



MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER 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, Stuart Youens

In Attendance: Jim Burns (First Bus), Scott Ferguson (First Bus), Ian Denvir (Stirling Council), Ruby Gray (Balfraon High School), Cllr Graham Lambie (Stirling Council), Nicola McCann, Ronnie Severin

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Fraser Allan, John Nicholson, Christine Wilson and Police Scotland.

2. Minutes of Previous meeting 2 November 2017

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

3. Matters Arising

- Confirmation was received that the land on which the disputed path to Buchanan runs was sold in 1969 to Stirling Council. Colin and John to follow up with Stirling Council.
- BCC had now paid the nominal fee of £1 to assume ownership of the Dunmore Street phone box. It was suggested to organise a school competition to determine how best to use it.

4. Police Report

BCC acknowledged a written report by Police Scotland (see Appendix 1). Further serious incidents of vandalism in George Terrace that had been reported to the Police were noted to be missing from the Police report. The report also did not mention an incident where a car had been taken on to the football pitch causing significant damage. It was noted that the report referred to two village entrances although Balfraon has in fact four entrances.

5. Councillor's Report

Councillor Lambie provided a report. He highlighted in particular:

- A proposed bill to lower vehicle speeds in all urban areas from 30mph to 20mph. BCC already responded to the consultation.
- Cllr Lambie expressed the view that there should be a greater presence by Police Scotland at Community Council meetings.
- Households can get an extra blue box for glass recycling if needed. Residents who have problems with their bin collection mentioned difficulties with Stirling Council not being responsive when these issues were reported.
- Non-allocated sites in Balfraon will not be pursued for housing development in the local development plan (LDP).

- Killearn Hospital site has been retained in the LDP for mixed use development.
- Repairs at the Ballat aquaduct will take 3 months longer than anticipated.
- Measures are being put in place to address road safety issues arising from increased visitor numbers at Finnich Glen while retaining accessibility to the Glen.
- The Kerse Road Bridge closure in Stirling will take at least 6 months with road closures starting in early 2018. Access to Springkerse will be impacted for the duration of the works.
- Stirling Council are in the process of exploring income generation e.g. through renewable energy.
- The possibility of Stirling Council adopting the land at Barnwell Drive is being explored.

Cllr Lambie was asked to pursue an update on Stirling Council's plans for the bunker site. Jim Burns emphasised that the quoted cost of reinstating the bunker now was largely due to the neglect of the site by Stirling Council over many years.

It was noted that following further bank closures, the bank in Balfron is now the last remaining bank branch in West Stirlingshire where face-to-face banking is possible.

Cllr Lambie was also asked to pursue the outstanding road marking works at Easter Balfunning.

6. Chair's Report

Space for Living: submissions have been received from five consultants to develop concrete plans for practical changes in Balfron over the next phase of the project. Stirling Council agreed to fund the consultant's work. There is a clear front runner among the five submissions and Colin is due to meet with them.

Rural public transport workshop: funding is earmarked for young people to come up with ideas for improving public transport provision in rural areas. Colin attended a stimulating workshop at Balfron High, attended by a number of senior pupils from schools in West Stirlingshire.

Data protection policy: A report on new data protection regulations has been produced by Christine Wilson and will be discussed at the next BCC meeting.

7. Treasurer's Report

Bill Noblett provided an update report on BCC finances:

1. Issues with the account mandate held by Bank of Scotland have not yet been resolved.
2. A preferred bidder for the play park development has now been identified. The lease between the Donaldson Trust and Stirling Council is still to be finalised and the final written confirmation of the specification of the works had not yet been received. The expectation is that the work will be completed by Easter 2018. BCC commended Bill and Christine for their excellent work in moving the play park project forward.
3. The Balfron war memorial has been confirmed to be of significant architectural importance. It therefore needs specialist assessment and renovation works. It was suggested to explore opportunities for crowdfunding.
4. Bill Noblett attended the Stirling Council consultation on the potential devolution of powers to community councils. The discussion at the event lacked detail and specifics. Any plans to move budgets and/or powers to community councils would need a significant amount of further work.

5. The recent care hub meeting heard about the Neighbourhood of Care approach that has been adopted. This is based on integrating health and social care, with a team of care workers based within the local area. It was agreed to ask Caroline Cherry, Project Lead for the Model of Neighbourhood Care for Rural Southwest, to speak to a future BCC meeting.

8. Planning and Correspondence

No correspondence.

9. Dates for 2018

Meetings would continue to be held on the first Thursday of every month, except for January and July. Proposed speakers for 2018 meetings were: the Poppy Appeal, Douglas Baillie and Caroline Cherry. The next meeting will therefore be on 1 February 2018.

10. Business from the Floor

It was noted that the Balfron High School sign was looking tired and may need a refresh. Jim Burns introduced Scott Ferguson who recently joined the First Bus Balfron depot. He mentioned that the Christmas timetable was now available. First Bus sponsored the OAP lunch at Culcreuch which was attended by 114 people. The double deckers in the fleet have been rebranded to create a distinct identity for the route. Vehicles are being repaired to fix heating issues.

Concerns were raised over the lack of childcare in the village, especially breakfast club provision. It was agreed that first of all the unmet need for childcare, in particular before and after school hours, would need to be established. It was suggested to raise the issue with Judy Edward at Stirling Council.

It was highlighted that Bellrock had started to charge £3 for any single use of the all-weather pitch outside of school hours. Colin agreed to follow up on this with Bellrock.

11. Any Other Business

None.

12. Date of next meeting

Thursday 1 February 2018, 7.30pm, Balfron Campus.

Police Service of Scotland

Community Council Report



Community Council:

Forth and Endrick, Balfron Community Council

Reporting Period:

December 2017 Compiled by PC Scott Craigie

Ward Plan Priorities

Antisocial Behaviour

There have been a number of vehicles vandalised within the village, at present there is presently a positive line of enquiry in relation to this.

There has been a theft from a coal bunker which would appear to be someone using someone else's coal bunker instead of buying their own.

Road Safety

There have been no road accidents reported within the village since the last report.

Hand held radar is still being carried out at both ends of the village and this will continue for the foreseeable future although it is hoped that , when they are finished the new road markings at the bottom of the village will have an impact.

Theft

A lot quieter month with no thefts reported.

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. 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

www.facebook.com/policescotland

www.twitter.com/stirlingpol

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
- Click the green JOIN button at the top of the page.
- Follow the on screen instructions."