



VIDEOCONFERENCE HELD ON TUESDAY 5 MAY 2020 DRAFT MINUTES

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

In Attendance: Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), Councillor Graham Lambie (Stirling Council), Michelle Conway (Balfiron Covid-19 Support Group).

Apologies: David McGowan, Police Scotland.

1. Welcome, recording of those present and apologies

As recorded above.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Minutes of 5 March 2020 were accepted as an accurate record, proposed by Robert Young and seconded by Laura Elder.

4. Matters Arising

The eventual uplift of brown waste bins following interventions by BCC was welcomed.

5. Covid-19 Response

Bill Noblett confirmed that the Balfiron Covid-19 Support Group had now been set up under the BCC umbrella, enabling the group to access funding through BCC.

Michelle Conway reported that volunteer engagement was high and remained stable. The group remained mindful of the potential for individual circumstances affecting volunteer numbers, e.g. if volunteers needed to self-isolate.

A local business had made personal protective equipment available to local groups free of charge.

It was noted that within Stirling Council, the Forth and Endrick ward generated the least demand on Stirling Council services for support, highlighting local community resilience.

Remuneration for volunteers was discussed. On occasion volunteers have been offered tips or petrol money. It was agreed that it is up to individuals to decide what to do with them, but the option of donating funds towards a charity of the Group's choice will be made available.

The group thanked Gary Scott and Graham Rose for repairing the Dunmore Street phone box door. The phone box now houses the Balfiron Book & Food exchange. Luci Rooney reported that it was utilised well and had received positive feedback.

It was noted that some dog waste bins had recently been emptied but it was unclear if this marked a return to normal schedule or was a one-off. Cllr Lambie would clarify if dog waste bins were being emptied regularly again. He also pointed out that other litter bins can be used for dog waste. He

noted that when municipal waste facilities are eventually re-opened it will be in a coordinated fashion to avoid traffic from outside local areas accessing local facilities. Dates are still to be announced.

Colin Cameron reported that Jim Thomson had started work to celebrate key workers and helpers who had provided support throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Proposals to organise a Balfron Bash for 2021 were discussed, and further thought will be given to this at future meetings.

6. Balfron Bank of Scotland Closure

Colin received a response from Lloyds Banking Group confirming that the Balfron Bank of Scotland branch would remain open for the duration of the current crisis. This may possibly extend beyond the suggested branch closure date. There was an indication of willingness to discuss alternative ways forward. Colin will continue to follow up with the bank.

7. Police Report

BCC acknowledged a written report by Police Scotland.

8. Elected Councillor's Report

Cllr Lambie expressed concerns over the economic impact of the pandemic on local businesses. Fly tipping was noted to be a growing concern, in particular along Crow Road and Denny Road. The use of various videoconferencing tools such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams was discussed. Stirling Council does not support the use of Zoom due to concerns over IT security but advice on this continues to evolve. Colin will contact the Council for clarification.

9. Treasurer Report

£500 had been received for Covid-19 community support. Bill has started the process for registering BCC for online banking.

10. Planning Report

No planning matters to report.

11. Chair - including Correspondence

Active Places: Stirling Council had given notice of traffic regulation orders ahead of the proposed Clachan and Printer's Row works. Timescales for the actual works are suspended, however, due to Covid-19. Two objections from residents at the Clachan have been received. BCC supports a meeting with local residents, Stirling Council and ASL before any building work commences. Concerns had been raised over an apparent diesel spillage near White Yetts Glen, contaminating local waterways. This was under active investigation by SEPA.

12. Any Other Business

Stirling Council were still reviewing the scheme of establishment for community councils to reflect the current situation. The revised scheme is likely to advise deferring the AGM beyond June.

13. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 2 June 2020, 19:30 by videoconference.