



BALFRON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6 JUNE 2019 IN BALFRON HIGH SCHOOL DRAFT MINUTES

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

In Attendance: Councillor Rob Davies, Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), PC Gary Martin (Police Scotland), Janet Rutherford (Balfron in Bloom).

1. Welcome, Recording of those Present and Apologies

Apologies were received from Fraser Allan, Alison Lamont Chalmers and John Nicholson.

2. Recording of Declarations of Interest

No interests to declare.

3. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting 2 May 2018

Bill Noblett proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Robert Young.

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1. *Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust:* Information on invasive plant species was received and added to the BCC website.
- 4.2. *Public Toilets:* Pam Campbell agreed to liaise again with Stirling Council colleagues to install signposting in the village to the toilets. **ACTION: Pam**
- 4.3. *Planning:* Colin Cameron received a response from the Head of Planning who accepted that BCC was underrepresented at the hearing on the Ballochruin proposal.

5. Police Report

BCC noted a Police report by PC Gary Martin, highlighting recent activity in Balfron and the surrounding area. This is available on the website and noticeboards. A lively discussion followed over a number of road safety issues.

6. Councillor's Report

Councillor Davies provided a report to BCC:

- Plans have been submitted for a housing development at Killearn Hospital site for approximately 100 houses. On 21 August a public exhibition about the proposals will be held at Killearn Village Hall.
- The traffic / parking issues at Finnich Glen are still ongoing and require resolution.
- Development at the Buchanan Street building site had been halted until questions around land ownership and the access rights to the path through to Endrick Gardens had been resolved.

- BCC members queried the status of plans to resurface the road between Balfron and Balfron Station, which had deteriorated significantly and needed urgent repair.

7. Treasurer Report

Bill reported that the Balfron in Bloom Coffee morning had been successful, generating income of over £900.

8. Planning Report

Nothing to report.

9. Subgroups, Projects and Guests

Space for Living: A further Space for Living newsletter was recently circulated to all Balfron households. Colin clarified that the drop-in events announced for 17 June and 22 July would take place at the McLintock Hall. The June event will look at the design proposals for Buchanan St North: Tontine Corner and South: Library/Dunmore Street junction and for the village entrance at Station Road. The meeting in July will focus on the whole village active travel plan.

Telephone Box: Luci Rooney is progressing plans for the renovation of the Dunmore St. phone box. Before this can be taken forward, she said we need to agree on a purpose and location for it, in particular as that would influence possible funding sources. It was noted that moving the phone box would be very costly and could lead to structural damage. It was agreed to leave the phone box in place. As for its purpose, the preferred idea was for an information booth, and Luci will bring a report to the next meeting on what that might be, following consultation with a number of village organisations, in particular Balfron Heritage Group. **ACTION: Luci**

Donaldson Park: Stirling Council agreed to replace play equipment, paths and fencing in the play park. The flying fox area would be grassed over by Stirling Council. Drainage was also being addressed.

Strathendrick Care Home: Bill reported that there was uncertainty about the model of care for the home in future, leaving the possibility open that there may not be any provision of respite care beds. The possible detrimental impact on local provision of social care and employment were noted. Colin agreed to write to elected members for clarification. **ACTION: Colin**

Balfron Millenium Benches: Work was ongoing to repair, and in some cases relocate, the benches. The bench held in storage by Cala had now been handed back to the community.

10. Chair – Including Correspondence

BCC discussed the potential for reviving the Balfron Bash. The value of a community event in the village was recognised. The idea of tying a community event in with the Balfron 10k was raised, similar to the Killearn race followed by the Beer Festival. It was acknowledged that there was insufficient time left to organise a Balfron Bash for 2019. The lack of community buy-in to contribute to the planning and organisation of events in the past was noted. This would need to be addressed to make reviving the Balfron Bash viable and sustainable. A proposal was put forward to

hold a public meeting to gauge levels of interest and commitment. Colin will have a look at timings for this. Janet agreed to find out whether Strathcarron Hospice are planning a Hogmanay event.

ACTION: Colin; Janet

11. Residents' Forum

Janet raised concerns over bins being left on the pavement after they had been emptied. Pam agreed to look into mechanisms for supporting communities to ensure that pavements are left clear. However, she explained that this was not a matter for Stirling Council enforcement.

12. Any Other Business

Your Stirling You Decide Funding: BCC noted that proposals had been put forward for Balfron that addressed issues that were already being progressed by BCC and Pathways Group initiatives, without links having been made either by the proposers or Stirling Council officers. It was recognised that there was potential to link any funding from Your Stirling You Decide to funding already in place for these developments. However, concerns remained that for future projects there was still a risk of conflict if opportunities were not taken to link proposals with pre-existing BCC or community group activity. It was suggested to build a more formal link to Community Councils into the submission and shortlisting process for future rounds of Your Stirling You Decide funding. BCC recognised that the current process was a significant improvement over the previous iteration.

Pam Campbell explained that public voting on the proposals closed on 23 June 2019. Results would be announced on 27 June.

Police Scotland Community Surgery: Colin Cameron noted that a second Police Scotland community surgery would be held between 7 and 8pm on 24 June at Balfron High School.

13. Date of next meeting

Thursday 1st August 2019, McLintock Hall, 7.30pm. **There is no meeting in July.**