



Minutes of Meeting of Bridge of Allan Community Council

**Held on Tuesday 19th March 2019
in the Allan Centre**

Present : McCusker (IMcC) - chair, Janie Meikle Bland (JMB), Anna Doeser (AD), Bill Fortune (BF), Siobhan Hencher (SH), Iain Alasdair Taylor (AT), Michael Burt (MB), Andrew Drummond Baxter (ADB)

Apologies : Joanne Chisholm (JC), Mike Watson : Chair (MW), Alexander Stewart MSP, Stephen Kerr MP, Leslie Harkness (LH), Victoria McDowell (VMcD), Sandra Davidson (SD); Moira Randall (MR)

In attendance: Councillor Douglas Dodds, Councillor Graham Houston, Councillor Alastair Majury, Councillor Alasdair Tollemache, Councillor Jeremy McDonald, Andrew Davis (Stirling Council), Lucy McCormick (Minute taker)

Abbreviations : Community Council (CC), Stirling Council (SC)

B 1573 Welcome, Apologies and Conflict of Interest

IMcC opened the meeting, welcomed all and confirmed meeting apologies as noted above. No Conflicts of Interest reported.

B 1574 Approval of Minutes, Matters Arising and Action Log

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved (Proposer: BF, Seconded: AT).

Matters Arising (IMcC provided an update)

With regard to Item B1570 and the issue of dog fouling in the Memorial Park and in the Tennis Courts, Councillor Dodds contacted us to say that he had referred the matter to SC officers and that, in their response, it has been indicated that the Council's Enforcement Supervisors have been instructed to ensure that additional patrols are carried out in the park to deter and detect offenders and also that NO DOGS ALLOWED signs have been placed in the tennis courts. In addition, Michael received a communication from a resident who has recently moved to Bridge of Allan from Edinburgh and who is herself a dog owner; she finds herself astonished at the amount of dog poo on the streets of the village, particularly on Keir Street and The Avenue, and she feels that this indicates the level the irresponsibility of some dog owners in the town. She also notes that, in Edinburgh, orange safe paint is sprayed on the offending items. And finally, one of our members, Alasdair Taylor, has confirmed that the area around Inverallan road and Station Road also has a dog fouling problem.

In relation to Item B 1567, the Planning Update, Stirling Council contacted us about the planning application relating to a new sustainable dwelling located at Pendreich Road to say that a decision has been

delayed to allow for an accompanied site visit on Thursday 4th April and that the matter will be duly referred to a future meeting of the Local review Board.

B 1575 Police Report

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR: On 15th March 2019 3 males were fighting within a carpark on Henderson Street, police attended and at the time traced one of the males involved. He has been charged with a breach of the peace and threatening and abusive behaviour, enquiries are ongoing in relation to tracing the other known males and once this is done a report will be sent the PF office.

DRUG MISUSE - None reported.

VIOLENT CRIME - None reported.

HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY: Between August 2018 and March 2019 at Pendreich Way, Bridge of Allan jewellery was stolen from a house. It is believed to be from an ex tenant and enquiries are ongoing in relation to this. This is an isolated incident and no other similar incidents have been reported.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD TRAFFIC RELATED CRIME: On 28th February 2019 at Stirling University a vehicle was damaged by another vehicle. The offending vehicle did not leave details and did not report this incident. If you have any information in relation to this incident please contact 101 ref: PS-20190301-1795.

MATTERS OF NOTE: It should be noted that there was 61 calls to the Bridge of Allan beat code but please bear in mind this also covers Cornton area and Causewayhead and sections of motorway. 1 of these calls relate to domestic incidents, 6 of these calls relate to concern for person type calls and 3 of these calls relate to road traffic accident

Community engagement and reassurance:

The community policing team have conducted 2 hours of foot patrol within Henderson Street and surrounding areas, on one of these occasions hate leaflets were handed out to local businesses. Hand held radar was also conducted on Cornton Road on one occasion and 1 driver was warned in relation to speed.

The community policing team further attended at Bridge of Allan Primary school at the start and end of the school day re parking concerns. 3 drivers were warned regarding their parking on pavements outside the school. Our pop up signs were also used and these also encouraged better parking from parents.

On 23rd February 2019 Pc Chalmers and the schools based officer Pc McNaulty attended at Stirling University and took part in the St Johns Ambulance Service Youth Conference. This saw several hundred youths from all over Scotland attend and have an insight into policing and what we do, as well as a chat on internet and road safety for young drivers.

Over this weekend of 15th March the community team attended at Stirling University and conducted foot patrol over the campus in the later hours due to complaints re drugs misuse and recent bike thefts, no issues were identified and students and staff were happy to see us on campus.

B 1576 Community Action Plan (JMB)

JMB provided update on the work leading up to the proposed event which will coincide with the Scouts

Daffodil tea being held in Chambers Hall, Bridge of Allan Parish on the 30 March 19.

Some space has been secured in the foyer of the Church. The plan is to make it feel like a community event, build on the existing plan, celebrate success since the last plan (2011), talk to the Community about what is going on and stimulate ideas.

The event will be supported by Friends of Bridge of Allan, local resident (Jennifer Rutherford) who is looking into access play equipment. There is an opportunity to gather community thoughts on the tennis courts and promote tea's company. Stirling Active Travel will be set up outside to promote cycle paths etc. and Andy Davies (SC) will also be in attendance to talk about SC plans – see item B1577.

Following the 30 March event, the feedback/ ideas will be consolidated with a view to working with SC and using survey monkey to get feedback on the key themes identified. The longer term plan is to revise and update the existing plan.

Action: poster to be put on main noticeboard promoting event and also on the play park notice board. Also opportunity to use Stirling University social media page. Any other ideas to email JMB.

B1577 SC Participatory Budgeting Programme (AD)

This is an initiative that gives local people a direct say in how a portion of the SC budget is spent. Each ward has been given 100k (ward includes both Bridge of Allan & Dunblane) to have a say on infrastructure and the environment. This can include ideas to improve roads, play parks, road safety, street lights etc. The first stage is for ideas to be submitted by 14 April 2019. Ideas can be submitted online using electronic Idea Form or using a paper idea form.

Once all ideas have been received, they will be put on the website and then there will be a period of screening ideas to ensure ideas meet criteria. SC looking for citizen volunteer (via volunteer forms) to assess ideas mid-April to mid-May. There will then be an opportunity to vote on the proposals and proposal with the most votes will be taken forward.

B 1578 Tactrans Consultation Event (AT)

AT & JMB attended the event 21 Feb 2019 in Wallace High School which gave insights into future of travel and transport. Some insightful statistics were provided which included: by 2037, additional 23% additional homes and 24% increase in traffic growth. AT & JMB felt there could be more opportunity to debate, discuss and input to what was being said and lack of opportunity to review in advance the information being presented at the event. Next steps are 1) case for change 2) initial options appraisal and 3) detailed options appraisal (end of 2020).

Action: CC to write to Tactrans to request that they keep CC fully updated as they progress through phases 1 to 3 above.

B1579 Play Park Initiative (SH)

The objective is to make Fountain park more inclusive for all children, working in conjunction with SC and local resident Jenifer Rutherford. Improvement ideas include: inclusive roundabout for wheelchairs, wheel access to sand area, Inclusive swing seat (replace existing double to a triple one), xylophone (likely not to a popular option with residents). Cost is anticipated to be about 22k (inclusive of VAT). Funding towards cost has been received so far but other options for raising funds are being considered e.g. Stirling

Soup, Crowd Funder Stirling.

B1580 Teas Company Launch (AT)

AT attended launch which was very well attended (approx. 70 people at the initial event). At subsequent events there have been in excess of 30 attendees including some repeat guests. Initial reaction has been positive. On Monday, there was a musical bingo which was well received and nurse and school involvement has been well received and more is planned. On Monday 15 April at 2.30pm the Provost will do official opening.

B1581 Tennis Courts (BF)

BF has now made contact with someone from Stirling University. The plan is now to get some views from the community and propose to use the event on the 30th March to do this (see B1576).

B1582 Planning Update

Duncan McDougall (DMc) provided an update on the Airthrey Kerse planning permission appeal. The appeal has been returned to the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) to be re-determined. A reporter will be appointed to reconsider the case and report to Scottish Ministers. DMc also gave an update on previous work undertaken to object to the planning proposal and the ongoing concern about the amount of flooding in the Kerse area.

It was proposed to the CC that DMc to be taken on as an associate member of BoA CC for his skills, knowledge and expertise in this area [Nominated BF; Secunder MB]. Unanimous decision represented by CC show of hands supported this.

Action: There are 6 days to submit a representation which DMc will draft on behalf of the CC and send to the CC for review in advance of submission. Duncan's contact details are Duncan.kes@btopenworld.com

Action: BoA CC will share the representation with Causewayhead CC.

B1583 Secretary's Report (LH)

At the end of February we received information via Our Connected Neighbourhoods, the dementia enabling communities project, about a series of nine Meet Your Maker free and inclusive craft workshop sessions taking place in Stirling Castle throughout March and April. We also received a copy of their latest bulletin which includes a report on the launch of Digital Connections – Relaxed Libraries initiative.

Earlier this month, another public meeting, following on from the one held in December, was organized in Bridge of Allan to allow ScotRail representatives to engage with residents and local politicians and provide an update on current developments. The Secretary of the Community Council attended that meeting and he subsequently received a written update from ScotRail's External Relations Manager, Paul McKay and Michael Burt has now posted this on the community council's website, but some of the highlights are worth noting.

In the update, ScotRail indicates that it is still exploring how to restore having a direct 7.30 am service to Edinburgh without the Stirling interchange although there is no straightforward solution since the options being considered would have impacts on other services; ScotRail also point out that the option of running separate Dunblane to Stirling and Alloa to Stirling services is no longer operationally feasible. Although the

7.30 direct service will form part of the May timetable, it remains an ongoing priority. From May 2019, there will be a five minute connection for the 7.34 am train arriving at Stirling at 7.38 and the 7.43 Stirling to Edinburgh service. There will no longer be any requirement for Bridge of Allan passengers to use the footbridge to access the Edinburgh train. As part of the May timetable change, the 7.02 am service from Perth to Glasgow has been retimed in the stretch between Perth and Stirling to improve reliability. In relation to the services to Glasgow, the May timetable is only an interim one since the final timetable is intended to offer an hourly all day service between Dunblane and Glasgow which runs non-stop between Stirling and Glasgow; this is dependent on the new Hitachi electric trains and the InterCity high speed trains being in service

The CC has received a communication from Dunblane resident and Sustrans Scotland volunteer, Bridget Clark, about a narrow section of the path at the Bridge of Allan end of the Glen road walking and cycling route. In her communication, she indicates a volunteer engineer has estimated that £3,000 would help to stabilize and/or reduce erosion in this section and she raises the option of Bridge of Allan community council serving as a vehicle for applying for funds. Our chair has expressed the view that any threat to the future viability of this iconic route would have a negative impact for both Dunblane and Bridge of Allan and he notes that the current state of play in relation to the Denny/Beaulieu mitigation funding appears to be in limbo. He has copied Gavin Drummond into the correspondence on this issue, since Mr Drummond leads on the mitigation funding on behalf of the CC. Mr Drummond has in fact provided the CC with a very helpful background paper on the Mitigation fund and he has also pointed out that one aspect of the Glen Road situation which we have to bear in mind is that it is covered by an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific) and that Scottish Natural Heritage would obviously have an interest in any proposed operations.

B1584 Treasurer's Report (AD)

This month's expenditure:

- £40 meeting minutes
- £6 monthly web hosting fee

Available Balance for restricted funds:

- Play Parks : £1907.53
- Administration: £2,719.99

Upcoming Payments/Receipts: we have been informed on the 13th March that we were successful in our application for £1,500 from the Community Pride Fund for the Tea's Company Project. This will be in the account shortly. Approx. £200 is due to be spent on printing and banners for fundraising for playparks via Stirling Soup and the 30th March consultation day.

B1585 Residents' Voice - no points raised.

B 1586 AOCB

- Ongoing dog fouling issue: SH been in touch with the primary school and agreed there will be a poster competition for kids to get owners to think twice about picking up and leaving bags. Opportunity for posters to be put up at the 30th March event.
- Parking around the University Area: ongoing concern about this and volume spilling into surrounding areas. CC to engage with University again.

B1587 Date of Next Meeting: IMcC closed the meeting at 9.25pm and indicated that the next meeting would be held in the Allan Centre on **Tuesday, 16th April, 2019.**