



BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2 MAY 2019 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Fraser Allan, Colin Cameron (chair), Laura Elder, Carsten Mandt (minutes), David McGowan, John Nicholson, Bill Noblett, Luci Rooney, Christine Wilson, Robert Young

In Attendance: Councillor Alistair Berrill (Stirling Council), Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), PC Steven Graham (Police Scotland), Robert Murphy MBE, Gordon Reilly, Janet Rutherford, Anne Thomson, Jim Thomson, Pat Thomson.

1. Welcome, Recording of those Present and Apologies

Apologies were received from Alison Lamont Chalmers.

2. Recording of Declarations of Interest

No interest to declare.

3. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting 4 April 2018

Christine Wilson proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Robert Young.

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1. *Launch of Balfron Pathways:* The new Balfron Pathways Groups will be formally launched on Friday 10 May, followed by a display in Balfron Library.
- 4.2. *Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust:* Christine reported that she had not yet heard back from the Trust regarding more detailed information on the invasive species. **ACTION: Christine**
- 4.3. *GDPR – 2019 Review:* Christine reiterated the data protection obligations for BCC under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). It was agreed to hold copies of BCC minutes in archive at Balfron Library for a period of seven years. BCC endorsed the data protection policy, which would be reviewed again in one year.

5. Police Report

BCC noted a Police report by PC Steven Graham, highlighting recent activity in Balfron and the surrounding area. PC Graham said that uptake for the first pilot Police surgery was low. BCC recommended it was worth continuing with for a further attempt. It was noted that more publicity was needed.

6. Councillor's Report

Councillor Berrill provided a report to BCC:

- He explained that Stirling Council's street lighting programme was coming to the end of its four year period. However, works in Balfron appear to have been inconsistent with many streets not yet upgraded.
- The pilot scheme for the C12c evening bus service was stopping as uptake was too low, with a subsidy required of circa £35 per passenger per journey.
- He reported a Stirling-wide increase in council enforcement action. Pam Campbell agreed to enquire about more detailed statistics at ward level to share with BCC.
- 760 Participatory Budgeting proposals were received (approximately 110 for the Forth and Endrick ward), which were being reviewed and prepared for public voting. Voting this year will be by social media and email to avoid a biased result. This process will include weighting votes to account for the different ward population sizes.
- The poor road surface conditions in Station Road were raised. This work was confirmed to be included in the current Stirling Council road repair schedule.

7. Treasurer Report

Bill Noblett reported that Lachlan Cameron had painted public toilet and installed new signs. BCC thanked Lachlan for his efforts and agreed to purchase a thank you present. Stirling Council had previously agreed to install new signage to signpost to the toilets, which had not yet been installed. Pam Campbell agreed to follow this up. **ACTION: Pam**

Bill noted that the BCC accounts had been completed and audited and would be circulated ahead of the AGM next month.

8. Planning Report

Colin Cameron attended the most recent Stirling Council planning panel meeting, which approved the Ballochruin yurt application that had been raised at a previous BCC meeting, following which BCC lodged an objection. Colin has written to the panel to raise concerns that BCC views were not represented during the hearing. It was noted that the approval was tied to certain conditions. However, these did not appear to be stringent enough to allow for effective enforcement. It was understood that there is no process for a positive planning decision to be overturned unless there are concerns over due process not being followed, which could be subject of a judicial review.

The ongoing dispute over the right of way on the path between Endrick Gardens and Buchanan St was discussed. This had been raised again with Stirling Council to seek resolution. The discussion highlighted in particular questions over future access for the new houses being built.

9. Subgroups, Projects and Guests

Space for Living: Proposals were submitted to Sustrans for the Clachan/Spoker's Loan and Printer's Row to seek funding for construction, with 50% match funding available from Stirling Council. Colin emphasised the very helpful feedback that had been received during the recent community consultation, which had led to a number of changes to the proposals, including abandoning the idea of a one-way system in Spoker's Loan and Buchanan Street. The final designs are to be published on

Facebook and the Balfron Active Places website: <https://balfronactiveplacesproposals.commonplace.is>. Feedback on the funding bid is expected in June 2019. In the meantime work will continue on developing designs for the other elements of the Space for Living project, which will include further community consultation.

Telephone Box: The complexity of renovating the telephone box was discussed. Luci Rooney agreed to investigate costings for parts and labour. It was suggested to speak with Brenda Pell about the experience of renovating the phone box in Dumgoyne. **ACTION: Luci / Colin**

Balfron Radicals Bicentenary 2020: Jim Thomson shared a timetable of activities planned for the bicentenary celebrations in 2020 of the 'Scottish Insurrection' and the role of the Balfron Radicals.

Donaldson Park Play Park: Bill has received quotes for the restoration of the old flying fox site which will be pursued. Further discussion with Stirling Council was needed about the small playpark and drainage. **ACTION: Bill / Christine**

Balfron Millenium Benches: Work was ongoing to repair, and in some cases relocate, the benches. To date there had been no response from Cala about the Roman Road bench that Cala took into storage during the construction of the Kiltrochan Drive houses. **ACTION: Colin**

10. Chair – Including Correspondence

An offer to meet the new team at Strathendrick Care Home was received. Bill pointed out that he would be meeting the team anyway at the Neighbourhood of Care meeting in May.

11. Residents' Forum

Janet Rutherford reminded the group of the upcoming Balfron in Bloom coffee morning on Sat 5 May.

Planning for the Balfron Bash was queried. Colin agreed to contact Denver Chalmers. **ACTION: Colin**

12. Any Other Business

Bill Noblett fed back about the issue with the overgrown hedge in Station Rd that had been raised before. The new owner had agreed to deal with this as soon as possible.

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday 6 June 2019, Balfron High School,
7.00pm Annual General Meeting
7.30pm monthly BCC Meeting