



MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3 MARCH 2016 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Colin Cameron (Chair), David Dougans, Laura Elder, Alison Lamont Chalmers, David McGowan, Bill Noblett, Christine Wilson, Stuart Youens, Carsten Mandt (minutes)

In Attendance: Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), Willie Dunn (Stirling Council), Marion Prescott (Stirling Council), Andrea Gabriel, Jan Macdonald, George Brown, Councillor Ian Muirhead

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from PC Raymond Murphy, John Nicholson and Amanda Quinn. Colin Cameron welcomed the newly elected BCC members.

2. Minutes of Previous meeting 4 February 2016

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

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1. No update has been received on the proposal to move Balfyon Library to the lower floor of the local office.
- 3.2. Stirling Council legal department has advised that there is no stipulation in the land donation for the Strathendrick Care Home site that it would always be used for local residential care provision. It was suggested to request the legal documents to be scrutinised to clarify this.
ACTION: Pam Campbell
- 3.3. Colin attended a site inspection of the Haven SUDS by Scottish Water and Stirling Rural Housing Association. Given its current condition, any reinstatement works are likely to require substantial funding. We await the result of the inspection before agreeing next steps.
- 3.4. A new noticeboard has been acquired to replace the one outside Doyle's. Christine Wilson agreed to have it installed. **ACTION: Bill, Christine**
- 3.5. Following the Co-op's decision to create two new disabled spaces in the car park Colin contacted Stirling Council to ask to repurpose two of the original disabled spaces as six disabled spaces seems excessive for a car park of this size. No response has yet been received. **ACTION: Pam**

4. Police Report

BCC noted a written report submitted by PC Stephen Graham.

5. Councillor's Report

- 5.1. Cllr Muirhead informed BCC that Stirling Council are keen to address issues in areas where the roll out of fibre optic broadband is delayed or the expected benefits are not realised. Capital funding is available to help address issues.

- 5.2. The Council budget was agreed on 25 Feb. A number of savings proposals have been dropped following community feedback, including reductions in specialist PE and music teachers, the increase in music tuition fees, and nursery snack charges.
- 5.3. The service re-design for waste and recycling will see a shift towards a 7-day working pattern. A new fleet of smaller rear-loading lorries will be introduced as existing vehicles reach the end of their life. The new service will also include changes to the bins and recycling boxes. It was agreed to discuss this again at a future meeting when Stirling Council officers could update BCC in more detail.
- 5.4. Cllr Muirhead highlighted ongoing discussions about a planning application for 600 homes near Bridge of Allan. Whilst not directly relevant to the Balfron area, a development of that size would be significant for the whole council area.
- 5.5. Bus consultation information is being collated. Discussions with providers of subsidised bus services are ongoing.
- 5.6. Laura queried the budget provision for new affordable housing in the Balfron area. She pointed out the currently unmet need of larger families as affordable house building has been prioritising smaller 1 and 2-bed properties. It was noted that there are currently no further plans for housing development in Balfron in the Local Development Plan.

6. Treasurer's Report

- 6.1. Cheques from both the Co-operative Foundation and the Paul Charitable Trust towards the cost of the road signs have now been received.
- 6.2. Stirling Council funding towards the signs will be awarded in full to BCC to process the payments, which will be liable to VAT. The funding provided will be sufficient to cover VAT costs.
- 6.3. Bill Noblett made an enquiry to Keegan & Pennykidd about insuring the road signs and has received a quote for a premium of £61 per annum. Pam Campbell suggested that the Stirling Council contribution towards the cost of the village signs was agreed to also cover insurance costs.
- 6.4. The application for a Community Pride Fund grant on behalf of Incredible Edibles was submitted. This will not be discussed until the April funding meeting since BCC received last year's grant in this financial year (despite applying for it earlier) and therefore cannot technically apply for a new grant until the new financial year.
- 6.5. Bill Noblett asked if there was support to use Connect Fund money to promote the Balfron in Bloom coffee morning. This was agreed. It was noted, with thanks, that Stirling Low Carbon Futures have agreed to provide 10 planters for Balfron in Bloom.

7. Dog Fouling Update

- 7.1. Colin informed BCC that the Primary School has agreed to help develop a poster campaign. The High School is also supportive of a campaign. Stuart Youens will speak to Elaine Bannatyne about the nature of their involvement.
- 7.2. Willie Dunn and Marion Prescott, Stirling Council Enforcement Officers, explained what actions Stirling Council is taking with regards to dog fouling. The Council is increasingly looking at a zero tolerance approach to enforcement. The plan is to have an increased presence in the community to establish a clearer picture on where and when dog fouling takes place, and to educate and, if need be, fine, irresponsible dog owners. Enforcement officers will be in Balfron for 2 days a week. All enforcement officers (18 across Stirling Council area) will be able to issue fixed penalty notices regarding dog fouling, littering, fly tipping, decriminalised car parking and a range of other anti-

social behaviour issues. Resources are being made available to help communities raise awareness about dog fouling issues.

- 7.3. George Brown highlighted a concern over the litter created when the recycling boxes are emptied. Frequently papers, bottles or tins fall off and are not picked up by the crews.
- 7.4. Car parking enforcement was raised, in particular at the Co-op car park. Pam Campbell explained that enforcement action at the Co-op car park would require a parking time limit being in place. Currently vehicles can park in the car park indefinitely. Any such limit would need to be requested by the community, following a period of consultation. A time limit may create difficulties for local residents who do not have on-street car parking readily available and therefore use the Co-op car park for residential parking.

8. Planning and Correspondence

- 9.1. Carsten Mandt updated the group on plans for a wider community consultation on transport related issues and potential solutions. This will form the basis of any further work around 'shared space' ideas for the village. Consultation will aim to use a variety of ways of engaging with as many people in Balfon as possible, with the intention of concluding the consultation by the start of the summer holidays. Pam noted that Stirling Council now has 3D printing available for community use. She will send details. As a test site for Shared Space, there may be scope for BCC to access that resource free of charge. **ACTION: Pam**
- 9.2. Bill attended a recent meeting about the provision of residential care. Strathendrick care home is secure but changes to the care sector in general are required to ensure it is sustainable. The focus is moving towards intermediate care and care in the person's own home. A further meeting is scheduled for 26 March.
- 9.3. Colin said a site visit is being arranged with the designer, Stirling Council roads department and the manufacturer to finalise details of the new village road signs before construction.
- 9.4. Balfon Community Futures Development Trust has rebranded as Balfon Development Trust. Following Kieran McHale's departure from BCC, there is no longer a BCC nominated director. Colin asked BCC members for a volunteer to take this up. The Trust has submitted a Climate Challenge Fund application to promote reduced car use in Balfon. A clean-up of the Camoqhill path is planned for 12 March and a clean-up of Dunkeld Woods for 19 March.
- 9.5. Colin highlighted that the Balfon 10k on 24 April will be the 10th anniversary race. After this year's race Nigel Johnston will take over as the new race director. The committee are looking at a variety of ways of developing the event.
- 9.6. The next Balfon Bash planning meeting will be held on April 26th.

9. Business from the Floor

Andrea Gabriel updated on Incredible Edibles plans for 2016:

- Parts of the primary school playground suffer from ongoing problem with mud. These problem areas will be turned into growing areas with 12 raised beds, fruit trees, border of wild flowers. This project is supported by Stirling Low Carbon Future Trust, the Parent Council and Calum Gordon. Building work is scheduled for 12 March and volunteers will be needed to help.
- The beekeeping workshop was well attended. It is unclear as yet if a community beehive might be feasible.

- Incredible Edibles are in discussions to take on additional spaces at the Police station and the library.

There is as yet no movement to install self-closing gates at the play park. Pam Campbell confirmed that in order to resolve this quickly a funding application has to be submitted by the Donaldson Trust as Stirling Council are currently not in a position to take this on. However, Stirling Council are committed long term to take on the management of the play park once the required works under the planning agreement with Cala Homes have been carried out. **ACTION: Bill, Pam**

10. Any Other Business

Colin noted that Tom Jackson has Community Council-owned ladders in his garage and would like them moved. **ACTION: Bill, Colin**

11. Date of next meeting

Thursday 7 April 2016, 7.30pm, Balfron Campus