



## MINUTES OF BRIDGE OF ALLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

HELD ON TUESDAY 21st November 2017

(held in the Allan Centre)

### Present:

Mike Watson (MW) (Chair); Janie Meikle Bland (JMB); Leslie Harkness (LH); Sandra Davidson (SD); Marie Gardner (MG), Siobhan Hencher (SH); Iain McCusker (IMc); Deborah Wood (DW) (Minute taker); Nicos Yarrow (NY).

### In attendance:

Councillor Douglas Dodds; Andrew Davis (Stirling Council); Councillor Graham Houston; Chris James (Stirling Cycle Hub); Jonathon Padmore (Stirling Council); Councillor Alasdair Tollemache.

### Apologies:

Michael Burt; Joanne Chisholm; Councillor Alastair Majury; Victoria McDowell; Margaret Sprunt; Dunblane/Bridge of Allan Community Policing Team.

*(Abbreviations - Community Council (CC); Stirling Council (SC))*

### **B1467 Welcome, Apologies and Conflict of Interest**

MW opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Apologies were received, as above, and the absence of any conflict of interest was noted.

### **B1468 Matters Arising (LH)**

There are two matters arising from item B1457 on Road Safety:

**Firstly**, LH received an email from a woman who, he believes lives in the Museum building, asking him to inform the CC of two traffic accidents in Henderson Street; taking place within the space of a few days, towards the end of October 2017:



- The first one, around 3pm, a car drove into a parked vehicle and pushed it into the rear of another parked vehicle
- The second, around 7am, a van drove into a car at the same point in the road

The woman emailing suggested that either the speed limit at that section of Henderson Street be changed, or that there should be no parking permitted there.

**Secondly**, LH stated that he had been informed by Councillor Dodds that Sergeant Mathieson intends to use his team of Police Officers to initiate some speed camera monitoring on a regular basis in Henderson Street.

#### **B1469 Action log**

In the absence of a printed Action Log, MW worked through actions from the minutes of the last CC meeting on 17 October 2017.

- MW commented that he hoped the Dumyat path would now get under way. Councillor Dodds added that the Beauldy-Denny steering group was meeting/visiting the site the next day to look at this.
- MW commented that a Darn walk group will hopefully start in the future
- Recycling point in the Cooperative car park: An update was given by Councillor Dodds – The Cooperative Manager feels this is a good focal point for the community and that he will police it going forward. MW expressed that, in his own view, relocation to the bottom of the car park may be an option. Councillor Dodds agreed to manage this going forward.

#### **B1470 Police Report**

In the absence of Police representation at the meeting, MW confirmed that he had read the Police Report and there was nothing of significance to report.

#### **Introduction / synopsis of previous month:**

This report should provide sufficient information of the police activity since the last community council meeting. If you have any further questions about the police report or any incidents that you are aware of that are not included in this report then please email us direct on the above email address and we will answer your questions.

If anyone has any information on any incidents that we have been unable to identify a suspect then please let us know by email, 101 or by contacting crimestoppers.



The report encompasses incidents of crime and other matters raised with the police from the last community council meeting up to and including the 19th November 2017.

Please accept to the apologies of the community policing team, PC Gilliland and Chalmers both of whom are off duty at the time of the meeting.

**Current Priorities:**

The current priorities in the Bridge of Allan area continue to be Anti-Social Behaviour, Violent Crime, Theft, Road Safety and Community Engagement and Reassurance.

**Main Report:**

**ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

On the 10.11.2017 a vehicle then parked within Henderson Street, Bridge of Allan on the road near to Jam Jar was damaged with a key or similar. No suspects have been identified and all lines of enquiry have been exhausted - CF0158491117 refers.

**DRUG MISUSE**

There have been no recorded crimes involving drug misuse at the time of submission of the community council report.

**VIOLENT CRIME**

On the 29.10.2017 a report was taken anonymously of a reported disturbance within a flat in Avenue Park, Bridge of Allan involving a male and female. A suspect was identified however denied any wrong-doing. This incident was crimed as a Section 38(1) Criminal Justice & Licensing Scotland Act 2010 offence and to date all lines of enquiry have been carried out.

**HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY**

Sometime between the 29.10.2017 and 07.11.2017 a bicycle then secured within the grounds of Stirling University near to university student accommodation was stolen. The lock being broken by unknown means. This is an ongoing enquiry however to date no suspects have been identified. CF0159531117 refers.

On the 05.11.2017 two bicycles were stolen from a bike shed at Stirling University. Following investigation two males have been traced and charged in relation to this theft and a report is being submitted to the Fiscal.

Sometime between the 13.11.2017 and 16.11.2017 a bicycle was stolen from the bike shed/securing point near to university residential accommodation. The bike was secured by means of a bike lock which would appear to have been cut during the commission of the theft. This crime report is being investigated at the time of submission, CF0161211117



refers.

On the 15.11.2017 a male has reported that monies were removed from his bank account on the 08.11.2017 with his bank card having been used without his permission in Fountain Road, Bridge of Allan. This is still under investigation and lines of enquiry are being pursued.

**ROAD SAFETY**

On the 28.10.2017 a male driver was stopped in Airthrey Road, Bridge of Allan and charged with having no vehicle excise licence.

The Community Policing Team have carried out some hand held radar in Cornton Road, Bridge of Allan in response to a previous complaint from a member of the public. Two drivers have been warned regarding their speed and further hand held radar will be carried out in this locality.

Keir Street and Graham Road near to its junction with Henderson Street are also being monitored in response to a complaint of indiscriminate parking near to junctions and on pavements.

**OTHER MATTERS OF NOTE**

Extra attention has been paid to the university grounds in response to the recent bicycle thefts including foot and mobile patrol by police. The university security staff have also been visited and are increasing patrols where and when possible.

Some of these theft enquiries are ongoing at the time of submission and will be reviewed further potentially by specialist departmental staff.

Of note, one of the thefts was detected however there is nothing at this time which would link the accused party to the other thefts.

Any issues raised at Community Council meeting:

No actions raised at the last meeting which were specific to the police.

**B1471 Approval of Minutes from 17 October 2017**

LH prompted the approval of the minutes from the previous CC meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2017 were approved (Proposed: Marie Gardner; Seconded: Janie Meikle Bland).

**B1472 Stirling's Walking and Cycling Aspirations and the Community Links Project**



JMB introduced Jonathon Padmore (Stirling Council - SC) and Chris James (Stirling Cycle Hub - SCH).

Jonathon Padmore (JP) explained that he had a PowerPoint presentation prepared, however, no facilities were available to show this on. JP went on to outline that he would talk about why SC were promoting walking and cycling: The Local Development Plan Report decision would be due soon and this proposes to increase the number of houses in the City area (includes BofA) by 27% by 2037. In addition, 3000 jobs will come to Stirling and Clackmannanshire through the City Deals Master Plan. This will bring people to the area. Therefore, encouraging people to walk/cycle/use public transport will alleviate traffic pressures. There will also be work done to increase road capacity. And, that his incentive is for health reasons too: 'Walking and cycling to a healthier Stirling'. There are a variety of programmes that communities can access e.g. Government - Smarter choices: changing the way we travel and the School Transport Plan.

SUSTRANS – councils can draw down funds from this through a bidding process each year and there are a number of schemes resulting from this. This links into the Community Links Plus (CLP). The CLP will come in the future, providing allocated funding once agreement on areas that its potential spending will cover.

JP explained that the Kerse Road (Stirling) closure would mean that there would be a reduction in other street works and this would provide an opportunity for Stirling Council to engage with communities about future walking and cycling facilities and routes. This will not just involve money for infrastructure, it will also include engagement with groups such as the Stirling Cycle Hub, to encourage the uptake of cycling in communities.

JMB asked Chris James (Stirling Cycle Hub) to talk before questions.

Chris James talked about the location of the Stirling Cycle Hub and what they do. He explained that they are based at Stirling Train Station and promote active travel i.e. cycling and walking, monitor Nextbike, teach bike skills, engage with employers, schools, organisations and communities. Chris further explained that they want to know what people want and to help support communities to achieve this, including finding out what the barriers around cycling and walking might be. Chris then talked about the Primary School Travel Plans (all primary schools have one) and that they are using this to engage with pupils, parents, teachers etc., to look at current travel, identify barriers to walking and cycling and working in partnership to remove these barriers and encourage active transport e.g. bike riding and walking: supporting achievement of Cycling Scotland's 'Cycle Friendly Community' award.



JMB thanked Jonathon and Chris and commented on the recent work on this with BofA Ps and WHS and added that the CC could be instrumental in promoting and supporting Cycle Hub activities. Chris confirmed that there should be an electric bike sharing scheme in Stirling area in the future and this should hopefully start in the next financial year. Questions were invited.

A resident suggested that there needs to be attention paid to Airthrey Road as this appeared to be unsafe for cycling/walking. Could the road be made wider or could a cycle path be run away from the road alongside it? Further comments highlighted that there is also the same issue with Causewayhead Road, however, the options would appear less as the road is constrained between housing and the railway line (this is a concern raised with Causewayhead CC). Jonathon Padmore confirmed that Stirling Council are aware of these issues and that is why they have brought them forward to address them. He explained that, in the past, Stirling Council have done what they could to address these with the resources available, however, will now work through options with the communities to develop the best way forward. MW urged Stirling Council to work closely with all communities to address these and similar issues.

JMB added that Chris James (SCH) has a cycling questionnaire about cycling behaviours and that this would be made available through CC.

A resident mentioned the cycling dangers on Alloa Road, Causewayhead and Jonathon Padmore confirmed that this too would be looked into by Stirling Council as although there was a plan to make part of this road safer, there was still a section where cyclists could be left vulnerable.

### **B1473 Active and Thriving Community (JMB)**

Copies of the Community Action Plan Booklet 2011-2016 was available for perusal and Gavin Drummond confirmed that he still had some of these that could be made available of anyone would like to access the information. JMB suggested that, as this seemed to work well previously, that CC use it as a springboard and that the CC meeting in January could be used to discuss how to take this forward.

LH confirmed he would be representing BofA CC at a meeting (the following Saturday) to look at Community Council set up, documentation etc. and asked if anyone had anything they would like him to take forward there. A discussion followed that raised the communication CC has with residents and how this could be made fully accessible, also the issue of CC accountability to community. LH confirmed that he would encourage correspondence to him by post, email etc. He stated that he was unsure to what extent those members of the community that attend CC meetings are representative of the



community as a whole. It was highlighted that CC need to reach out to the community to get input and also to work out how we work together, and with Elected Members and Council Officials. LH stressed that it is important that anything that comes out of the meeting on Saturday is moved forward.

JMB suggested it would be important to investigate how to engage with younger people in the community.

A resident at the meeting suggested that Kings Park CC had a useful notice board where they displayed a bullet pointed notice (summarizing actions etc.) and this may be something all CCs could adopt as it was easy to access and read.

LH asked if CC wished to develop an agenda to improve the village as a place to live? Adding that this must be realistic and should be progressed slowly. He added that Joanne Chisholm had produced a development plan from the recent CC development meeting and suggested that this could be distilled down to 4 or 5 keys achievable actions.

MW asked for questions:

A resident asked if CAP document was available to view: it was confirmed (IMc) that it is online on the Stirling Council Website.

#### **B1474 Road Safety (JMB)**

Councillor Tollemache updated the CC on Road Safety issues and confirmed that Steven Easton (Stirling Council) had sourced funds to install advanced warning signs before the new Cornton Road crossings. JMB commented that during an onsite (roads) visit there had been a number of incidents that highlighted issues with the crossing as it was at the time.

Councillor Tollemache called for any feedback on other issues and the position of the bus stop on Cornton Road was raised. Councillor Tollemache stated that he would speak to Stirling Council about relocation of the bus stop. MW asked why there are two bus stops in that area so close to each other. Gavin Drummond suggested moving the bus shelter to Allanvale Road thereby removing one of the stops. NY asked how the risk assessment and process for the design of the bus stop positioning worked. MG suggested that as we are not experts, the CC ask Stirling Council what the process is, with regard to risk assessment and mitigation. IMc reiterated that there was an issue where the bus stop is and Councillor Tollemache confirmed that he would take these issues to Stirling Council.

JMB mentioned that Steven Easton (Stirling Council) is looking to install two midway road islands on Henderson Street, at the Memorial Park section. It was highlighted that the community should be consulted about this before it goes ahead.



It has also been raised that the lights at the zebra crossing on Henderson Street are not bright enough. Councillor Dodds confirmed that the funds for this improvement are available, however, the engineers were working on the bridge at Kerse Road just now.

#### **B1475 Christmas Lights (SD)**

SD confirmed that the lights would be switched on the next Saturday. SD also confirmed that the funding is in. MG confirmed £2890 collected to date and there is still £150 to come in. There is £195 left to set up the Provost Park lights. SD will pull the Christmas Lights Group meeting forward to December. SD added that there will be no official switch on this year.

***Action: SD Christmas Lights Group meeting***

#### **B1476 Planning Update (IMc)**

IMc asked for views to be sent to him by the end of the week, relating to the new Gordon Crescent application, so that he can make comment.

There are 2 x approvals:

- 24 Henderson Street – changing windows and entrance
- 8-10 Henderson Street – Facias and sign for Costa Coffee

MW asked if there would be a joint approach (BofA and Dunblane CCs) with regard to the Park of Keir. IMc confirmed that BofA CC have asked the same questions as Dunblane CC. He added that the response, so far, to both CCs, is that it is with the legal advisers. Councillor Tollemache confirmed that he had a reply regarding this and IMc read this at the meeting: Draft section 75 notice is still with legal advisers and they have requested a time extension.

***Action: IMc to approach Dunblane CC and ask how they wish to proceed re Park of Keir.***

#### **B1477 Chair's Report**

MW stated that the Remembrance Service went well, with no problems and was well attended. However, MW reported that there were two issues **1.** the storage of the sound system, but he would find out if the Allan Centre would store this **2.** The CC wreath expenses were £32. Payment was approved by CC.

MW Referred to the briefing note circulated on the ongoing consultation over proposed changes to the on street limited parking regime including a potential mix of 60 and 30 minute sectors A full consultation will happen in the village. He also raised the idea of



restricting parking time in the Fountain Road car park and that this should be included in the consultation process. Lack of signage and the potential for additional off street parking would also be addressed. MW stated that he hoped to start the consultation early 2018 and would try to get detailed plans for then.

A resident raised the issue of parking near the railway station. Councillor Dodds stated that once works were completed on the railway then there may be an opportunity to use the railway works yard for parking. Another resident commented that the last 3 to 5 weeks have shown an increase in cars parked around the end of Cawder Road area and the potential for this to increase the risk of an accident. It was added that a resident of Station Road had apparently been trapped, unable to exit their driveway for 5 hours. LH included that had heard a suggestion that Cawder Road could be made access only. A resident suggested that the parking charges in Dunblane may have caused an increase in parking in the BofA Station Road area.

MW stated that the consultation process will address these issues. Councillor Dodds confirmed that he would take the Station/Cawder Road parking issues forward with Stirling Council and that the Police are actively monitoring this area.

JMB commented that the Health Centre parking bays would need careful consideration in the consultation process and asked if paid metering would be resisted. MW confirmed that this was his understanding.

Gavin Drummond asked if Union Street is being included in the 30 to 60 minute parking restrictions. MW confirmed that the consultation process will address this.

#### **B1478 Secretary's Report (LH)**

Firstly, CC have received a letter from the Secretary of the Allan Centre Council, who pointed out that, in recent years, a member of the CC has attended meetings of the Allan Centre Council on a regular basis, to offer a report that might be of interest to the members. He indicated that they would be pleased to see this continue and asked if CC wished to nominate someone for this. It was confirmed that SD already attends these meetings on behalf of CC.

Secondly, Councillor Dodds reported to LH that a resident contacted him to voice concern about the increasing volume of cars parked for long periods on the roads, in the vicinity of the railway station. Particularly, on Cawder Road. The resident has underlined the safety implications of this, given that this road forms part of a community bus route and parked cars are inevitably reducing clear lines of sight. The resident suggested that the solution



could be for Stirling Council to consider making Cawder Road, Inverallan Drive and Inverallan Road an access only area.

#### **B1479 Treasurer's Report (MG)**

MG stated that an updated report was issued today and that it was primarily Christmas Lights. She added that there was unusual expenditure: expected a balance of £200, however, there was £165: £35 had been debited. Andrew Davis (Stirling Council representative) confirmed that this was a required annual payment for Data Protection.

MG informed the meeting that SC have taken out block insurance for CC and that this will be deducted at source for CCs. In addition, Christmas light insurance.

MG updated on the signatories for the Memorial Fund Account. The Clydesdale Bank had confirmed that the signatories are Gavin Drummond and Jo Green. MG added that these signatories are needed to close off the account and the funds will then be ring fenced. Gavin Drummond suggested contact is made with Jim Christie to investigate the history etc. of the Memorial Fund.

MG asked about the possible purchase of the phonebox in BofA for £1. IMc asked if this included the land and MG agreed to clarify this. LH asked if land owner could ask for the phonebox to be moved. MG proposed that, if there was no issue with the above points, would CC agree to purchase? Votes were 4 in favour.

#### ***Action MG: Phonebox information and Memorial Fund account***

#### **B1480 Residents Voice and AOCB**

Councillor Dodds advised of dog mess clean up signs being installed at each end of the chicken run.

A resident remarked that the wreaths at the Memorial Service appeared to be very light and were blown away during the service; this should be considered for future years.

MW confirmed Friends were putting up the Christmas tree the following afternoon and that replacement tree planting had started in the Memorial Park.

A resident requested that regarding the new planning application for Gordon Crescent that he would urge the CC to put in a strong objection, as the road safety issue had still not been addressed. He added that the old application was withdrawn, therefore, new objections must be made to the present application. IMc confirmed that he was awaiting comments from CC and would put in an objection by the end of the week.



***Action: IMc Planning response for Gordon Crescent***

There being no other business, MW declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm.

**The date of the next meeting will be Tuesday, 23rd January 2018 at 7.30pm in the PE Room of the Allan Centre.**