

Minute of the Meeting of Torbrex Community Council held in Stirling High School at 7.15pm on Thursday 29th March 2007.

Present: Community Councillors: Jim Docherty, Julia Leftwich and Genia Graham. Les Goodfellow, Stirling Council, Bill Eadie, Stirling Council, Sid Pask, Stirling Council, Bill Hamill, Stirling Council, Sandy McLean, Stirling Council Jacqueline Lynn, Active Stirling.

Bill Sim, Evelyn Sim, Margaret Giles, Larry Henderson, William Robb, Valerie Milligan, Margaret Duff, Neil Benny, Joyce Green, Michael Green, Hirek Kwiatowski, Eleanor Niven, Anne Sulieman, Hugh Gillies, Jan Gillies, Wilson Jamieson, George McCulloch, Andrew Simpson and Ian Robertson.

Apologies: Sue Ridler, Murray Dickie, Carolyn Edward and Bob Johnson.

- 1. Minute of the Previous Meeting:** After discussion an amendment was made to the minute of the previous meeting which was then accepted as an accurate record.
- 2. Matters arising:** None
- 3. Beechwood Park:** The Chair welcomed guests from Stirling council and Active Stirling. He invited Hirek Kwiatowski to articulate the concerns of the residents of the Beechwood Flats regarding Stirling Council's proposals for the development of Beechwood Park. Their main concern was the lack of a consultation process between Stirling council and local residents prior to drawing up a detailed plan for the redevelopment and extension of play facilities in the park. Residents are concerned that the proposed changes could result in anti social behaviour from older youths in the evening. Stirling Council's focus exclusively on children did not take cognisance of the views of older residents.

Bill Eadie stated that Children's Services had consulted with users of the park last year. As the planning gain monies can be used only for children's outdoor play facilities this was the focus of the development plan. Residents were not consulted.

Bill Agreed to delay implementation of the proposals until the Community Council has been fully consulted. The budget for improving facilities within the park has been ring-fenced but there is no guarantee that the new Council will go ahead with the plans. Those present were invited to visit other parks in the Stirling area which had undergone improvements.

The Beechwood Park sub group members raised the following specific issues:

- i. Within the park there is a lack of seating and adequate lighting
- ii. There is a fear that the proposed removal of the fences around the mini traffic area could result in vandalism.
- iii. The park is an asset for adults as well as children
- iv. Is there a need for a fence between the road and the park?
- v. Will the dimensions of the football pitch be changed?
- vi. Council trucks damage the grassy areas in the park.

Jacqui Lynn of Active Stirling stated that she would check whether the football pitch would be reduced in size. She would also instruct the Active Stirling van not to enter the park and Sandy McLean would similarly instruct the Streetscape Team.

Valerie Milligan stated that Stirling Council is developing an open space strategy and the parks will form part of this. She suggested the following strategy for consultation relating to the future development of Beechwood Park:

- a. Public meeting
- b. A survey of park users
- c. Results to be shared with Torbrex Community Council.

4. Murrayshall Quarry: Julia Leftwich provided an update on the issues surrounding the proposed reopening of the quarry. Cambusbarron Community Council had organised various events and there is a petition on the Scottish Executive website – should anyone wish to sign.

The major issue for Torbrex will be the large number of heavy vehicles using Torbrex Road, passing the Primary School and the new High School. Les Goodfellow stated that the issue for the roads department is the safety of children. He thought the roads and bridge would have been built to a standard necessary for heavy trucks as the quarry had operated in previous years. Another issue would be that of vibration, noise and damage / maintenance of the roads. At present, the plan is to reduce the speed of traffic to 20 miles per hour.

5. Activities for Older People: Jim Docherty reported that these activities would begin on Tuesday 24th April in Beechwood Scout Hall.

6. A.O.C.B.: The rugby field is being used by dog walkers – there is need for a second ‘dog poo bin’ at the Torbrex Road end of the green space to encourage people to pick up mess as children use this space. Contractors have left a lot of loose stones and debris lying around. Children are throwing these stones around and we will ask the contractors to make sure the area is clean.

Stirling and Clackmannanshire Structure Plan: A consultation is being carried out by Stirling Council. It was agreed that we should invite planners to a future meeting to discuss their ideas and explore alternatives.

Tannson: Julia reported that the façade of the house next to Beechwood Park was to be preserved. The feature chimney has gone and Torbrex Community Council will ask planners if this is a material breach.

7. Dates of Meetings: (SNP = St Ninians Primary, SHS = Stirling High School and (*) = AGM)

Thur 29 Mar SHS	Tues 29 May SNP (*)	Wed 27 Jun SHS
Thur 26 Jul SNP	Tues 28 Aug SHS	Wed 26 Sep SNP
Thur 25 Oct SHS	Tues 27 Nov SNP	Wed 19 Dec SHS
Thur 24 Jan 2008	SNP	