



## MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2017 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

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

**In Attendance:** Ian Denvir (Stirling Council), Cllr Rob Davies (Stirling Council), Tracey Patrick (Balfroon High School), Janet Rutherford (Balfroon in Bloom)

### 1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Apologies were received from Laura Elder, John Nicholson, David Dougans, Viv Casteel, Lee Rooney, Evelyn Kelly, and Police Scotland.

### 2. **Minutes of Previous meeting 3 August 2017**

Bill Noblett proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Fraser Allan.

### 3. **Matters Arising**

- Fraser fed back that an electric vehicle charging station for Balfroon was on the list for next tranche of funding (2018/19).
- Ian Denvir had raised the paths around the church with David Crichton but was still awaiting a response.
- Colin noted that the information on the Stirling Council website regarding the fines for dog fouling was inconsistent, and asked Ian to pursue this.
- Christine Wilson and Bill explained that the deadline for the play park tenders was 4 September. The submissions were being reviewed by Stirling Council and decision was expected shortly.

### 4. **Police Report**

BCC noted a written report by Police Scotland (see Appendix 1).

### 5. **Councillor's Report**

Councillor Davies provided a verbal update on recent developments within Stirling Council. At this point the main focus of work has been on establishing the new administration and restarting the various Stirling Council committees following the recent elections.

He noted the ongoing complexity and slow progress with the rollout of fast broadband, in particular in rural areas.

### 6. **Chair's Report**

- Colin reported that the Balfroon Bash had to be cancelled due to the adverse weather and ground conditions. BCC incurred late cancellation fees which would be covered by the Stirling Council Community Pride Fund grant for the Bash. Options for other dates or

locations were discussed to mitigate against some of the risks for future cancellations. Bill queried if cancellation decisions could be taken earlier in future to minimise any cancellation fees that may be due. Janet Rutherford suggested that stallholders might be willing to pay a £10 stand fee, similar to other village events in the area. This could contribute towards build up greater financial reserves for the Bash.

- Colin noted that a third Space for Living meeting with Stirling Council was scheduled for Saturday 9 September. This would focus on drafting the design specification for external consultants to develop plans for the Buchanan Street spine.
- The roundabout at the new Roman Road development was discussed. A proposal had been made to increase the central circle size and improve landscaping as long as the community could commit to ongoing maintenance. Balfron in Bloom and Incredible Edibles were supportive but early feedback from Stirling Council and Cala was muted with regards to changing the design and size of the roundabout itself.
- Progress is now under way with the new planters outside the Library.
- Colin mentioned that Lee Rooney had advised of progress with the business hub proposal. Stirling Council is supportive of the idea and Lee has submitted various options for how the depot site could be developed.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

Bill Noblett provided an update report on BCC finances:

- He asked for agreement to submit an application for a Community Pride Fund grant to cover the cost of refreshments at this year's Christmas lights switching-on. This was agreed. It was also agreed to include in the bid the cost of installations of an appropriate power point for power for the tree outside the Library. Laura will liaise with CDL Electrical.
- Thanks to Scott Townsend for his work on cleaning up the War Memorial. Christine agreed to take forward future discussions with the War Memorial Trust with regard to best way forward - Stirling Council had indicated that the memorial was within the village Conservation Area, and therefore certain ways of working would have to be followed. It was agreed to donate a small reward to Scott for the work he had undertaken, on his own initiative, on behalf of the Community.
- It was agreed to recompense Robert Reid for equipment damaged during the construction of the new community staging.

## **8. Planning and Correspondence**

- Colin noted a letter from Stephen Kerr MP introducing himself and his office.
- The next Rural Southwest Area Forum will take place at Balfron High School on Mon 18 September.
- It was noted that some parts of the village had recently reported muddy tasting water. Scottish Water had explained that this was due to a bacterial infestation in some of the water supply, which was affecting the taste of the water. They stressed that the water was still safe to drink. The effect was reported to be receding.

- The Ballat bridge closure from Monday 18 September for three months was highlighted again. Concerns were raised about the lack of priority road markings on the dangerous bend at Easter Balfunning. Cllr. Davies agreed to pursue this with Stirling Council.
- A local resident continues to raise concerns about the blocked pathway between Endrick Gardens and Buchanan Street due to extended building works on the neighbouring plot. Cllr. Davies agreed to raise this with the landowner responsible in the first instance.
- It was noted that Stirling Council had approved a new housing development in Killlearn for 40 houses, 12 of which would be social housing.

#### **9. Business from the Floor**

Tracey Patrick said that community prefects had been appointed from the High School student body, including two for Balfron (Ruby Gray and Lewis Hammond). The community prefects would act as a link between Balfron High School and the various area community councils. It was agreed to invite Ruby and Lewis to attend the next BCC meeting.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

Stuart Youens passed on parents' concerns regarding an overgrowing hedgerow in Roman Road, which was impacting on the safe route to school.

#### **11. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 5 October 2017, 7.30pm, Balfron Campus.

# Police Service of Scotland

## Community Council Report



**Community Council:**

Forth and Endrick, Balforn Community Council

**Reporting Period:**

September 2017    Compiled by PC Steven Graham

**Ward Plan Priorities**

### **Antisocial Behaviour**

A further 2 calls to the flats in Buchanan Street, Balforn. No major issues however this will continue to be monitored and liaison continued with Stirling Council.

In the early hours on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August there was an anonymous report of youths drinking in Buchanan Street, Balforn. No trace on police arrival.

Between 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August bricks from the edge of a garden was removed from a garden in Donaldson Way, Balforn.

On 28<sup>th</sup> September staff in the chemist reported damage to the window on the door of the premises, It is unclear how this has occurred however it does not seem to be an attempt to break into premises. Enquiries are still ongoing with regards to these however should anyone have any information then please contact Police or CrimeStoppers.

On 4<sup>th</sup> September a call was received of loud music coming from a house in Donaldson Way, Balforn. Police attended, music was turned down and occupier made aware of the complaint.

On 14<sup>th</sup> August a male driver went through the road closed sign and shouted and swore at Stirling council workers. This is being investigated and enquiries are still continuing.

### **Road Safety**

A couple of reports regarding a vehicle being driven without tax has been received. This has been noted and attempts will be made to trace the vehicle and deal accordingly with the driver.

Hand held radar has been carried out at both ends of the village. These speed checks will continue

**Theft**

Overnight between 5-6<sup>th</sup> September a set of traffic lights were stolen from the works near to Ballat Crossroads. Enquiries continue however should anyone have any information then contact Police of CrimeStoppers.

**Community Engagement and Reassurance**

PCs Steven Graham and Scott Craigie are the ward officers for the Forth and Endrick area. They are based at Balfron Police Office and can be contacted at the office, on 101, or at [ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ForthEndrickCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk). It is recommended that this email address is used by the local community for email contact.

Please remember that we regularly publish useful information and updates on social media, including appeals for information, updates about road closures and crime prevention advice. Our Facebook and Twitter pages can be found at

[www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision](http://www.facebook.com/forthvalleypolicedivision)                      [www.facebook.com/policescotland](http://www.facebook.com/policescotland)  
[www.twitter.com/stirlingpol](http://www.twitter.com/stirlingpol)    [www.twitter.com/policescotland](http://www.twitter.com/policescotland)

**Other Incidents / Activity of note**

**Your View Counts**

Our online public consultation process 'Your View Counts' launched on Friday 4 August. Members of the public are invited to help inform our policing priorities across the country by telling us what's important to you.

This is the second year we have run the 'Your View Counts' consultation. Analysis of survey results, together with crime stats and other community and partnership meetings are used to determine our priorities.

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/decision-making/public-consultation/local-policing-consultation/>

The confidential survey only takes 15 minutes to complete and is open all year round meaning that if an individual's priorities change a survey can be re-submitted.

The response to the consultation process will be continuously monitored and quarterly progress reports will be published on the Police Scotland website and the intranet.

**Rural Watch Scotland**

"Rural Watch Scotland' is an extension of the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland movement and endorsed by the Scottish Partnership Against Rural Crime (SPARC) and Forth valley Rural Crime Group aimed specifically at the rural communities of Scotland and aims to bring all the benefits of Neighbourhood Watch to all rural communities irrespective of location, size or demographics.

Rural watch is an online community for any member of the public where appeals, crime prevention tips and safety alerts can be posted by those who subscribe which can be viewed by all members. Subscription is free and the sharing of information on the forum is a great example of real time crime prevention in action.

The objectives of Rural Watch Scotland are to:

- Reduce crime and the fear of crime by providing the right information, to the right people, at the right time.
- Encourage people to think about safety and security for themselves, their neighbours and their community.
- Improve community cohesion and well-being by supporting communities to develop 'their watch, their way'.
- Work in partnership with national and local service providers to develop more resilient communities that are better prepared against threats, intentional or unintentional, such as crime or extreme weather.

The experience of Neighbourhood Watch throughout Scotland and elsewhere across the world is that members of Rural Watch Scotland will be less likely than non-members in the rural community to be a victim of crime.

By joining the Rural Watch Scotland scheme members can receive alerts and advice by phone, text or email. By keeping members informed about crime and other threats in specific areas, Rural Watch Scotland can help prevent crime, keep communities and residents safe, and member's responses to these alerts can help catch criminals or be better prepared to deal with other threats to communities. To join Rural Watch Scotland simply:

- Log onto [www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk](http://www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk)
- Click the green JOIN button at the top of the page.
- Follow the on screen instructions."

## **Community Council Feedback**

### **PARKING DECRIMINALISATION**

From 3rd May 2017, Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) came into force. The responsibility for parking enforcement has been transferred from Police Scotland to Stirling Council. The council have displayed several notices to inform the public of this change in responsibility. Any vehicle found to be in breach of a parking restriction will be issued with a Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) for £60. Should this be paid within 14 days, it will be reduced by 50% and if ignored, will increase to £90.

Details are contained on the Stirling Council website under the link

<http://my.stirling.gov.uk/services/transport-and-streets/parking-and-car-parks/parking-fines>