



BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER 2018 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Fraser Allan, Colin Cameron (chair), Laura Elder, Alison Lamont Chalmers, David McGowan, John Nicholson, Bill Noblett, Christine Wilson, Robert Young

In Attendance: Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), Councillor Graham Lambie, Vivien Casteel (Balftron Pathways, Carsten Mandt (minutes)

Residents: Nicola McCann, Lock Parker, Luci Rooney, Dorothy Simpson

1. Welcome and Apologies

Colin welcomed the new members to the Council, and thanked Pam Campbell for chairing the preceding inaugural meeting. Apologies were received from Janet Rutherford.

2. Declarations of Interest

Christine Wilson declared an interest in relation to the BCC website development (agenda item 9).

3. Minutes of Previous meeting 4 October 2018

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

4. Matters Arising

Pam agreed to follow up on the outstanding query about the legal status of the car park. A meeting will be set up with the Co-Op manager, the garage, Stirling Council and BCC to discuss parking issues.

5. Police Report

BCC noted a written report submitted by Police Scotland. Particular notice was given to the recommendation to register personal possession with www.immobilise.com.

6. Councillor's Report

Councillor Lambie provided a report, highlighting:

- 6.1. Road Maintenance and Improvement works, including C54 Ballochruin Road and a number of road safety initiatives in the wider area.
- 6.2. Winter Safety Policy Changes, in particular the ability to deploy contractors more quickly to clear snow. Stirling Council could install additional grit bins but only if they are included in the local community resilience plan. The significant role of volunteers to assist with road clearance in severe winter weather was emphasised.
- 6.3. Options for a Sunday bus service are still under consideration.
- 6.4. No planning applications are on record for the Kepculloch Road site where extensive tree clearance had recently taken place. It was confirmed that the site was not an allocated development site in the Local Development Plan. Questions about lack of clarity over

ownership of the land and the existence of tree preservation orders (TPOs) in the area were raised. Pam agreed to explore with her colleagues.

- 6.5. Footpath access from Endrick Gardens to Buchanan Street has been raised with the Stirling Council Planning Department.
- 6.6. Access for Waste Services vehicles will need to be maintained when the proposed business units are developed.

7. Project Updates

Space for Living: Sustrans Community Links funding has been received to take forward the development of detailed designs for the project. This work is project managed by Stirling Council, with detailed works undertaken by a range of consultants with the required expertise to develop workable solutions to address the issues that have been identified. This work will include a range of initiatives to engage with the local community. A second phase to implement agreed solutions would require match funding.

Donaldson Park: The cableway damaged in the autumn storms has now been repaired. Underfoot conditions are yet to be remedied. Thanks were given to Stirling Council for installing the new picnic bench. Discussions were still ongoing to resolve concerns raised over access via the new gates at Spoker's Loan. Landscaping works at the playpark are still to be done.

Treasurer's Report: Donaldson Park has discussed plans to develop paths in the Park and a suggestion was made to install a fitness trail. Any unused funding could be put towards that. Money is still available for landscaping works at the renovated war memorial. This work needs to be taken forward soon. Balfron in Bloom also has funding still available. In total BCC had circa £2,000 in its account. The admin and minute taking grants had recently been received. Thanks were given to the BCC minute taker for his work over the last year.

Colin Cameron, Bill Noblett and Christine Wilson were confirmed as signatories on the BCC account.

Resilience Plan: Fraser Allan reported that Stirling Council has confirmed that the draft Balfron plan meets resilience planning requirements. The final plan is due to be launched shortly. A Facebook page has been set up for the Balfron community resilience plan and copies of the plan will also be made available in key locations (e.g. the public library, registry office, churches, doctor's surgery, the schools and the BCC website). Fraser reiterated that the resilience plan is a communications plan to facilitate effective support for the community in unforeseen difficult circumstances. It was agreed to mention the resilience plan in the next Community Newsletter.

Balfron Pathways: Balfron Development Trust had now been discontinued, with remaining activities being taken over by a new Balfron Pathways group, focussed on developing pathways in the area. Viv Casteel proposed that the community benches be transferred to BCC responsibility. This was agreed. Work will need to be taken forward to look at improved siting for the benches and any maintenance work required. Viv mentioned that the notice board outside the library has now been transferred to community ownership, under the administration of the Library.

Incredible Edibles: Colin noted that the scheme has unfortunately been discontinued due to lack of support. He thanked the organisers for the excellent work they had put into the project. Discussions with Balfron in Bloom are ongoing to look at options to maintain the Incredible Edible sites. One proposal is to ask Stirling Council to grass over the Tontine corner site as an interim measure, in light of the significance of the site within the Space for Living project, which includes long term plans for the development of the area. Any planting in the border would be maintained by Balfron in Bloom. Alternative options for low maintenance planting by Stirling Council will also be explored with Land Services.

8. Business from the Floor

- 8.1. Problems with broadband provision were raised, which did not appear to be equitable across different parts of the village.
- 8.2. It was noted that the proposed breakfast club at the school had not started. This was being looked at again by Primary School management.
- 8.3. The lack of signage for the public toilet was highlighted once again. Pam undertook to investigate.

9. Any Other Business

- 9.1. Following the recent elections, there remain two available places on BCC. Colin proposed Luci Rooney be co-opted with her agreement. This was unanimously accepted, and the relevant paperwork will be processed.
- 9.2. Christine proposed redeveloping the BCC website. This was agreed. The work will be led by Christine and Luci Rooney.
- 9.3. Pam informed the group that a response had not yet been received from Stirling Council officers regarding the marketing of the Bunker site.
- 9.4. Thanks were given to Laura Elder for sourcing the Christmas trees and mince pies, and to Bill Noblett for drink and sweets, for the Christmas light switch-on. Thanks were given to the school children for the carol singing. The fantastic turnout on the day was noted.
- 9.5. Fraser reported that the Co-Op car park has been assessed as the best option to install two electric vehicle charging points. A response from the supplier to confirm detailed plans is awaited.
- 9.6. Robert Young noted that the next Balfron 10k is scheduled to take place on 12 May 2019.
- 9.7. Pam noted that any BCC sub-committees needs to be formally reconstituted. This was accepted for both Balfron in Bloom and the Space for Living working party.
- 9.8. Bill Noblett was confirmed as the BCC representative on Donaldson Trust.

10. Date of next meeting

Thursday 7 February 2019, 7.30pm, Balfron Campus.