demolition works were scheduled to take place in the immediate future. There were revised plans for the interior of the Church.

The Avenue flower beds – Frances had made progress investigating ownership of the flower beds. However, in the meantime Bobby Halliday had offered to tidy up the area and it was agreed that Frances should contact him to accept his offer.

Planning– It was reported that the Queens Hotel planning application was proceeding with soundproofing and that the Old Manor application was also proceeding.

Youth Representative – Stuart confirmed that he had spoken to the Headteacher at Wallace High School and either the Head Boy, or a pupil from Bridge of Allan, would attend as Youth representative.

Campers – It was noted that the campers were no longer at Cameron Haugh.

Action:

- Jim Christie to pursue charity status for the War Memorial fund
- Letter to be sent to the Provost’s Panel seeking funding for the War Memorial
- Frances Hamilton to contact Bobby Halliday regarding The Avenue flower beds

BA386 POLICE REPORT

P.C. Colquhoun continued to be off sick. Members of the Community Council stated that the Police presence had not been good since P.C. Muirhead left Bridge of Allan. They asked Sgt. Donna Duncan if she could pass on their request for a short term replacement Community Policeman.

Sgt. Duncan presented the Police Report in P.C. Paul Colquhoun’s absence.

Total crimes reported	18
Total detected	10
Under investigation	8
Total Road Traffic detected	22

Mr Sidney Darbon asked Sgt. Duncan to report that the pedestrian lights at the Café changed too quickly to allow disabled people to cross safely.

It was also reported that an incident of antisocial behaviour reported to the Police had taken 13 hours for the Police to respond.

Finally, it was reported that the double yellow lines on Blairforkie Drive were being ignored. This resulted in parking problems which caused a back up of traffic on the mini-roundabout, unable to leave Henderson Street onto Blairforkie for traffic in the opposite direction. Sgt. Duncan was asked if there could be an increased presence by traffic wardens to deal with this. It was felt that there had been “over-lining” of Blairforkie creating this problem and a letter should be sent to Stirling Council. It was understood that the Council was undertaking a survey of all parking in the area.

Action:

- It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Stirling Council regarding parking problems on Blairforkie Drive

BA387 TREASURER'S REPORT

Keith Ironside reported further donations totalling £240 for the War Memorial. This fund now stood at £11,750. The balance of the Community Council account stands at £439.81.

BA388 PLANNING

Stuart Ritchie reported on current planning issues –

Planning applications received – 3
Recommended for approval – 5
Delegated to Planning Committee – 4

BA389 CO-OPTEE

Les Ferguson proposed Claire Gibbons as a second co-optee onto the Community Council. There was unanimous agreement by members attending.

Action:

- Helen Geddes to be informed of details of co-optees
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BA390 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- A complaint in the suggestion box in relation to road signs from the Keir roundabout into Bridge of Allan being dirty. These had been cleaned in the interim as advised by Stirling Council as a result of an earlier enquiry from the Community Council.
- A letter from Anne McGuire, MP, regarding Post Office network change programme. This was warning of proposed Post Office closures, but none were in the immediate vicinity. Anne McGuire indicated she would keep communities informed.
- A letter from Helen Geddes inviting any members interested in License Board decisions to become members of a License Board Forum. It was agreed to defer this to the next meeting to allow absent members to indicate interest.
- The Association of Scottish Community Councils invited nominations for a representative from the Stirling Council area to attend regional meetings.
- Playscape information sheet displaying equipment.
- NHS Forth Valley News
- Details of Townbreak voluntary organisation who are seeking volunteers.
- Planning Panel agenda.

- Bridge of Allan Sports Club
Les had received an e-mail from David Callander of the sports club, outlining the reasons for their proposals to vacate their existing site, and re-develop in a new location in the village, possibly a field adjacent to the existing tennis courts at Keir Street. Due to the complexity of the proposals, and the expected interest from the community, it was agreed to invite Mr. Callander to the September meeting. He was unable to attend this month's meeting due to business commitments.

Action:

- License Board Forum deferred to next meeting
- Les to confirm invitation to Mr. Callander

BA391 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- It had been raised previously whether the Stirling City sign at the University had been correctly sited. A copy of the city boundary line was circulated showing that this was correct, but no-one could confirm the date of the plan.
- Keir Street Tennis Courts – Les informed members that the tennis courts on Keir Street now had new fencing and gates, and had been tidied for use.
- Jim had queried the new road built off Airthrey Road. This was thought to be access for the cycle way into the school, as part of Safer Routes to School. He also raised the fact that there was no evidence of any footway planned. Councillor Campbell had agreed to investigate.
- Jim brought up the non-conventional pavement covering that had been laid, primarily on pavements where there was less footfall, whilst Forglan had not yet been completed even though the school term had started.
- Les mentioned that there was a Roads Consultation meeting scheduled to take place on 3rd September, which he and Frances planned to attend.
- Alison asked all members to note that there would be a **Coffee Morning on 6th October in the Parish Church Hall in aid of the War Memorial**. Everyone was asked to help or contribute with baking. She would be attending a meeting of the Merchants Association in September and would advise them of the event.

Action:

- Sports Club proposals on September agenda
- All members to support coffee morning in October

BA382 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council was scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 18th September at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

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

The meeting was closed at 9.15pm