

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TROSSACHS COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON
21st FEBRUARY 2008 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Martin Earl (Chairman)
Roger Drapper
Iain Fraser
John Isbister
Peter Brown
Gene Maxwell
Ron Mendham
Lesley Niven

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Fergus Wood, Owen McKee, Hugh Dobbins
Mrs Twaddle & son, PCs Kerr & Fraser (part meeting only)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Frank Trzebiatowski and Jan Wilkinson.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17th JANUARY 2008

The approval of the minutes was proposed by Iain Fraser and seconded by Gene Maxwell.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) NATIONAL PARK PLINTH

The chairman explained that the Community Council had been looking to re-site the plinth and that a possible site had been identified on the corner opposite the bus shelter. A draft agreement had been sent to the land owners including Mrs Twaddle. The National Park will install and maintain the plinth and the Community Council will pay for and maintain the fence. Martin confirmed that the draft agreement could easily be amended to take account of any future change of circumstance and ownership and it was therefore agreed that a suitably worded clause be included.

b) CALLANDER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Martin will attend a future meeting of Callander CC and the exchange of minutes is to continue. He is also to arrange to meet with the chairmen of Callander and Strathyre CCs to discuss flooding. Cllr Wood suggested that it might be helpful to attend the Association of Community Councils Meetings.

c) CHRISTMAS CARDS

There was no update from Cllr Ffinch. The Chairman explained to Cllr Wood that TCC feel that the practice of sending of cards by Stirling Council is a waste of public money and should be stopped.

d) SALT BIN

Will be purchased when prices are reduced in the Spring.

4. REPORTS

a) FINANCE

Reported that bank balance is £1414.41.

b) LOCH VENACHER MANAGEMENT GROUP

No report. TCC will ask that a pre season meeting be arranged.

c) TROSSACHS AREA NETWORK

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 26 February at 7.30pm in Brig O'Turk Village Hall. (Cllr Wood gave his apologies for that meeting)

It was noted that the total cost of the Community Suppers was £1700 and this had been met from the Community Development Budget. TCC maintain that, as a matter of principal, this is an inappropriate use of funds which would be better applied to communities through Development Trusts which are not well funded. Cllr Wood reminded the meeting that other sources of funding eg rural grants are available.

d) LOCH KATRINE COMMUNITY TRUST

The AGM had taken place on 29 January and notes of the meeting will be made available in due course. Martin and the chairman of Strathyre CC had been invited to attend. There had been interesting presentations from the Sir Walter Scott trust and the Forestry Commission. Noted that there is to be improved signage for cyclists along the loch side.

e) LOCH ACHRAY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

No report.

f) TROSSACHS COMMUNITY TRUST

Noted that TCT will have a stall for the Local History Archive at the Heritage Day on 16 March.

6. SPECIFIC ITEMS

a) PLANNING

Recent applications include development at Caledonian House, an extension at Riverview (no need for TCC to comment), Trossachs Pier and the Forestry Road in Glen Finglas.

Frank Trzebiatowski will continue to monitor the planning schedule and will request plans when necessary.

Noted that "permitted development rights" are to be extended.

b) ROADS

Martin reported on a meeting with Gordon McLachlan on 28 February to inspect the A821 and identify areas to be repaired in the next financial year. The stretch between Glen Bruach and the village and the Milton straight are to be included. Martin will ask that further work to Glen Finglas Road be undertaken.

The work to the culvert at Brae Cottage is still outstanding.

c) COMMUNITY POLICING

PC Kerr reported that Venacher Lochside had been broken into in the early hours of Monday 18 February. CCTV footage is not very helpful but available information is to be circulated in the Bicycle Tree, by email and at Tigh Mor.

Lochside patrols are to start at Easter weekend through until the end of September including bank holidays. Both Lochs Venacher and Achray will be covered.

Response on need for bins in car parks still awaited but likely to be supportive.

d) COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Nothing to report.

e) LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Information has been included in the Bicycle Tree.

Owen McKee reported that all the open days have taken place and that a report covering all issues will be circulated to all CCs after the National Park Board meeting on 10 March. A 6 week consultation period will follow and it is anticipated that the draft plan will be published in October/November.

f) HERITAGE DAY

The Heritage Day will be on 16 March from 1 - 5pm in the Village Hall. The Family History Society has confirmed that it will take part. Other participants will be Local History (TCT) and Stirling Council Archive Department. Advertising is in hand.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) It was noted that Cllr Paul Owens is seriously ill and is likely to need to undergo heart surgery. Martin asked that Cllr Wood pass on the TCC's best wishes for a full and speedy recovery. Cllr Wood emphasised that, in the meantime, either he or Cllr Ffinch would attend TCC meetings.

b) STIRLING COUNCIL FLOODING REPORT

Available at www.stirling.gov.uk/flooding

c) LL&TNP ACCESS FORUM

New members needed and Peter Brown agreed to apply.

d) LL&TNP BOARD

Applications for appointment to NP Board to be submitted by 7 March.

e) TCC BOUNDARY

Helen Geddes is to ask that proposed changes are discussed at the next full Council meeting and Cllr Wood to progress.

f) SCHEME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS

Revised document circulated.

g) JUNCTION A821 AND A84

Hugh Dobbins asked that the TCC lobby for possible improvements by way of a roundabout or realignment at this increasingly dangerous junction. Martin to contact Transerv and our MSP, Bruce Crawford.

h) DUNCAN CARMICHAEL

It was noted that Duncan had resigned from TCC since the last meeting. Members were unanimous in agreeing that a vote of thanks be recorded to Duncan for his very valuable contribution to the work of TCC in recent years. It is hoped that he may be able to return when time allows.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on 20 March 2008 at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. If anyone requires transport to attend, please contact Martin Earl on 01877 376367.