



**MINUTES OF MEETING of BRIDGE OF ALLAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 17 APRIL 2018
IN THE ALLAN CENTRE**

Present: Mike Watson (Chair), Joanne Chisholm, Siobhan Hencher, Iain McCusker, Janie Meikle Bland

In attendance: Councillor Douglas Dodds, Councillor Graham Houston, Councillor Alastair Majury, Councillor Jeremy McDonald, Councillor Alasdair Tollemache, Andy Davis (Stirling Council), Roddie Keith and Mark Duffy (Scottish Fire & Rescue), Jean Houston (minutes)

BA1427 APOLOGIES:

Michael Burt, Leslie Harkness, Victoria McDowell

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Iain McCusker declared an interest regarding Item 4 on the agenda, as an employee of Scottish Fire & Rescue and would not take part in the discussion.

BA1428 MINUTES:

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 March 2018 were approved as a correct record. Proposed by IMcC and seconded by MW.

Matters Arising:

RBS – Councillor Tollemache advised that he was still awaiting a response to the invitation to attend the Community Council meeting in June to explain their proposals for the BofA branch.

Cornton Vale – planning application approved

Scheme of Establishment of Community Councils – AD advised that this was still out for consultation.

Flood Prevention – Stirling Council officer invited to attend next meeting in May 2018.

BA1429 POLICE REPORT:

No one was present from Community Policing Team to give a report.

BA1430 FIRE STATION – PROPOSED CHANGES:

Roddie Keith, Scottish Fire & Rescue, explained that the Service was undergoing a public consultation on proposals for future transformation. He set out the background of the service and why it was necessary to transform the framework of the organisation to meet modern needs. The current model had been put in place post-WW2 and was designed to meet the needs of the 1940s. The core activity of fighting fires had reduced by 50% over the past 10 years as a result of prevention strategies and Health & Safety regulations. However there were new emerging risks with a growing ageing population living at home, an increase in severe weather events and other areas of community safety such as acts of terrorism. One area of improvement being trialled involved co-responding with the Ambulance Service to out of hospital cardiac arrest and this was proving successful.

Whilst the Service still needed to maintain resources to handle major incidents such as the fires at Cameron House and Sauchiehall Street, it had been allocated a one-off budget of £15m to carry out transformation. The Service needed to be adequately resourced, equipped and trained to meet current needs. Proposals included re-examining the part-time fire fighter model which sometimes led to challenges to meet commitments. Potential impact on Bridge of Allan could be the introduction of a new type of appliance designed to be a rapid response unit. These units are smaller, lighter vehicles which are easier to manoeuvre. They carry most of the equipment on existing tenders but also have more up to date technology.

The proposals were out for 90 day consultation, closing on 14 May, and the Community Council was asked to contribute to the online consultation and to encourage members of the public also to do so. Roddie Keith agreed to forward a copy of a PowerPoint presentation to the CC. MW thanked Roddie for his helpful and information input.

BA1431 PARKING SURVEY:

JC advised that there had been 619 responses and as a result there had not been sufficient time for the CC to digest all the information in the report. It was proposed to bring this back to the next meeting of the CC in May.

BA1432 BOTTLE BANKS:

Councillor Dodds reported that the four ward Councillors had met with Waste Services and that it was planned that the bins would be uplifted from the Co-op car park on 1 June 2018. Signage would be put up to this effect. The area would then be cleaned and pressure washed. It was acknowledged that there would subsequently be no bottle bank in Bridge of Allan. However residents could put out more than one blue box if necessary. DD advised that he had tried to engage with Co-operative without success. The Chair thanked the Councillors for tackling this problem.

BA1433 ACTIVE AND THRIVING COMMUNITY:

JMB informed the meeting that the Primary School has a new Active Travel Policy – junior road safety officers would be invited to attend a future CC meeting. Stirling Active Travel Hub would be working with the school on cycle training.

Wallace HS was also working with the Travel Hub.

Interest had been shown in revitalising the tennis courts of Keir Street and a proposal would be put together and consideration. Whilst previous proposals had not resulted in any funding from SportScotland, there were other potential funding sources.

Councillor McDonald asked to be kept informed about any proposals to have the Carse of Lecropt designated as a cycle/walk way.

BA1434 KEIR STREET LIGHTING:

IMcC had received a response from the Planning Authority which advised that planning consent was not required for street lighting, even in a conservation area. However Chris Cox, Planning Service Manager, had indicated that she would ask officers to liaise with Roads on a more suitable option. Councillor Houston offered to raise questions regarding the lack of consultation and more suitable options for the area. In the meantime the Ward Councillors would ask for work to be stopped in the interim until the matter can be resolved.

BA1435 PLANNING UPDATE:

There were no other matters of importance.

Park of Keir – Councillors Tollemache and Dodds were awaiting clarification on the consultation process and hoped to hear the following week.

BA1436 CHAIR'S REPORT:

The Chair had little to report other than he was pleased to see the three new business established in the village. He had concerns however over lack of progress at the former Queen's Hotel and Glenallan Fashions.

BA1437 TREASURER'S REPORT:

There was no report.

BA1438 SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The Chair made the report on behalf of the Secretary as follows:

- Nominations were being sought for the Provost's Civic Awards.
- Bus shelters were to be power washed

- SPS had submitted a planning application to develop a new women's facility at Cornton Vale
- Flooding officer would attend the next CC meeting in May
- Stephen Kerr, MP notified he had applied for a tree to plant for the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy. The Woodland Trust were giving out trees for this purpose and information would be forwarded to The Friends.

BA1438 RESIDENTS' VOICE:

- A traffic counter had been installed on Henderson Street
- Work on the zebra crossing had been delayed as the Council's Roads Service had needed to focus on potholes and road surfacing as a result of the severe weather
- Residents complained about the train service from Bridge of Allan. The service to Glasgow was especially poor frequency and Aberdeen was worse. Commuter trains to/from Edinburgh were frequently standing room only with insufficient carriages. There was a need to lobby for better services. Councillor Houston had a scheduled meeting with ScotRail Alliance the following week and would raise the matter. The community would also be asked to give their comments.

BA1439 A.O.C.B.:

- There had been a request to twin with Saillez-Les-Lannoy, a community in Northern France near Lille. The CC would put this out for consultation.
- IT facilities at the Allan Centre – the screen had not been available at this meeting for a presentation. Members would check on the booking requirements for future meetings.

BA1440 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15 May 2018 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

