

Baldernock Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on 8th July 2019 at Baldernock Church Hall, Balmore

Present: David Wooton (Acting Chair), Anne McNair, Niall Logan, and Elspeth Fulton

P.C. Eric Morrison

Apologies: Kenneth Whitehall (Treasurer), Alan Bell, and Celia Burns

Minutes of previous meeting: Accepted and seconded with two alterations to spelling.

Matters Arising -covered in Agenda

1. Police Matters:

P.C. Morrison stated that there had been calls from the public regarding traffic incidents on Balmore Road. The police were monitoring traffic. A Day of Action was planned with the Driving Vehicle Standards Agency, focussing on the quality of vehicles.

With regard to other matters there had been very few break-ins, but the police continue to advise vigilance in relation to the security of houses and cars, as these continue to be the most common crimes. Car and house keys should not be left in places accessible to thieves.

Niall Logan stated that members of the Community Council had met with officers Thomas McMenamin and Graeme McLay of EDC on 19th April to discuss matters of concern with regard to road markings, speed limits etc. (Minutes of this meeting had been distributed to Community Council members.)

The local authority officials had not accepted that there was any need for change regarding the stretch of Balmore Road subject to a 60 mph speed limit. Niall Logan asked P.C. Morrison if police support for this issue was possible. P.C. Morrison agreed to ask colleagues to monitor speed levels in the area. David Wooton added that council officials do not think any problems are significant in proportion to the volume of traffic. Anne McNair said that she had observed what appeared to be cars racing after 8pm. P.C. Morrison noted this.

Fiona Howie asked about the levels of break-ins in the area. P.C. Morrison was unable to comment in detail. There was some discussion about a police presentation on setting up Neighbourhood or Rural Watches.

Following this item, P.C. Morrison was excused from the rest of the meeting by the chairperson.

2. Financial matters:

The balance in the Community Council's account is currently £1185. Confirmation of the amount of the insurance Premium is awaited.

3.Planning

Netherfield, Glenorchard Road, Balmore: Dormer window. No objection expressed.

Newlands, Glenorchard Road, Balmore: Construction of three dwelling houses. As this proposed development would be on land designated as Greenbelt, it was agreed that the Community Council should object.

4.Woodland, Blairskaith Muir:

Matthew Imrie and John Imrie from Hillhead Farm attended the meeting to present the plan and provided maps/ diagrams.

Part of the area is deep peat; there would be no trees planted in this area.

The proposed Woodland would include broadleaved trees. Surveys were being undertaken, including bee and bird surveys.

There was some discussion about the propose walkway to the area and to the trig point. Niall Logan said that the traditional access to the trig point should be kept open. In relation to an archaeological survey of the area, Niall Logan said that he would speak to Paul Bishop of the local History Group. Paul had found evidence of lime kilns from the 18th and early 19th centuries in the area near to the trig point. Niall did not envisage this affecting the proposed plan, but would like to speak to Paul about it and inform Mr. Imrie of the outcome of this discussion.

Overall there was support for the plan; it was likely to encourage wildlife diversity in the area.

5.Roads:

Niall Logan and Anne McNair spoke to the notes of the meeting held with EDC officers Thomas McMenamin and Graeme McLay.

Apart from an agreement to refresh road markings the outcome of the meeting was viewed as disappointing.

It was agreed to seek clarification of some of the wording - for example 'subtle differences' (P.1) - and timescales for surveys, reviews and monitoring of roads in the area.

6.Baldernock Tartan:

Fiona Howie spoke on this item.

It had been decided to extend the time limit for submissions to 30th September. There was an information table in the Church hall, and it had been suggested that submissions be exhibited. Fiona thanked Jane Logan for designing the poster and also Milngavie Community Council for displaying the poster in Milngavie precinct. Fiona had spoken to the children at Baldernock School about the competition, as had Niall.

7.Heaters in the Church Hall.

There was no progress to report on this issue. The sticking point appeared to be the funding – there was confusion among the Church, the Community Council and the Community Development Trust due to technical and administrative issues. David suggested that Celia Burns and Lesley Wiseman could discuss acceptable sources of funding with a Church representative.

Joan ? said that she understood that the Community Council had agreed in the past to increase the amount of rent paid to the Church for the hire of the hall.

8.Broadband: David summarised the contents of a copy of a letter to Rona MacKay MSP from Paul Wheelhouse, MSP, and Minister for Energy. To access superfast broadband under the current programme, the distance from the cabinet to the property would have to be no more than 1.2 km., measurement of the distance being dependant on the infrastructure. To keep track of progress in their area, constituents are advised to consult the interactive Digital Scotland website at <https://www.scotlandsuperfast.com/check-my-area/>

Access would be via individuals' ISP; the upgrade is not automatic.

9.Scottish Water – Burnbrooks –Water Improvement Project

David advised of an update from Scottish Water. Work is ongoing. Pipeline installation was due to commence this month.

A security guard is to be employed as members of the public have been entering the construction sites at Mugdock Road and Drumclog Moor.

10.Stop Climate Chaos

It was agreed that the Community Council would continue to subscribe.

11.School News: no news to report at this time.

12.Baldernock Community Development trust

This item was deferred as Lesley Wiseman had submitted apologies.

13.Association of East Dunbartonshire Community Councils

Anne McNair advised that there had been a number of meetings between the association and the Chief Executive of the council. The association had written to the joint leaders of the council requesting a meeting, in an effort to improve relationships with the council. Councillors Moodie and Polson had declined to attend a meeting, stating that they were already working with Kirkintilloch Community Council.

(Representatives from Kirkintilloch Community Council were unaware of the councillors having any direct dealings with their Council.)

The Association are continuing to work on this issue.

AOB: EDC Hubs: Anne McNair reported that the council have created 'hubs' in Kirkintilloch, Bishopbriggs and Bearsden. The hub proposed for Milngavie is intended to be housed in the town hall site. It is to be redeveloped and refurbished, with an upper level added. The current community centre and library building will be

closed and the library relocated. The games hall and parking space at the community centre will be lost.

The plans are currently out for consultation and can be accessed on the EDC website under Milngavie Community Hub.

Members of the Community Council observed that the loss of available parking was a barrier to use by the elderly and disabled, and to those living in outlying rural areas where there is little or no public transport.

It would also appear that the library would be reduced in size.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the council with these comments.

Next Meeting: 9th September 2019