



Minutes of Meeting of Bridge of Allan Community Council

Held on Tuesday 20 August 2019
in the Allan Centre

Present : Mike Watson (MW) CHAIR; Joanne Chisholm (JC); Leslie Harkness (LH) SECRETARY; Michael Burt (MB); Iain McCusker (IMc); Bill Fortune (BF); Alasdair Taylor (AT), Duncan McDougall (DMcD) (associate member); Sandra Davidson (SD); Vicky McDowell (VMcD).

Apologies : Janie Meikle Bland (JMB); Andrew Drummond Baxter (ADB); Anna Doeser (AD) TREASURER; Moira Randall (MR) (associate member); Stephen Kerr MP; Siobhan Hencher (SH)

In attendance: Councillor Alasdair Tollemache; Councillor Alastair Majury; Councillor Douglas Dodds; Andrew Davis (Stirling Council), Lucy McCormick (Minutes), Alexander Stewart MSP; Councillor Graham Houston; Councillor Jeremy McDonald

Abbreviations – Community Council (CC), Community Action Plan (CAP), Common Good Fund (CGF), Stirling Council (SC), Annual General Meeting (AGM)

B 1632 Welcome, Apologies and Conflict of Interest

MW opened the meeting, welcomed all and confirmed meeting apologies as noted above. No conflicts of interest (CoI) were noted apart from MW on item no 5 in relation to funding (see B1636).

B 1633 Approval of Minutes, Matters Arising and Action Log

The minutes of the previous meeting of 18th June 2019 were approved (Proposer: BF, Seconded: LH). Update was given on Patterson clock which is no longer working, DD confirmed that an order has been placed for repair.

Matters Arising

In relation to **Item B 1626**, the Chair's Report, and the discussion on the Common Good Fund, Gavin Drummond sent us a copy of the 2007 SC report which confirms that the scheme of delegation was amended to ensure that the CC would always be consulted on funding grants.

Regarding the issue of speeding raised in **Items B 1622** and **B1627**, our Chair received an email from MSP Keith Brown confirming that Stirling Council will be installing two VAS signs at Airthrey Road, hopefully in early Autumn.

Regarding **Item B 1619** and the matter of the grass cutting at the station, shortly after the June meeting, ScotRail sent a team to cut the grass but then we learned from Gavin Drummond that the work was far from satisfactory, particularly in terms of no attempt having been made to clean up the grass cuttings. Mr

Drummond contacted ScotRail and the following day, Paul McKay wrote to Gavin and ourselves to say that the team had not finished their work on the previous day and were returning immediately to complete the work which they did; he also indicated that a ScotRail representative would be meeting with the station adopters which they also did. Then, later in the month, more confusion emerged, as we learned from Graham Russell of the Friends that, when he went to try out the newly purchased grass strimmer at the station, the boss of the maintenance workers informed him that, under Network Rail rules, the Friends were not permitted to use any mechanical equipment at the station without appropriate insurance certification.

B 1634 Police Report (PC Dee Chalmers and PC Paul Gilliland)

ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Between the 27th June and 28th June 2019 damage was caused to crops in Carse of Lecropt by persons riding on motorcycles or similar. This has been crimed as a Vandalism and no suspects identified, CF0087430619 and PS-20190629-2507 refers.

Sometime around the 3rd of July a report was received of an ATM in Henderson Street having been damaged. This has been crimed as a Vandalism and no suspects have identified. PS-20190709-1307 and CF0093180719 refers.

On the 4th of August at Lyon Crescent, a female shout and swore at her neighbours. This has been crimed as an offence under Section 38(1) of the Criminal Justice & Licensing Scotland Act 2010 and will be detected.

On the 9th of August refuse bins were set alight at a driveway of a residential property located at Sheriffmuir Road. This has been crimed as Wilful Fire-raising, CF0107930819 and PS-20190810-1388 refers.

DRUG MISUSE

On the 10th of August in Cornton Road a male was found in possession of non-prescribed blister pack medication. The items recovered will be tested and once the content is confirmed the male will be subject of a report to the Fiscal for possession of controlled drugs.

On the 10th of August in Cornton Road a male was found in possession of class A drugs. The male in question will be subject of a report to the Fiscal.

On the 16th of August police stopped a vehicle within Henderson Street and searched all occupants under the Misuse of Drugs Act. Following the search a substantial quantity of herbal cannabis was recovered. Following enquiry two individuals will be reported for Possession of Controlled Drugs with Intent to Supply and Attempt to Pervert the Course of Justice offences.

VIOLENT CRIME

No reported violent crime.

HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY

Sometime between the 6th and 8th of July a For Sale sign owned by a local estate agent was stolen from the Allanvale Road area. This was crimed as Theft and all relevant enquiries carried out with no suspects having been identified, PS-20190708-0789 and CF0091380719 refers.

Sometime between the 10th and 11th of July a motor vehicle then parked within Cawder Gardens was broken into and some tools stolen from within. All relevant enquiries have been carried out and to date no suspects have been identified. This has been crimed as Theft from Motor Vehicle, PS-20190711-0653 and CF0092790719 refers.

On the 17th of July an attempt was made to break into a retail premises located in Fountain Road by forcing the shutters. This has been crimed as an Attempted Housebreaking with Intent to Steal and is still under investigation at the time of submission, CF0095760719 refers.

Sometime between the 26th and 27th of July ornamental garden furniture was stolen from a property in Sheriffmuir. The property is remote and all line of enquiry have been investigated with no suspects having been identified, PS-20190727-2012 and CF0100950719 refers.

On the 2nd of August a distraction theft took place within a restaurant/eatery in Henderson Street whereby two males of Asian appearance have engaged the complainer in conversation and whilst distracting her have stolen a mobile phone. This has been crimed as Theft and is still under investigation at the time of submission, CF0103960819 and PS-20190802-4666 refers.

On the 6th of August persons unknown have attempted to break into a residential property at Kenilworth Road by forcing a window. This has been crimed as Attempted Housebreaking with Intent to steal and lines of enquiry are being progressed at the time of update, CF0106100819 and PS-20190807-1038 refers.

Sometime between the 8th and 9th of August two Theft by Housebreakings and an Attempted Housebreaking with Intent to Steal occurred at a church premises and hair salon's located within Keir Street, Union Street and Henderson Street, Bridge of Allan. Those involved stole small quantities of monies from with two of the properties. These crimes are all linked due to the method of entry used are being investigated by the Division Proactive Crime Team, CF0107220819 and PS-20190809-0885 refers.

Sometime between the 10th and 12th August a garage of a residential property at Upper Glen Road was broken into and pedal cycles stolen. This has been crimed as Theft by Housebreaking and is still being investigated at the time of update, CF0108930819 and PS-20190812-3607 refers.

ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD TRAFFIC RELATED CRIME

The community officers have carried out patrols within Henderson Street and advised motorists not to park within the cycle lanes near to the Train Station. Hand Held Radar speed checks in Cornton Road with 3 motorists being warned regarding vehicular speed.

MATTERS OF NOTE

Between the 18.06.2019 up to and including the 17.08.2019 there was a total of 206 calls to the Bridge of Allan area beat code (please be advised that this also includes calls to the Cornton area).

A breakdown of some these calls is as follows: 6 related to missing persons, 5 related to domestic incidents, 22 related to assisting members of the public, 14 were concern for person type calls and 22 were road traffic related.

Community Engagement

On the 3rd of July the Community Policing Team with the support of the Road Policing Unit carried out a road traffic operation within Henderson Street, Bridge of Allan.

Several offences were detected and a number of motorists were issued with tickets for various traffic related offences including parking with the confines of zebra crossings, failing to wear seat-belts, driving whilst using Hand Held devices (mobile phone) and other miscellaneous offences.

The operation was successful and consideration will be given to carrying out similar operations in the future

Activity for forthcoming month

1. Carry out patrols in areas in which road safety concerns have been identified.
2. Attend and patrol areas in which crimes of dishonesty have been reported.

B 1635 Community Action Plan (JMB)

As JMB was unable to attend this meeting, this topic was deferred until the next meeting.

B 1636 Glen Road Stabilisation Project (MW and JC as deputy in relation to funding due to Col)

Productive and helpful meeting held with Glen Road Stabilisation Project regarding progress and further funding sources for Glen Road. The CC have been asked to make a contribution of £3000 towards the costs to repair drainage above the path. In general the CC are not unsupportive of the work being done however there were some challenges on longevity of the road.

Action: BoA CC will make a formal request to Dunblane CC to consider supporting Glen Road works.

Action: BoA CC to request Glen Road Stabilisation Project to make a formal submission for funding (to both fund types) to enable the CC to make an objective assessment and decision.

B 1637 Christmas lights (SH)

In SH's absence, MB provided an update. An initial meeting has been held to kick off planning for this year. Insight is being gathered from previous years' costs, existing sponsors, new sponsors and sponsor plaques. Will meet again soon to develop plans further. In addition, a separate meeting was held with Friends of Bridge of Allan to discuss lighting at Provost Park. Discussions with 2 contractors are ongoing to provide a long term plan subject to funding. No quotes received as yet.

B 1638 Bowling Club Application

There has been a Common Good Fund Application for £15,000 for improving the internal fabric of the clubhouse. Scoring sheets were used to facilitate each councillor thinking on support of this. Following a show of hands, the community councillors voted against support of the Bowling Club's application to the Provost Panel. It was agreed that detail on the rationale for the decision be forwarded to the Provost Panel

B 1639 Tennis Courts (BF)

BF confirmed he is due to receive quotes imminently and once 2 quotes received, he will progress with community engagement and a funding application. Further update will be given at the next meeting.

B 1640 Telephone box (MW)

Telephone box owned by the CC located on Inverallan Road.

Action: the CC will request Andrew Drummond Baxter if he would be willing to lead a working group to

investigate feasibility of moving it, costs involved and design fit options.

B 1641 Airthrey Kerse (DMc)

Minimal progress to update on and no decision from reporter as yet. Will circulate a response to members once response received.

B 1642 Sensory Garden Application (MW)

Action: DD to confirm ownership of the sensory garden and its ongoing maintenance. At the next meeting a further discussion will be held on future funding.

B 1643 CPMP (MW)

Action: JC will be project lead on this with the support from LH.

B 1644 Allotments issue (AT)

There has been a number of complaints about some allotments from allotment users (some allotments are not used year on year). An onsite meeting has been held and a reply to the letters and actions plans are in place.

B 1645 Station Mural (Mike Watson)

This has been deferred to next meeting.

B 1646 Planning report (IMc)

- The application for an 80 space car park at Scotbeef has now been approved.
- Application for 5 Airthrey Drive. This is to demolish the existing property and build two new properties. Application has now been withdrawn.
- New windows installed in Queens Hotel in line with planning application.

B 1647 Chair's report

- Network Rail installation of full level crossing. MB to put update on website.

B 1648 Secretary's Report (LH)

Early in the summer, the Project Management Team involved with the Darn Walk / Crossing project informed us that that Scottish Power was about to issue the tender package for this, with a view to installing the crossing in late 2019 / early 2020.

Councillor Houston wrote to inform us that Bridge of Allan, in relation to the Town Centre Fund's capital grant allocation for 2019-2020, was eligible to apply for a part of the £477,000 available for less disadvantaged communities to enhance their town centres.

Councillor Majury forwarded an email he had received confirming that it is intended that the Walk, Cycle, Live Stirling's 'Stirling Station to University Route' is intended to provide improved walking and cycling infrastructure from the train station, over Stirling Bridge and on to Wallace High and the University via the

Causewayhead area and Airthrey Road; the exact alignment will be determined following appropriate consultation which will begin late summer/early autumn of this year and it is also intended to set up a steering group. With regard to the heavy rain and flooding the town experienced in late June, Councillor Majury forwarded an email from SC outlining the action it had taken during the flooding and confirmed that it would arrange a 'lessons learned' session to ensure that it continues to respond quickly to unplanned events of this scale. The Councillor has also confirmed that the electrical fault in the street lighting in Inverallan Drive has now been fixed; in addition he sent us confirmation that SC will consider his request to make the A9 footway on exiting Bridge of Allan and heading towards the Keir roundabout a shared space with cyclists and that SC will determine appropriate locations for the proposed red squirrel signs and will request authorization for the signing from Transport Scotland. We are also grateful to the councillor for trawling SC's file to provide us with information on the Glen Road. With regard to the parking on the 'clearway' stretch of road near Sheriffmuir, SC has written to confirm that the Traffic Management team will investigate whether double yellow lines would be more effective. More recently, Councillor Majury has reported that 13 kerbstones have been identified as in need of repair along Henderson street and that remedial work will be undertaken as soon as possible.

A resident contacted Councillor Majury to voice concern about the length of time that an estate agent's sign had been displayed and he has confirmed that, since the sign is on the adopted road network, it will be dealt by the SC inspectors.

Councillor Dodds informed us that he has raised twice with SC his concerns about the mess left by SGN after the completion of the gas piping installation works, particularly the debris from digging the trenches; he also noted that the white and yellow lines have worn away and that, where an occasional small section has been painted; the appearance is unsatisfactory and with erosion could lead to appeals from motorists. The councillor has also raised with SC the matter of the tree branches and other vegetation hanging over the boundary wall at LUMIA in Henderson Street, particularly in the context of potential head injury to pedestrians. The councillor has also indicated that he has raised with SC the issue of trees having been cut down along the river behind Forth Park and under the railway bridge. Recently, Councillor Dodds has informed us he is exploring the option of a community garden for the town, possibly utilizing the triangle in Castleview Drive at the Bowling Club and he has also reported that SC is intending to raise an order to repair the Patterson Clock, although Gavin Drummond has contacted us to voice his concern that the clock has not been fully operational since April.

Councillor Tollemache has asked SC for an indication of the timescale for the CPMP parking consultation for Bridge of Allan and SC confirmed that preparations had started and that it hoped to begin the process during the summer.

A resident has contacted us to suggest a competition for the commissioning of a mural to enhance the drab concrete wall at the station. Another resident who is a member of Doune Ponds Woodlands Group has volunteered to provide two signs indicating the location of the ice house. More recently, a resident from Upper Bridge of Allan has written with concerns about the condition of the local roads and the resultant impact both on motorists and, in particular, cyclists. I have passed on her communication to Councillor Dodds who has now actioned this SC has written to us and to residents to inform that it has started work on trial pits to identify the location of public utilities to assist in the design of the replacement flood alleviation scheme for Bridge of Allan.

The Social Enterprise Hub sent us details of a one-day programme for community groups. The focus is on Growing Enterprise Communities and the date is Wednesday, 28th August. We also received publicity material inviting organisations to take over the Festival of Volunteering Pop Up stand in the Thistle Centre during the period from the 9th to the 15th September and also material publicising Forth Valley Social Enterprise which enhances the employability of young people through its training programmes. SC has

notified us it has begun public consultation on draft supplementary guidance on a number of policies, Housing in the Countryside, Transport and Access for New development and Flood Risk Management; public comment is invited until September 6th.

Mark Ruskell, MSO, has contacted us to ask if our community has any concerns about the impact the proposed Heart 200 route may have on the local environment and community.

B 1649 Treasurer's Report

The BoA CC have not yet received donation from filming company. AD check and chase with production company.

Income: Receipt of crowdfunded money for Bridge of Allan play together £5,274.30, and a further donation from resident of £10.

Expenditure:

Monthly web hosting fees for July and September £12

Tea's Company spend on hall rental and a smart speaker: £222

Balance of funds are

Play parks: £10,202.83

Admin: £2,860.76

Teas's company: £1,210.43

B 1650 Residents' Voice

- GD raised concerns about the replacement of all black bins with aluminium bins on Henderson street. DD to seek rationale for this.
- Concern raised about overflow of bins on Blairforkie Road.
- DD to confirm ownership of the sensory garden and its ongoing maintenance and will raise at next meeting to discuss further any future funding.
- CPMP – concern raised about parking on Keir Street. JC will take forward comments as part of CPMP project.
- Signposts concealed by foliage on surrounding roads. DD to raise with SC.

B 1651 AOCB

- The deadline for the CC to raise any comment on the Bowling Club application is the 29th Aug 2019 at 12 noon. The item will be heard at the Provost Panel meeting on 26th September.
- Prison update: given that considerable work has started on the prison site, it was requested that an update from the Prison be presented at a future CC meeting.
- Existing play park equipment seems very tired. Suggestion to raise concerns via phone or online.

B 1652 Date of Next Meeting:

MW closed the meeting at 9:30pm and indicated that the next meeting would be held in the Allan Centre on Tuesday 17th September 2019.