



VIDEOCONFERENCE HELD ON TUESDAY 2 JUNE 2020 DRAFT MINUTES

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

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

Apologies: Pam Campbell (Stirling Council), David McGowan, John Nicholson.

1. Welcome, recording of those present and apologies

As recorded above.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting 5 May

Bill Noblett proposed the minutes as an accurate record, seconded by Alison Lamont Chalmers.

4. Matters Arising

No update was available on the SEPA investigation into the reported diesel spillage.

5. Covid-19 Response

Balfiron Covid-19 Support Group: Christine Wilson reported that demand for assistance from the Support Group had reduced in recent weeks. Useful contact numbers were being added to Facebook page and hand sanitiser, face masks and gloves are still available.

Stirling Council services: It was noted that the recycling centres in Polmaise and Callander had re-opened but not in Balfiron. Stirling Council confirmed that this was a temporary closure until queuing and staff protection issues in Balfiron had been resolved. Possible solutions were still under consideration for Balfiron e.g. access by appointment only. It was confirmed that current travel restrictions did not prevent Balfiron residents from accessing the recycling centres in Callander or Polmaise. Callander opening hours are 5pm – 7.30pm and Polmaise opening hours are 9am – 2.30pm.

Balfiron Resilience: In addition to its Facebook presence, the resilience group had now set up an email address: balfironresilience@gmail.com. The main focus in recent weeks had been on supporting the Government's key messages on social distancing and on the easing of lockdown restrictions.

Book and Food Exchange: Luci Rooney reported that this continued to be well utilised. A wide range of items were being donated, including by Trossachs Search and Rescue. The greenhouse was regularly filled with fruit and vegetables donated by Hewitt & Aker.

6. Balfroon Bank of Scotland Closure

Colin received a response from Lloyds Banking Group looking to engage with the community. At the moment there is still no clarity on how long the branch will stay open and if this may extend beyond the original August deadline for branch closure. Alyn Smith MP has been in contact with the journalist from Money Which?

7. Police Report

BCC acknowledged a written report by Police Scotland.

8. Elected Councillor's Report

Cllr Davies highlighted traffic and parking issues. Car parks continued to be closed but traffic and visitor footfall had increased leading to congestion at popular destinations, e.g. Balmaha and Finnich Glen. Cllr Lambie explained that only the Police had the power to move cars on. Car parks were still closed based on Police advice as there are no supporting facilities available at Balmaha and other locations that would enable visitors to comply with current restrictions.

9. Treasurer Report

Bill Noblett reported that he was still in the process of registering BCC for online banking.

10. Planning Report

A planning application to extend to the rear of 76 Dunmore Street was noted.

11. Any Other Business

It was noted that Stirling Council libraries had a range of e-books available that could be accessed while libraries remained closed during the pandemic.

The next BCC Annual General Meeting is postponed until face to face meetings are possible again.

12. Date of next meeting

The next scheduled meeting is in August. The McLintock Hall had been booked for this meeting but it is likely that it will be held by videoconference. It was agreed to keep the room booking and pay the charge to the McLintock Hall even if the meeting will be held via video call.