



BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7 APRIL 2016 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Colin Cameron (Chair), Laura Elder, Alison Lamont Chalmers, David McGowan, John Nicholson, Bill Noblett, Amanda Quinn, Carsten Mandt (minutes)

In Attendance: Louise Barker (MECS), Brenda McGuckin (MECS), Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), Morven Linter, Janet Rutherford

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Alistair Berrill, PC Raymond Murphy, David Dougans, Christine Wilson and Stuart Youens.

2. Minutes of Previous meeting 3 March 2016

Bill Noblett proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Alison Lamont Chalmers.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1. Stirling Council legal department has advised that there are no constraints in the title deeds of the Strathendrick Care Home pertaining to its future use.
- 3.2. The area at the Haven SUDS has been cleared. Further detail on the work to be carried out by Scottish Water is yet to be confirmed. A small patch of Japanese Knotweed was identified which will need treatment.
- 3.3. The new BCC noticeboard has been installed outside Doyle's. Colin thanked Christine and Derek Townsend for their work.
- 3.4. No response has yet been received regarding disabled parking at the Co-op.
- 3.5. The Primary School will finish their dog fouling poster design competition on 22 April.
- 3.6. Amanda Quinn has produced communications materials to promote the Balftron in Bloom coffee morning.
- 3.7. BCC has nominated Amanda Quinn as a Director of Balftron Development Trust.
- 3.8. The Community Council ladders have been moved to the 'bunker' for future availability.

4. Police Report

BCC noted a written report submitted by PC Stephen Graham.

5. Mobile Emergency Care Services

Louise Barker and Brenda McGuckin explained the Mobile Emergency Care Service (MECS) in the Stirling area. The service has 2 responders for the council area during the day and 3 responders at night. MECS is funded by Stirling Council. Access is means-tested and users are liable to pay a small monthly standing charge for the alarm equipment. Access to MECS is via GPs, District Nurses, Social Work or the Fire Service. At the moment, self-referral is not possible but this is being explored. It was agreed that

further publicity of the service would be helpful as there are likely to be a number of suitable clients in Balfron who have not already been referred by their GP, social work or other care provider.

In the short term the service is looking for community ambassadors to raise awareness of MECS and support MECS users in the local community. Long term, the service is keen to build up a volunteer responder service to increase capacity to respond to calls, especially in more remote rural communities such as Balfron.

Both Louise and Brenda were thanked for their illuminating contribution, and MECS were invited to have a stall at the Balfron Bash on 20 August 2016.

6. Councillor's Report

As no elected member was available to attend the meeting, there was no Councillor's report.

7. Treasurer's Report

- 7.1. Bill Noblett informed the group that another events shelter has been purchased for BCC use.
- 7.2. A bid was submitted to Awards for All for £9,655 to purchase a staging system for the Balfron Bash and future community events.
- 7.3. It was agreed that a Community Pride grant be sought for this year's Balfron Bash.

8. Planning and Correspondence

- 8.1. A bus shelter has now been installed at the Co-op car park. Colin thanked John Nicholson for progressing this.
- 8.2. The new village signs will be installed w/c 18 April 2016 at Printers Row, Station Road, and The Clachan Oak. The Roman Road installation will be postponed until the new roundabout has been constructed (see 8.3). Laura will supervise the site installation in Colin's absence. An unveiling ceremony is planned for Sat 30 April at 11am. **ACTION: Colin/Laura/Alison**
- 8.3. Cala Homes have released revised plans for the Kiltrochan Drive development. This will include a new roundabout to be constructed at the Dunmore St/Roman Rd junction which will require a significant re-alignment of the road. Work is intended to begin on 2 May 2016. There was a discussion about traffic calming and pedestrian safety, particularly with reference to Safer Routes to School.
- 8.4. Colin raised the lack of apparent action over the future use of 'The Bunker'. It is now almost a year since this was first agreed with Stirling Council but there is no sign of progress. Pam Campbell said SC is seeking a note of interest from other businesses before proceeding. BCC urged some action. **ACTION: Pam Campbell**
- 8.5. A new refuse / recycling regime will be introduced in September 2016, as previously announced at the Community Conversations. This will be a four-bin system with collection of recycling and waste on a two-weekly collection schedule. A full communication strategy with communities is planned. BCC decided to ask Stirling Council to provide a stall at the Balfron Bash to raise awareness of the new system. **ACTION: Pam**
- 8.6. A letter from Councillor Benny, chair of broadband advisory group, was received, asking for BCC representation at a meeting on 21 April. Bill agreed to attend. **ACTION: Bill Noblett**
- 8.7. A public drop-in event about a proposed re-development of the Killearn Hospital site will be held at Killearn village hall on 16 May, 12-2pm and 6-8pm.
- 8.8. Alison Lamont Chalmers and Viv Casteel of BFT will compile a new directory of local community organisations. **ACTION: Alison Lamont Chalmers**

8.9. Carsten Mandt updated the group on plans for the consultation on transport related issues and potential solutions. Consultation will include a community survey; direct engagement with local community organisations and residents; and a consultation event at the High School. The intention is to complete the consultation before the start of the summer holidays. Carsten and Pam will liaise regarding Stirling Council support for the consultation. **ACTION: Carsten/Pam**

9. Donaldson Park Update

9.1. Donaldson Trust are now satisfied with Stirling Council's reassurance over responsibility for maintaining the play park fence. This allows the installation of the self-closing gate to proceed. A funding application has been submitted for the self-closing gates.

9.2. The Section 75 money from the Cala housing developments for play facilities in Balfron is now available. There are opportunities to attract further match funding for this. The community will be consulted on how best to use these funds. **ACTION: Bill Noblett/John Nicholson**

9.3. Both the BCC and Donaldson Park Trust support the proposal for a Friends of the Park initiative. The first action should be a park clean up. **ACTION: Amanda Quinn**

10. Balfron in Bloom Update

10.1. New planters are being provided courtesy Stirling Low Carbon Futures. Additional locations for planters are being identified. A question was raised regarding rose bushes that have recently been replaced by shrubs in Buchanan St. Pam will clarify the reasons for this. **ACTION: Pam**

10.2. Bill said funding is available to buy shrubs for the bed across from the Coach House Inn and other beds throughout the village. BCC agreed to proceed with a funding application. **ACTION: Bill**

10.3. Bill also pointed out that the beds underneath the trees outside the chemist should be re-planted. The existing shrubs need to be cleared first to then re-plant. Bill will approach Land Services. **ACTION: Bill**

10.4. Laura Elder and David Dougans will lead on sourcing a new permanent Christmas tree. Stirling Council have agreed to fund this. Costings and plans for the most suitable tree and landscaping of the site need to be submitted. **ACTION: Laura/David Dougans**

10.5. The Clachan Oak is in need of maintenance. Colin will approach Tim Craig who has worked on the tree before. The Woodland Trust was suggested as a potential funding source. **ACTION: Colin**

11. Business from the Floor

None.

12. Any Other Business

12.1. David McGowan enquired about the removal of chewing gum on the pavement at the new bus shelter outside the Co-op car park.

12.2. Bill noted that Clackmannanshire and Falkirk Lottery Association has been approached to fund another event shelter.

12.3. He also highlighted that funding is available from Tesco for community green space projects. The deadline for submissions is October. The group was invited to generate ideas for potential projects.

13. Date of next meeting:

**Thursday 5 May 2016, 7.30pm, Balfron Campus
Election Day – make sure you get out and vote
– before or after coming to the meeting!**

**Colin Cameron, Chair, will be in Doyle's
on Thurs 5 May from 1030-1130
to meet anyone who can't make the evening meeting and has
matters they want to raise.**

**www.balfroncc.org.uk
or follow us on Facebook**