

Baldernock Community Council

Minutes of Meeting on Monday 9th March 2020

1. Present: David Wootton (chair), Celia Burns (secretary), Linda Whitehall, Anne McNair, Fiona Grier, Niall Logan, Fiona Howie, Councillor Gary Pews, Constable Steven McArthur and Thomas McMenamin, Executive Officer, Roads Department, EDC.

2. Minutes of previous meeting: It was noted that Niall Logan's apologies for the previous meeting has not been recorded. Other than this the previous minutes were accepted.

Agenda

3. Police Matters

The Driving Standards Agency have been continuing with checks and some penalties have been incurred. This activity will continue. Enforcements of infringements of traffic legislation is also ongoing. There was one attempted theft of a vehicle which was thwarted due to the vigilance of a resident. Constable McArthur reminded residents to be vigilant about home and vehicle security. A resident raised an issue about an incident of threatening behaviour and what she considered was dangerous driving. Constable McArthur advised that such incidents should be reported to the police if there was evidence of careless driving or a lack of consideration given to pedestrians on rural roads with no pavements.

4. Baldernock Tartan - Announcement of winning tartan

Fiona Howie informed that the voting had been close; the winning tartan was design number 14. It was designed by Niall Logan, based on old maps of the local area. Congratulations and appreciation of Niall's efforts were expressed. Fiona said that the next step would be to register the tartan, which would be the property of the Community Council. It was agreed that the Council would pay the fee for registration.

The 'tartan group' would continue; Fiona said that volunteers were required for the group for the next phase, which would give consideration to the use of the tartan.

David thanked Fiona for her work and organisation.

5. Roads

David invited Mr McMenamin to speak. He introduced himself and said that he would work through the document sent to him by the Community Council.

Speed limits: The speed limit of 60 mph used to apply to the whole stretch of Balmore Road from the Allander roundabout; this was gradually changed, introducing the current 30 and 40 mph limits. The last speed survey of the 60mph stretch was carried out in November 2017, when the average speed of vehicles was found to be 44mph. The survey was carried out covering different times of day.

He stated that it was not the department's intention to change the current speed limits.

Pedestrian crossing or refuge: Mr McMenamin said it was not possible to put in a refuge or crossing; it was not structurally feasible because of the narrowness of the road, which had to be sufficiently wide for trucks to pass. There was no suitable location for a zebra crossing with lights.

Bridge at Craigmaddie Road: The bridge is suitable for a 40-ton vehicle. Inspections were carried out in 2017 and 2019 and there were no concerns.

Road markings: Mr McMenamin said that give way markings were in good condition. Road markings would continue to be monitored. He informed that the closure of Balmore Road would take place in March; three weekends had been booked. The exact timing of the work would be dependant on the weather.

School Bus: It was planned that signs indicating the school would be put in place.

Discussion then took place. Celia referred to an e-mail from Paul Bishop, regarding the difficulties there had been when Balmore Road was closed last year. These concerned the traffic flow down Baldernock and the Dowan Road. This resulted in huge damage to the verges due to a huge number of cars using this route. Mr McMenamin said that in future there would be more consultation with the local community. He agreed that an inspection would take place with Crawford Curry.

Linda Whitehall spoke of the difficulties in ensuring her children crossed the road safely in the absence of a crossing -she had to arrange to accompany them. A resident said that there were areas of land bordering the road which belonged to the Council, which would give scope for widening the road sufficiently to accommodate a crossing. Mr McMenamin said that consideration could be given to a Pelican crossing at Craigmaddie / Bardowie Roads.

Fiona Greer said that diversions should discourage drivers from using Dowan Road. Fiona Howie suggested signage be erected to indicate that drivers were entering a conservation area, and gave Mr McMenamin a sample sign, which he said he would consider.

There was discussion about footpaths bordering roads and overgrown pavements. The pavement from Craigmaddie Road to the waterworks was non-existent. Paths at Bankell Farm were overgrown. Mr McMenamin said that there were measures the Council could take regarding land encroaching on roads or footpaths, but these would not provide a speedy solution.

Niall Logan suggested that the Community Council draw up a map of the area, indicating the areas of difficulty. Mr McMenamin said that would be helpful.

A resident said that he had heard that there might plans for a culvert to replace the Ford; local residents liked the Ford as it added to the character of the area.

Fiona Howie said she had been investigating the management of satellite navigation systems, but had been unable to identify a responsible central body. Mr. McMenamin said he would look into this.

Mr McMenamin stated that he would summarise the discussion and conclusions and send this to Celia Burns.

6.Financial Report

Linda Whitehill reported that the financial position remained unchanged, and money required to be spent. £250 was due to the History Group and £70 for the registration of Baldernock Tartan. She said that the school had wanted money for goalposts.

Celia said that she had distributed an e-mail requesting applications for funds, but had received no response.

Ros Jardine suggested the purchase of a thermal imaging system which would assist householders in identifying heat loss in their homes, ultimately saving fuel. The difficulty with this was that someone would need to be in charge of co-ordinating loans of the equipment, and where it would be stored.

There was discussion about whether money could be carried forward to the next financial year; Anne McNair said this was possible if it was being carried forward for planned expenditure.

7.Correspondence

Update from Burncrooks Water Improvement Project

8.Planning

Bishopbriggs North and Campsie Application No TP/ED/20/ 0078

Erection of Double Garage with storage space above, and formation of new vehicular access location: Muir House, Baldernock, Craigmaddie Road, Bardowie. No objections were raised.

9.Litter Pick

It was agreed that the litter pick would take place on the 21st of March. Given that Craigmaddie Road could not be closed this year it would not be possible for the pickers to work there.

It would also not be possible to organise a café as there was no venue available. In the light of concerns about the coronavirus it was likely that a community café would be seen as a risk. Linda suggested that people bring flasks and sandwiches.

10.School News

Cllr Gary Pews informed that he had met with the school's Head Teacher and the Estates Manager from EDC and the outstanding issues in relation to works at the school had been noted.

He had raised the Issue of the floodlights (discussed at previous Community Council Meeting) and the Estates Manager had agreed to look at the possibility of moving one or two of the lights and installing a timer.

Linda Whitehill said that the playground had not been resurfaced as promised following the removal of the Portacabin, thus restricting the play area available for the children.

Storage facilities for poor, consisting of a large container with no insulation resulting in the contents becoming damp. Linda said that the Council had not met other promises made.

11. Baldernock Community Development Trust

David informed that information about the Trust had now been put on the Baldernock website

12. Association of East Dunbartonshire Community Councils

Anne MacNair said that there was nothing to report.

AOCB

Celia informed that there was an Art Exhibition in Milngavie Town Hall until Saturday 14th March.