



## MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2 MARCH 2017 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

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

**In Attendance:** Jim Burns, Pat Thomson, Gregor Stewart, Danielle Courtney, Ian Denvir (Stirling Council)

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Fraser Allan, Cllr Ian Muirhead, John Nicholson, Janet Rutherford and Police Scotland.

### 2. Minutes of Previous meeting 2 February 2017

Pat Thomson proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Stuart Youens.

### 3. Matters Arising

- 3.1. Ian Denvir confirmed that there was no urgency to move out of the bunker site as it could continue to be used for storage until alternative accommodation has been identified.
- 3.2. Colin Cameron reported that he had raised parking at the McLintock Hall with the Police although it was noted by BCC that the situation had not improved since the last meeting.
- 3.3. It was confirmed that there would be two road closures before and after the school summer holidays to carry out the repairs on the Ballat Aquaduct. The road will be shut for a total of 16 weeks.
- 3.4. Colin reported that Stirling Council had responded to his letter raising concerns about the current provision of public transport in the area. He was not happy with the quality of the response. It was noted that public transport was on the agenda at the 2 March 2017 Stirling Council meeting.

### 4. Police Report

BCC noted a written report submitted by Police Scotland. Colin agreed to raise a number of issues with the Police: car parking at the McLintock Hall; speeding in the village; and the lack of a visible police presence in the village. It was agreed to invite a senior officer to a future BCC meeting to raise ongoing issues and the continued lack of police attendance at BCC meetings. **ACTION: CC**

## **5. Playpark**

Christine Wilson fed back on responses to the playpark consultation. Park neighbours were consulted and had given broadly positive feedback although concerns over noise levels were raised. A proposal was made that there would be sufficient space in the park to plant additional trees which could act as further shielding. Access to the park from Spoker's Loan was raised repeatedly in the consultation responses, highlighting the need to make it safer and more visible. Feedback also identified a skate park as an unmet need. However, given the significant cost implications of building and maintaining a skate park, this was not perceived to be a priority at the moment.

Bill Noblett updated the group on progress with funding. A base budget of £40,000 had been set with potential suppliers.

Additional seating in the park was also discussed. Christine informed the group about options to install similar benches to those in the national park, which have proven to be resistant to vandalism and wear and tear.

## **6. A Space for Living**

Colin presented the transport and access working group's report. This pulls together the key findings of the transport consultation and lays out a set of core principles that should underpin any proposed works to address the issues identified in the report. It was reiterated that a crucial consideration for any future developments must be to avoid piecemeal solutions. The next steps are to disseminate the report to relevant stakeholders to begin the process of engaging with other parties to develop tangible solutions. A community meeting will be called for 21 March. **ACTION: CC** Ian Denvir suggested the report should be formally adopted as the community Action Plan. This will form a mandate to take back to Stirling Council. This will be done at the next meeting.

## **7. Greek Thomson Bicentenary**

Pat Thomson highlighted the range of activities due to take place throughout April as part of the Greek Thomson celebrations. Programmes would be available from next Thursday, 9 March 2017.

## **8. Councillor's Report**

Cllr Muirhead submitted a written report, highlighting ongoing discussions within Stirling Council about the provision of bus services to rural areas, as well as key areas of further investment within the 2017/18 Council budget.

## **9. Treasurer's Report**

Bill mentioned that the Community Pride Fund had awarded £1,500 to BCC for the Greek Thomson celebrations.

## **10. Planning and Correspondence**

Colin noted that the latest BCC newsletter had been distributed. Many households had however not received a copy. The possibility of distribution through the post office was discussed. Pat queried if a hard copy newsletter was necessary given the online presence of BCC on Facebook. Colin pointed out that while Facebook membership was not necessary to be able to read the information on the BCC Facebook page, an annual newsletter to inform those who have no internet access was still useful. Colin thanked Bill for the production of the newsletter, and the Guides for its distribution.

**11. Business from the Floor**

Jim Burns mentioned that the new timetable for First Buses, launching on Monday 6 March 2017, would not include the school journeys. This was done in order to make the timetable clearer and easier to read. Copies of the new timetable were distributed.

Anti-social behaviour issues in relation to council properties were raised. Potential avenues with Stirling Council and the Police to address these issues were explored and BCC agreed to liaise with Stirling Council to support affected parties.

**12. Any Other Business**

None.

**13. Date of next meeting:**

**NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND LOCATION**  
**Wednesday 5 April 2017, 7.30pm, McLintock Hall**