



MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4 OCTOBER 2018 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Fraser Allan, Colin Cameron (chair), Laura Elder, Alison Lamont Chalmers, Carsten Mandt (minutes), John Nicholson, Bill Noblett, Christine Wilson

In Attendance: Councillor Graham Lambie (Stirling Council)

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Jim Burns, David Dougans, David McGowan, Janet Rutherford, Stuart Youens.

2. Minutes of Previous meeting 6 September 2018

John Nicholson proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Laura Elder.

3. Matters Arising

- Parking at the Co-op car park associated with the garage is still to be followed up.
- It was confirmed that Stirling Council were liable to carry out repairs to the play equipment damaged in the recent storm. The foundations of the cableway have shifted and may need to be re-embedded. This is understood to be on the list of repairs for Stirling Council. It is hoped that the trunk of the fallen tree will be left as an additional piece of play equipment.
- It was noted that the new Donaldson Park gate has been installed. BCC thanked Bill Noblett for his efforts to progress this. Concerns have been raised over accessibility issues which are being addressed. Bill will follow this up. Stephen Robertson and his team at Stirling Council Land Services were commended for their support and commitment to this project. Plans are also being progressed to carry out repairs to the older part of the play park. There was consensus that section 75 developer contribution funding, which was intended for improvements in the village, should not be used for maintenance issues. It was also agreed that, where possible, local companies should be used when external contractors are hired.
- A meeting is to be held on 6 October with Church of Scotland and other interested parties to agree the approach to Remembrance Day commemorations and the rededication of the war memorial. This will include possible road closures at The Clachan for a brief period.
- The draft Community Resilience plan had been sent to Stirling Council for comment. A Balfraon Resilience Facebook page will be created to provide a central area for resilience-related alerts and notices.
- Bins had been moved from the Co-op car park to the civic amenity site but it was noted that recycling was still being left where the bins used to be located. Further communication may be needed to inform the community of the changes.

4. Declarations of Interest

None.

5. Police Report

No report had been received from Police Scotland. Due to the lack of Police presence at the meeting, police matters were deferred once again to the next meeting.

6. Councillor's Report

Councillor Lambie provided a report, highlighting:

- 6.1. Policing matters: Cllr Lambie had attended speed patrols which were effective. 20mph speed limits are being considered by a range of villages in the area. Gargunnoch has successfully implemented a 20mph limit throughout the village.
- 6.2. Roads maintenance plans, including Ballochruin Rd which would be resurfaced from 22-26 October.
- 6.3. The Kerse bridge will re-open a week ahead of schedule.
- 6.4. Plans are being developed to address road safety issues at Finnich Glen. Concerns were raised that the plans were overly ambitious and may not be supported by a sustainable increase in tourist interest once the current media attention fades. Nonetheless a solution to the immediate problems must be found.
- 6.5. Winter Service policy changes were discussed to enable Stirling Council to be more responsive during challenging winter weather.
- 6.6. Plans to support public transport in the area including the Sunday C11/C12 service.
- 6.7. Participatory Budgeting would make £100,000 available for community projects in the Forth and Endrick ward. Lessons had been learnt from last year's "Your Place Your Priorities" funding event, which did not manage to distribute funding equitably.
- 6.8. Updates on discussions on the Haven SUDS and Barnwell Drive maintenance issues.
- 6.9. Problems with overgrown trees in parts of Balfron. Cllr Lambie will do a site visit.

7. Treasurer's Report

Bill Noblett updated on BCC finances.

BCC unanimously agreed to submit a Community Pride Fund application for Balfron in Bloom to renew the Clachan flower beds.

8. Planning and Correspondence

A planning application for the proposed Balfron Business Hub has been submitted to Stirling Council.

Alison Lamont Chalmers reported on the recent Rural South West Area Forum. Balfron High School had asked Community Councils to suggested projects that school prefects could assist with. It was noted that Fintry Community Council had received funding to purchase an emergency generator as part of its resilience plan.

9. Business from the Floor

None.

10. Any Other Business

Questions over the right of way between Endrick Gardens and Buchanan Street were raised again as fencing blocking the public path had recently been erected. John Nicholson agreed to look into this urgently.

Questions have also been raised about the construction work in the field at the top east side of Ballochruin Road. Cllr. Lambie and John Nicholson will pursue.

Road safety issues at the Tontine corner were raised. Colin explained that the Space for Living project should address these issues.

Christine Wilson highlighted that new members are needed to join the Balfron 10k committee to ensure that this highly successful event continues as a key fixture in the village.

Colin reiterated that BCC elections would take place in October. As of tonight all current members of the Community Council must stand down, and all who wish to continue on BCC need to stand again for election. The minimum number of BCC councillors is 7, the maximum number is 11. Nominations close on 19 October. Should there be more than 11 nominees, elections will follow, which may impact on the meeting scheduled for 1 November. Colin thanked all current members of the Council for their support, commitment and hard work over the past four and a half years.

11. Date of next meeting

Thursday 1 November 2018, 7.30pm, Balfron Campus, depending on the outcome of the current nomination process.