



## BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4 JUNE 2015 IN BALFRON CAMPUS DRAFT MINUTES

**Present:** Colin Cameron (Chair), Laura Elder, Alison Lamont Chalmers, David McGowan, John Nicholson, Bill Noblett, Kieran McHale

**In Attendance:** Elaine Bannatyne (Balftron High School), Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), Councillor Graham Lambie, Carsten Mandt (minutes), PC Truman (Police Scotland)

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

No apologies were received for the meeting.

#### 2. Minutes of Previous meeting 7 May 2015

Bill Noblett proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Laura Elder.

#### 3. Matters Arising

**3.1.** Colin Cameron has been liaising with Tim Craig to confirm a date for felling the Tontine spruce. Laura Elder has received an offer from CDL Ltd to carry out the electrical works required free of charge, provided BCC can arrange the disconnection and reconnection of supply with Scottish and Southern Energy. It was agreed to proceed on that basis, pending the outcome of financial negotiations with SSE. BCC approved the submission of a grant application to cover any resulting costs. Pam Campbell reiterated that Stirling Council will cover the cost of the replacement tree.

**Action:** Laura to contact SSE and CDL Ltd. Bill to activate a relevant grant application.

#### 3.2. Additional Item

Elaine Bannatyne flagged up a funding opportunity for up to £5,000 through Education Scotland which she proposed to apply for to help with the purchase of outdoor gym equipment at the High School. She proposed to work on a joint bid with BCC to cover the full cost of £13,000. Bill Noblett suggested that Community Futures may be better placed to help with such a proposal. Pam Campbell mentioned that the Parent Council can also apply to Awards for All in their own right.

**Action:** Elaine Bannatyne to liaise with the Parent Council and Community Futures.

#### 4. Police Report

**4.1.** A Police report was received from PC Truman. He highlighted recent cases of vandalism, drug misuse and traffic offences. He particularly highlighted the potential value of dashboard cameras in providing evidence of dangerous driving. Significant Police activity is also ongoing to deter and detect theft and house break-ins.

**4.2.** From mid-June Police Scotland will start their summer drink driving campaign. PC Truman highlighted the new lower limit and the Police's zero tolerance approach taken to drink driving.

**4.3.** Cllr Lambie asked if the Smartwater Scheme was due to be extended beyond Killearn where it is currently being piloted. PC Truman will query this with senior colleagues.

- 4.4. Bill highlighted road safety concerns at the Clachan, turning into Station Road. PC Truman will flag this up to traffic management for investigation. Colin said this should also be taken up with Stirling Council's roads department.
- 4.5. Laura noted continuing issues with parking on the double yellow lines opposite the bank.

## 5. Councillor's report

- 5.1. Councillor Lambie presented an update report. He highlighted in particular:
- the reduction in SC's roads budget and the challenges for the road maintenance plans
  - an upcoming road closure in Strathblane in August
  - residents can receive automatic updates about road closures by signing up to the My Stirling account: [my.stirling.gov.uk](http://my.stirling.gov.uk)
  - Funding may be available for Stirling Council to assist with landscaping at Barnwell Drive
  - Flooding at the Haven SUDS is being followed up with SEPA and Scottish Water
  - Local government boundary changes have been proposed extending the Forth and Endrick ward to include Cambusbarron. This proposal has no majority backing in Stirling Council.
  - Planning consent was refused for the proposed Craigton and Spittalhill windfarm
  - Land services are supportive of the request to install self-closing gates in Donaldson Park.
- 5.2. David McGowan queried the progress with the Scottish Water works on the Fintry road, highlighting the significant and prolonged difficulties for Fintry residents to access local amenities in Balfron. Cllr Lambie confirmed that there are strict timescales for completion of these works and penalties will apply if these deadlines are not met.

## 6. Treasurer's report

Bill informed the group of:

- the receipt of the Community Pride Fund grant of £400 for the Balfron Bash.
- the payment of £325 to Webreturn for the website construction, following receipt of the Connect Fund grant of £462. The balance will be used to promote the website in the community.
- the sum raised at Balfron in Bloom's Coffee Morning - £460.75 - which has been deposited in the BCC bank account.

Bill Noblett asked the group to consider putting in an application for Community Pride Funding for the cost of promotion of the manufacture of the road signs to potential sponsors since this will incur a significant cost in the preparation of promotional materials. This was agreed.

## 7. Design-a-Sign Sponsorship

Colin updated the group on progress with the revised quotations, which have significantly reduced the cost for the signs. Discussions about funding support are ongoing with First Bus and the Strathendrick Rotary Club. Bill said the Paul Charitable Trust are also interested in supporting the project. Fundraising options at the Balfron Bash were discussed. Handprints were agreed as the main fundraising activity for the Balfron Bash. Bill noted that there are also opportunities to generate income from some of the other activities at the Bash, e.g. the inflatable. He pointed out there are significant printing costs emerging from the marketing of the sponsorship options. BCC approved this as an appropriate case for a grant application. **Action:** Laura, Bill and Kieran to plan and execute ideas. Bill to lodge grant application.

## **8. Balfroon Bash**

Colin updated the group on the progress made on the planning of this event. The next planning meeting will be held on 16 June. Staging has now been secured.

## **9. Planning and Correspondence**

- 9.1.** Section 75 funding: John Nicholson updated the group on recent discussions regarding the play park in Donaldson Park. Urgent repairs are required to the roundabout. All responsibility for the upkeep or development of the play park rests with Stirling Council. **Action:** Pam Campbell will follow this up with relevant colleagues. The section 75 money from the Cala developments will need to be spent within 7 years. A community consultation on how best to spend the funds will be undertaken. There is also scope to apply for match funding to increase the overall funds available.
- 9.2.** Stirling Council Communication Test Sites: The exact nature of the test is currently unclear and Colin is awaiting further information.
- 9.3.** Rural South West Forum: Alison Lamont Chalmers fed back on the most recent Rural South West Forum meeting. The main issue discussed was Stirling Council's Priority Based Budgeting, which will move to quarterly rather than annual meetings. Community Councils will be asked to comment regularly on proposals made in the Priority Based Budgeting programme. Current proposals include decriminalising car parking offenses and the establishment of a bulk fuel tank for Stirling Council vehicles at Lower Polmaise.
- 9.4.** A public consultation by Stirling Council on wind energy is currently open. A BCC response is due to be submitted by 6 July.
- 9.5.** No further update has been received yet on the replacement bus shelter.
- 9.6.** An enquiry regarding the right of way status of the land between 13 and 15 Buchanan Street was received. **Action:** John Nicholson will make enquiries for further detail.

## **10. Business from the Floor**

None.

## **11. Any Other Business**

- 11.1.** Colin reiterated that the new BCC website is now live at [www.balfrooncc.org.uk](http://www.balfrooncc.org.uk).
- 11.2.** An exploratory meeting with Stirling Council regarding Shared Space is being held on Tuesday 9 June. Colin will extend an invitation to both Parent Councils.
- 11.3.** Bill updated the group on the Donaldson Trust AGM. Sycamore and ash saplings are available from the Trust. Plans are being progressed to improve the car park and paths in Donaldson Park.
- 11.4.** It was suggested that Stirling Council should re-paint the speed bumps in Spoker's Loan, which are currently very difficult to see.
- 11.5.** Bill highlighted the upcoming Incredible Edibles meeting on 11 June.
- 11.6.** It was agreed that the auditor's fee for the BCC accounts be donated to Balfroon Rovers.

- 12. Date of next meeting: Thursday 6 August 2015, 7.30pm**  
**McLintock Hall (NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE)**