



## MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2018 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

**Present:** Fraser Allan, Laura Elder (chair), Alison Lamont Chalmers, Carsten Mandt (minutes), David McGowan, Bill Noblett, Christine Wilson, Stuart Youens

**In Attendance:** Councillor Rob Davies, Ian Denvir (Stirling Council), Stuart Freckingham (Balfroon Primary School Parent Council), PC Scott Craigie (Police Scotland), Jan MacDonald

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Colin Cameron, David Dougans and John Nicholson.

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

Bill Noblett proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Stuart Youens.

### 3. Matters Arising

- Stirling Council confirmed their ownership of the disputed land on which the path to Buchanan Street runs, and that it is a right of way.
- Stirling Council are in the process of drawing up particulars for the bunker site.
- The recently introduced £3 one-off charge for the use of all-weather pitch at Balfroon High School is being followed up with Bellrock and Stirling Council.
- A substantial housing development had been proposed north of Station Road. This is currently not included in the local development and has no planning approval, but it should be noted that it may be raised again in future.

### 4. Police Report

PC Scott Craigie provided a verbal update on current issues in the village, including antisocial behaviour, road safety matters and theft. He highlighted that Police Scotland no longer report road traffic accidents they attend unless there is injury or a dangerous aspect to the accident. He also mentioned a spate of vehicle thefts in the wider area and a recent burglary at a house in Balfroon. He corrected the previous BCC minutes' suggestion that vandalism in George Terrace had been missing from the Police report. These incidents had indeed been reported albeit without naming the location. He confirmed that Police Scotland are aiming to attend one in three Community Council meetings.

### 5. Councillor's Report

Councillor Davies provided a verbal report, highlighting current discussions about the Stirling Council budget. A big focus of these discussions is on road maintenance. The overall budget is proposed to be cut by 1.5%. The proposals for priority based budgeting, which are currently being consulted upon, will go forward to Stirling Council for debate on 22 February.

Councillor Davies received a letter from a local resident regarding traffic speeds in Printer's Row, asking for additional traffic calming measures to be implemented. BCC recognised that addressing vehicle speeding at village entrances would be part of the Space for Living project.

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

Bill provided an update report on BCC finances:

1. Funding was received for assessing the war memorial and a consultant has now conducted a site visit. A report is expected shortly with a schedule of required works. The War Memorial Trust will cover 75% of the cost of the repair works, with the remainder to be raised via crowdfunding.
2. The new admin grant money has been received, which also covers BCC insurance.
3. Bank of Scotland have accepted responsibility for the recent problems with the BCC account signatures on their files, and the bank have agreed to provide compensation. However, to remedy the problem BCC will need to open a new bank account.

## **7. Playpark Update**

Progress is being made but has slowed. The cableway has been ordered but the final layout for the other equipment is still to be agreed. Once this has been finalised information will be sent to local residents with the plans.

## **8. Chair's Report**

Colin Cameron provided a written report, highlighting recent events and developments within the village such as the very successful carol singing / Christmas light switch-on ceremony. BCC thanked Laurent Bienfait Woodland Services Ltd and the Christmas Tree Farm, Buchlyvie for donating the Christmas trees and all the community volunteers who helped erect and remove the trees.

The importance of having a community resilience plan was highlighted by the recent bad weather. Ian Denvir mentioned that community resilience planning will be on the agenda for the next Rural South West Forum meeting. It was agreed to add this to the agenda for next BCC meeting.

Following community consultation over the last two years, BCC has produced two reports under the banner of "Space for Living" (available on the BCC website) to draw together key issues for Balfron and outline a vision for addressing these. Through collaboration with Stirling Council external consultants have now been appointed to provide the technical expertise to develop practical solutions for Balfron.

Stuart Freckingham spoke about the overlap between the Space for Living project and the school travel plan work undertaken by the schools' parent councils. It was agreed that the parent councils should be linked in to the Space for Living project. It was also discussed that there would be value in the consultants observing traffic and travel patterns at school drop off and other key times in the village to fully understand the key issues and possible solutions.

## **9. Priority Based Budgeting**

Stirling Council's latest proposals for priority based budgeting are currently being consulted on and the deadline for responses is 5 February 2018. BCC noted that the proposals lacked sufficient detail to allow for fully informed comments. Bill agreed to collate responses into a BCC submission.

**10. Data Protection Policy**

Christine has drafted a policy for BCC, which is awaiting comment from the BCC chair. She stressed that there was a need for BCC to think about what personal data BCC holds and if there was continued justification for holding the data (otherwise the data would need to be deleted). This will be added to the next meeting's agenda with a view to ratifying the policy.

**11. Planning and Correspondence**

No correspondence.

**12. Business from the Floor**

Ian Denvir mentioned that Warmer Homes Scotland will hold an information event in Killearn on 8 Feb, 6-8pm.

Bill asked if there was interest in the village to explore the idea of a "man shed" in Balfron. This is a national initiative to provide support for men aged 60+ around mental health and wellbeing.

**13. Any Other Business**

None.

**14. Date of next meeting**

Thursday 1 March 2018, 7.30pm, Balfron Campus.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

# Police Service of Scotland

## Community Council Report



**Community Council:**

Forth and Endrick, Balfon Community Council

**Reporting Period:**

January 2018 Compiled by PC Scott Craigie

**Ward Plan Priorities**

### **Antisocial Behaviour**

There have been issues at the high school with a group of youths using the poly tunnel as a gang hut and causing extensive damage to same. This is being investigated by the Schools based officer (PC Diamond). I would ask if you have issues with youth at the school that you make her aware as she is trying to collate issues at the premises.

### **Road Safety**

There have been two road accidents within the village since the last report, both minor in nature.

### **Theft**

There are issues within the area in relation to house breakings, outbuildings being broken into and works vehicles that have been left with the keys in the ignition being stolen from remote locations. I would ask everyone to remain vigilant in relation to their property and vehicles and report any suspicious persons or activity.

### **Community Engagement and Reassurance**

PC Steven Graham has taken up a new post within response police at Balfon and PC Scott Craigie is presently the only ward officer in post at this time for the Forth and Endrick area. A process is underway at this time to identify a replacement for PC Graham and PC Craigie will keep you up to date with its progress. PC Scott Craigie is based at Balfon 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)

**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."