

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TROSSACHS COMMUNITY COUNCIL HELD ON
17th JANUARY 2008 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Martin Earl (Chairman)
Duncan Carmichael
Roger Drapper
Iain Fraser
John Isbister
Gene Maxwell
Ron Mendham
Lesley Niven
Frank Trzebiatowski

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Ffinch
PC Kerr & David Brown (for part of the meeting only)
Mary Carmichael
Mr & Mrs Sweeny

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Jan Wilkinson and Dick Johnson from Callander Community Council.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th DECEMBER 2007

The approval of the minutes was proposed by Duncan Carmichael and seconded by Roger Drapper.

3. MATTERS ARISING

a) National Park Plinth

Draft agreement approved and noted that labour costs would be £100.

b) Callander Community Council

Martin will attend the next meeting of Callander CC on Monday 21 January and Dick Johnson will attend TCC when he can. Future minutes to be exchanged and copy of schedule of meetings to be circulated.

4. PRESENTATION BY DAVID BROWN

Mr Brown is Stirling Council's Public Transport Project Officer and is based at the Bus

Station in Stirling. He explained that he was attending the meeting as a result of changes to the Post Bus initiated by the PO as a result of increased pressure on them to concentrate on their core business ie the delivery and collection of mail.

The service was reviewed a year ago and there have already been changes to the Kinlochard service. The Trossachs service is subsidised by £11 per passenger and there were 1052 passenger journeys last year at an average of 22 per week. As a result Stirling Council has initiated a review of how the service could be provided especially as the budget is no longer ring fenced and in the light of the need to secure value for money.

Mr Brown went on to describe Demand Responsive Transport and the scheme which is already in operation in the Balquidder/Strathyre/Lochearnhead area. The advantage of such a "Ring & Ride" scheme would be increased flexibility with passengers being able to book a taxi journey at bus fare cost between 7am and 7pm. The disadvantage is that there is not an increase in budget provision and without any government subsidy, it is important to get the best mechanism in place to ensure affordability.

Further consultation with Community Councils is to take place.

5. REPORTS

a) FINANCE

No report

b) LOCH VENACHER MANAGEMENT GROUP

No report

c) TROSSACHS AREA NETWORK

Email correspondence has been circulated giving some information and updates on TAN plans.

d) LOCH KATRINE COMMUNITY TRUST

No report.

e) LOCH ACHRAY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

No report.

f) TROSSACHS COMMUNITY TRUST

TCT meetings are scheduled to take place on 24 January, 13 March and 8 May.

6. SPECIFIC ITEMS

a) PLANNING

Frank gave update on recent planning and it was noted that the application for Dam Manager's Bothy had been withdrawn, a retrospective application has been submitted for flats at Stronachlachar Lodge and there is an application for fencing at Royal Lodge. The Go Ape reception are application has been approved.

The Glen Finglas Environmental Impact Assessment is the same as that already presented and which TCC supported. To be included on the agenda for the February meeting.

Gene Maxwell gave details of a previously approved application to convert Brig O' Michael Cottage to holiday accommodation. He further explained that an application is to be submitted for residential use to provide a house for a young local couple. Cllr Ffinch confirmed that planning rules still prevent residential development outside the village envelope. In the absence of a specific planning application, the CC broadly support the provision of residential accommodation within the TCC area especially for young people with a strong local connection. Any specific application will be considered at a future meeting.

b) ROADS

Surface water on the A821 near Brae Cottage has been reported to Stuart Inglis who agreed that the problem would be dealt with by the end of this week. Martin to chase if necessary.

Grit has been delivered to Glen Finglas Road.

Pothole jet patching machine has been requested 3 times so Stirling Council should be notified of any damage to property or persons caused by potholes and recompense sought.

TAN SW Area Forum meeting held on 15 November looked at rural roads.

c) COMMUNITY POLICING

It was noted that no crime had been reported. PC Kerr asked that TCC consider what priorities they'd like to see included in planning for the summer months. Speeding, litter and anti social behaviour have all already been put forward.

PC Kerr will check what the official line on the reinstatement of litter bins in car parks.

John Isbister asked if signage could be improved on the bad bends at the Brig o' Turk end of the Milton straight and that debris from accident which happened before Christmas be removed.

d) COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

Nothing to report. Drafting ongoing.

e) LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

Information has been circulated and will be included in the next Bicycle Tree.

7. CORRESPONDENCES

Noted.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) CHRISTMAS CARDS

Noted that Stirling Council had spent £2179 in sending out cards. Agreed that TCC should request through Cllr Ffinch that this practice be stopped.

b) SALT BIN

Martin to organise the purchase of a suitable container and materials to grit the area around the Village Hall if and when necessary.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held on 21 February 2008 at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. If anyone requires transport to attend, please contact Martin Earl on 01877 376367.