

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chair: Roberta Jardine, 13, Abbotsford Place, Stirling. Tel 01786 465608
Secretary: Ann Graham, 11, Riverside Drive, Stirling. Tel 01786 472489

Minutes of Meeting 26th September held in the Riverbank Centre

In Attendance: Ann Gilchrist, Isabel Gorska, Ann Graham, Roberta Jardine, Irene McKean, Ann Strang, Robert Thornton, Councillor C McChord, Colin MacKay of Stirling Council & W.P.C. L. Colville.

Apologies: Councillor I. Brown, J Docherty.

Chairs Welcome. The Chair welcomed and thanked all attending the meeting and advised of a change in the Agenda.

Community Police Report:Lorna advised that she will be going to the Police College at Tulliallan for a month, but to keep reporting any incidents or concerns.

In September there were only 20 calls to the police, which was a drop on previous months.

There was an attempted theft of a mini bus from the Riverbank Centre which was caught on c.c.t.v. and three males were seen. The footage may be put out to the community for recognition.

There is a spate of purse thefts at the moment particularly in Tesco's and it is thought Eastern Europeans may be responsible. Undercover operations may be mounted by the police to catch the thieves.

The police would like to know who owns the two Staffy dogs (with curly tails!) at Abbey Mill. No one at the meeting seemed to recognise them.

There was an incident reported of a silver car being driven around locally and someone allegedly trying to entice children. Some children have been spoken to, but there is no evidence as yet to support this allegation.

The Council are putting on a series of Five short plays dealing with the subject of "Cold Callers" at Old Viewforth on the 4th of October. It is recommended as a very informative and interesting event, especially for the elderly or people living on their own.

Nominees are required for the Police Christmas Party, (which I can personally vouch is a very good afternoon out!)

Report from Colin MacKay about Waverley Park Issues.

This was following a meeting with Colin, Bobbie Crainie, Ann Strang and myself about the dog fouling in the sandpit and the general state of the park.

Colin said he and Bobbie had found little or no evidence of dog fouling in the park, and also clarified the issue of dogs being in the park. There is no law banning dogs from the park, providing they are kept under control and any fouling disposed of appropriately. He did inform us that new signage would be put in place to highlight the fixed penalties and the owners responsibilities.

A question was put regarding the possibility of a bye law, but it was felt this may create a precedent.

It was put forward that other Community Councils may have an input to this topic at the Area Forums.

Councillor McChord said he would also look into the matter of bye laws.

It was also proposed that Bobbie Crainie (the Dog Warden) visit the park more frequently.

A report given to Councillor Brown (who passed it to the Community Council, to consider) about the facilities provided in the park and the use the children make of them was met with a degree of scepticism.

Some members of the community present also took exception to some of the contents and photographs and said they were misleading and misrepresented. They intend to take the matter up with Play Services about this. It was also requested that Sue Gutteridge or Bill Eadie attend a Community Council meeting to address this as a matter of great concern.

Minutes of Meeting of 22nd August

The Minutes were moved by Ann Gilchrist and seconded by Roberta.Jardine

Matters Arising:

Following a request for the provision of transport for Riverside children currently attending and for those who will be attending Wallace High School, a petition signed by parents detailing the number of children involved was given to Councillor McChord. The parents understand this will not be a free service but are willing to pay to secure their childrens health and safety.

Feedback on flood meeting of 17th September.

Isabel Gorska gave a very full and comprehensive feed back from the meeting which was attended by Bruce Crawford M.S.P., David Faichney S.E.P.A., Les Goodfellow Head of Roads & Transport, Councillors Goss & Patterson.

Isabel expressed concern that the meeting was once again not adequately publicised, and the question of the venue's (Riverside Primary School) availability was sometimes dubious due to the Council's Booking policy.

A major cause for concern was the non appearance of a representative from Scottish Water. Those attending, whilst glad of the meeting, felt it only added to the overall feeling that the problem was not being fully addressed.

The hiring of two Hydrologists at the cost of ££76K was welcomed but more needs to be known of what their role is going to be in preventing more flooding.

Worries were voiced at the effect of the work being done at Causewayhead to build up the banking for the new housing and rail development. It was felt the consequences could be catastrophic for the Riverside, and since the next flood meeting is not till January 2008 what was going to be done in the meantime.

Going Carbon Neutral , Riverside.

Sean Rhand from Carbon Neutral made the meeting aware that pensioners or people on benefits are eligible to have have loft and cavity wall insulation fitted free, up to a value of £500. Posters to this effect are to be displayed in the local shops, school and centres. Sean also said Scottish Power do a Home Deal for insulation., and that he was concerned that neither the Council nor the local press appeared to advertise that these schemes were available

Correspondence:

The correspondence received dealt with

- (a) Forthside Car Park and the introduction of proposed charges and on what vehicles can park.
- (b) Disabled Persons Parking.
- (c) 20M.P.H. zone for Forthside Way for its entire length.
- (d) Bus Priority Route in Forthside, its restrictions and access .
- (e) Urban Clearway on Forthside Way (no stopping at any time)

A question arose from the correspondence as to why pedestrians and cyclists are not allowed access to Forthside . and advice was that at present it was for health and safety reasons.

The strength of the current bridge to support all the additional traffic was queried as was the use of the bridge by contractors in daytime for transporting heavy loads. It was thought this had been previously agreed that heavy loads were to be brought in from the other side of the development at Springkerse during the day and over the bridge in the evenings.

It was felt that perhaps Les Goodfellow or Farquhar Wilson could clarify this.to the Community Council.

Any other competent business:

After attempts to trace the owners, the garages at the rear of the shops in Forth Crescent were supposed to be demolished as they are a risk to health and safety.and at one time had been frequented by drug users..They are also in a very dilapidated state, but children still go there to play, particularly older ones.Councillor McChord will look into this.

It was established that Lover's Walk can have traffic in both directions, but only incoming for traffic exiting from the Ambulance Station.

The trees need cutting back to expose the traffic signs at Lovers Walk from the Dean Crescent side. Isabel will contact Bill Dickson to see that this is done now that it has been established that it is Cowane's Trusts responsibility.

It was asked if a bus shelter could be provided for the stop at Dean Crescent which is in an exposed position and used by the elderly and disabled. Councillor McChord will attend to this.

The planners for 2/4 Wallace Gate had their appeal against the disallowance of their expenses rejected.

The next meeting will be held in the Riverbank Centre on Wednesday 31st October at 7.30 p.m. Any change to time or venue will be notified

If you have any item you wish placed on the Agenda , please let me know at the number above.