



## **BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL INAUGURAL MEETING**

### **ADOPTED MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6 MARCH 2014 IN BALFRON CAMPUS**

**Present: Community Councillors:** Colin Cameron: Alison Lamont Chalmers: Laura Elder:  
Sandrine Gardner: Ann Johnston: Dave McGowan: Bill Noblett: Mary Young

Also present Pam Campbell, Stirling Council: Sandy Shearlaw: Kieran McHale

**Apologies:** John Nicholson: Cllr. Alistair Berrill: Cllr. Graham Lambie: Cllr. Ian Muirhead:  
PC Ailsa Brough (Community Constable)

#### **1 Welcome**

Pam welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave the Councillors' apologies

#### **2 Announcement of Returned Members**

Pam announced returned members: Mr David McGowan; Mr Colin Cameron; Ms Alison Lamont Chalmers; Mr William Noblett; Mrs Ann Johnston; Ms Sandrine Gardner; Ms Laura Elder; Mr John Nicolson: Mrs Mary Young

#### **3 Information Exchange**

Pam provided copies of the Scheme of Establishment; Model Standing Orders; Code of Conduct; 2001 census demographics of community. Information on the election process for the Community Council and financial procedures were discussed.

#### **4 Election of Office Bearers**

The following office bearers were duly elected.

**Chairperson:** Colin Cameron Proposed by Mary Young Seconded by Laura Elder

**Vice-Chair:** Mary Young Proposed by Ann Johnston Seconded by Sandrine Gardner

**Secretary:** Ann Johnston Proposed by Mary Young Seconded by Alison Lamont Chalmers

**Treasurer:** William Noblett Proposed by Laura Elder Seconded by Ann Johnston



**Planning/Licensing Correspondent:** Mary Young Proposed by Ann Johnston Seconded by Alison Lamont Chalmers

## **5 Meetings for 2014**

It was decided to keep to the first Thursday of each month with the exception of July and August. The dates will be: 3rd April: 8th May: 5th June (AGM followed by ordinary meeting): 4th September: 9th October: 6th November: 4th December

## **6 Adoption of Constitution:** Balfon CC adopted the Constitution

## **7 Meeting was Passed to the Chair, Mr Colin Cameron**

Colin thanked all the members for standing for election to the CC and stated that it was an important step forward for the community. He hoped that the CC would build a creative and positive relationship with the village and that members would enjoy and learn from the experience. He thanked Jim Thomson for his gift of an adhesive letter B to replace the one missing from the sign at the entrance to the village. Mary stressed the importance of having a properly constructed, communicative and inclusive organisation to deal with village issues.

## **8 Co-Option of Members**

The participation of young residents in the work of the CC was discussed. Kieran McHale who attended the meeting is one of four people who approached the Communities Team expressing an interest in the CC. Pam will contact the other three and advise them of the date of the next meeting. **Action – to be taken forward at next meeting.**

## **9 Communications**

Colin advised that he now has control of the CC's facebook page and the e-mail account [balfoncc@hotmail.com](mailto:balfoncc@hotmail.com). Concerns were raised about advertising on the CC sites. Pam suggested that the CC web-site should have a link to sites with information about the prevention of child exploitation and cyber bullying. **Action - Pam to check other CCs' policy on advertising. Access to sites to be discussed at next meeting.**

## **10 Balfon 2014**

Ann gave details of the Balfon 2014 request for funding from the Community Pride Fund for the WW1 commemoration event. The CC voted to support the application. **Action –Ann to submit application**



## **11 Police Report (read by Mary)**

We have had 8 reported crimes since the start of the year – two thefts, two road traffic offences, two vandalisms, a fraud and an assault. Of these, the assault and one of the road traffic offences were both perpetrated by the same individual who has been charged. Both vandalisms and thefts involved school pupils, those responsible have been charged for one of the thefts and one of the vandalisms and enquiries continue in to the others. The fraud was an internet based fraud which was perpetuated in Poland and the other road traffic offence was use of a mobile phone for which an individual has been charged.

I know the ATM devices were a source of concern locally and we have not had any further crimes committed in this area since three individuals were caught and charged but I would urge the community to remain vigilant and report anything suspicious to Police. There have also been a few housebreakings in the wider area and I would again ask everyone to call in if they have any concerns.

After liaison with the council and the Co-op the car park is finally being resurfaced and whilst this has caused short term inconvenience I would hope it brings long term benefits to all users as parking remains an issue in Balfon and I would make a personal plea to residents not to park on double yellow lines, particularly in the area of the bank as this causes major problems, especially from a safety aspect and with the school buses. Thank you.

## **12 Councillor's Report from Graham Lambie (read by Mary)**

Apologies for not being able to attend Balfon CC tonight. I have to attend the Education Committee meeting. I'm the shadow education portfolio holder and will be required to vote at the meeting. I've asked Ian if he can substitute for me.

At the recent council budget meeting most of the Stop/Reduce items were not approved by the Administration. These include – Fintry Nursery Closure, Library Review, and what looks like, all of the bin collection measures.

This does not mean that these will go away – there is every chance that officers will be asked to look at these again in the next 4 to 5 years over the duration of the PBB.

I've asked if the PBB can be a standing agenda at the Forum and I know that some CCs will be including PBB in their agendas.

I was very relieved that Len's position is safe and as long as there is no change to the crossing I would hope he would remain safe.

I'm still to find out exactly what the final car park layout will look like. If the layout isn't working could you let me know asap. I asked PC Murphy to look at the car park during the recent works and his input will be invaluable if the car park is not what we are looking for.

He was very helpful at a site visit in Kippen where we persuaded the roads officers to remove newly installed 40 mpg signs and replace them with the original, and safer 30 mph signs.



I checked the recent works on the A875 at Boquhan and much of the lining etc. requested at the Petitions Panel held in the McClintock Hall last year, has been done. The mph signs on the road still have to be painted in, unless they have done this week.

One other issue on the radar is the local office – there have been rumours about merging some local office services with other council services e.g. libraries. I've not heard anything specific about Balfon but it would be good as part of the PBB to look at ways we could enhance the services at the local office. For example if we were to build onto the back of the building could we create some additional business space for rental etc.

### **13 Funding For CC**

Pam confirmed that a supplementary administration grant was available to fund a Minutes secretary and that if extra meetings were required to deal with key issues extra funding may be available.

### **14 Closing Statement**

Colin asked that the CC think of its vision, ideas for events and long term plans for the village.

He expressed the CC's thanks to Pam Campbell for handling the inauguration, to the previous CC under the chairmanship of Paul Henke and to Sandy Shearlaw for his many years of service to the community.

**The Meeting closed at 9.15pm**

**Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 3 April, 7.30 at Balfon Campus**