

Minutes of meeting of Thornhill & Blairdrummond Community Council held on Tuesday 15 July 2008 at 7.30 pm in Blairdrummond Community Hall

1. Present & apologies

Mr. Jim Maxwell	Chairman	Mr. Campbell Hannah	Vice chairman
Mr. Peter Rickard	Secretary	Mr. Ian Bain	Treasurer
Mrs. Kate Anderson	Community Councillor	Mrs. Kate Cartney	Community Councillor
Mrs. Ann Petrie	Community Councillor	Mrs. Rosemary Williams	Community Councillor

Margaret McKechnie Rural Development Worker with Stirling Council.
Councillor Paul Owens

Apologies were received from Mrs. Isobel Macalpine, Mr. Sandy Stewart, PCs Stewart Kerr and Simon Fraser.

The meeting wished to record its best wishes to Sandy Stewart who is unable to attend owing to a recently diagnosed illness. It wished him a quick and full recovery.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting on 3 June 2008

The minutes of the meeting on 3 June 2008 were approved by Kate Cartney and seconded by Campbell Hannah.

3. Matters arising

Some matters arising were covered in a separate note (appended to these minutes) that was circulated at the meeting.

a. A84trunk road Concern was expressed at the amount of traffic on this road especially around the work being carried out for the new Mart. There are often long hold-ups and the road appears not to be being cleaned regularly enough causing accidents. The secretary wrote to Stirling Council and Transerv, received replies from both, one confirming that the police had contacted the contractor and a wheel-cleaning facility has now been installed.

b. New Auction Mart work The previous meeting noted that ground was being raised to prevent flooding of the new auction site. It was anticipated that this would cause further flooding up-river of the site. The secretary has sent an email to Stirling Council Planning but received no reply yet.

c. Application 08/00158 Land near Frew Toll The community council objected to the building of a new house on this site and asked our councillor to call in this application to allow the full Planning Panel to discuss the issues. The panel met and approved the application despite our objections.

d. Stirling Council Roads Maintenance schedule Stirling Council have submitted to us a consultation on the five year programme of roads maintenance. After trying to understand what roads were being repaired in our area, the secretary was asked to write to the council for clarification. The reply states that the cost of production of maps would be excessive and plans change as the rate of deterioration changes.

e. Pavement upgrade in Thornhill The secretary was asked to write to Stirling Council to find out why the work to upgrade the pavements in the Main Street has not been completed. The reply states ['we have not included improvements to the granolithic](#)

concrete pavements in our three year programme. However, these will be considered in future years.'

f. Thornhill village clock The secretary has not yet tracked down the old Clock Fund. **Action secretary carried forward**

g. Consultation on the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 – Amendment Bill 2008 Kate Anderson was of the opinion that this was not relevant to the CC.

Rosemary Williams joined the meeting at this point.

h. Stirling Housing Needs Survey Margaret McKechnie presented a copy of the Conclusions from this large report – these were much clearer than the Executive summary discussed at the last meeting. The conclusions include a reference to Thornhill – 'Given indications of housing pressure, imbalances in the supply of affordable housing are likely to be evident in ...Gargunnoch, Thornhill and Kippen in the Rural area...'

i. Doune Clinic Ann Petrie attended a meeting in Doune about the possibility of a new clinic. However there is currently no money in the budget for this, so no news really.

4. Police matters

It was noted that there was a spate of incidents of fuel being stolen from local farms.

5. Youth matters

None

6. National Park review – in or out?

The secretary had contacted Strathard Community Council to get their views on the impact of being in the Park. Ros Dingwall, their chairman, gave her apologies for not being able to attend tonight. She said that there were no discernible benefits of being in the Park, but there did seem to be more consultations, committees and public bodies to deal with. She was concerned that the Park had little money. She suggested that any move be held until the current review has completed as this may change the way the Park operates.

Sandy Stewart had also reported to the secretary that in his discussions with the local farming community, they were all against being in the Park.

The meeting decided to postpone further discussion of this issue.

7. Scottish Government consultations on Community Councils

The meeting had no points to raise about this consultation in which the secretary had been involved. **Action secretary to a reply.**

8. Planning

a. General planning issues

07/00673/OUT	Proposed mixed use development at Land At Craigforth Stirling	Recommendation: Approve with Conditions
08/00158/OUT	Proposed erection of dwelling house at Land Some 230m West Of Frew Toll Cottage Thornhill Stirling	Recommendation: Approve - Subject to Section 75

08/00303/DET	Proposed conversion of farm building to form dwelling house at South Kirk Lane Farm, Gargunnoch	Application received
08/00405/HAE	Extension to dwelling house at Little Mill Cottage, Thornhill	Application received

b. Application 07/00673/OUT Prudential development

The meeting noted that this application to which we had objected, was recommended for approval. It is only outline permission at the moment and there are several conditions placed on the developers.

c. Enforcement notices

none

9. Correspondence

The secretary issued a note to councillors on correspondence since the previous meeting. It is appended to these minutes.

a. CC elections Stirling Council have asked if we wish to call elections for our vacancies or continue our secondments. The meeting felt that the expense was difficult to justify but asked the secretary to put a note in the Thornhill News to ascertain if there were people willing to stand. **Action secretary**

b. Thornhill Newsletter Susan Duke, the editor of the Thornhill News, has written to the secretary and sent apologies for being unable to attend the meeting in person. The printer used to produce the newsletter went wrong and part of the last newsletter had to be printed commercially at a considerable cost. In addition Sue has decided that the newsletter is proving to be too costly to print in full colour. She is hoping to print mostly in black and white and asked the community council to consider a grant to help to keep the newsletter going.

The meeting debated the issue, which had also been raised just over a year ago. All recognise the worth of a local newsletter and thanked Sue for continuing to produce it and for all the hard work she puts into it. It was suggested that it would be a good idea if more people were involved in its production.

Councillors decided to give a grant of £100 with the recommendation that black and white printing be used and options for increasing revenue from other sources such as paid advertisements and sponsorship should be pursued. **Action treasurer**

c. Fire and Rescue consultation Central Scotland Fire and Rescue Service have issued a leaflet questionnaire. Copies were distributed to all councillors and it is also available at www.centuralscotlandfire.gov.uk for return by 30 September.

d. Stirling Council Communities Team A questionnaire has been received to evaluate the work of the Communities Team, which includes Margaret McKechnie who is our local support person. **Action secretary**

e. Conservation status for Thornhill A letter from Tom Cunningham says that he noted a map dated 1977 with a proposed Thornhill Conservation Village. The matter seems to be dragging on.

f. Damage to pavement outside Dykes Garage Tom also raised this issue which the secretary has reported to Stirling Council.

g. Drain at house behind Lion & Unicorn The drain has been piped and concern has been expressed that it may be too high to allow proper drainage of the North Common. Ian Bain will investigate. **Action Ian Bain**

h. Post Office The secretary has received a folder containing 24 copies of a 6 page leaflet describing the four options for the Outreach service. This has already been

implemented in Thornhill since February. The secretary expressed his concern at the ridiculous waste of money.

10. Thornhill Community Trust (TCT)

No report.

11. Blairdrummond Community Hall Association

There was a very successful barbecue.

12. AOCB

None.

13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 26 August 2008 in Blairdrummond Community Hall at 7.30 pm.

Future meeting schedule for 2008:

October 7 November 18