



## **Minutes of Meeting of Bridge of Allan Community Council**

**Held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2020**

**Due to Covid-19 this meeting was held remotely via Zoom**

**Present:** Joanne Chisholm (JC) Vice Chair; Michael Burt (MB); Anna Doeser (AD) Treasurer; Bill Fortune (BF); Leslie Harkness (LH) Secretary; Iain McCusker (IMcC); Lucy McCormick (Minute Secretary); Vicky McDowell (VMcD); Janie Meikle Bland (JMB)

**Apologies:** Alasdair Taylor (AT); Duncan McDougall (DMcD) (associate member); Siobhan Hencher (SH); Andrew Drummond Baxter (ADB); Sandra Davidson (SD); Moira Randall (MR) (associate member); Mike Watson (MW) Chair; Alyn Smith MP; Andrew Davis (SC); PC Paul Gilliland; PC Dee Chalmers; Councillor Jeremy McDonald

**In attendance:** Councillor Douglas Dodds; Councillor Graham Houston; Councillor Alasdair Tollemache; Councillor Alastair Majury, Councillor Jeremy McDonald; MSP Alexander Stewart

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

### **B 1752 Welcome, Apologies and Conflict of Interest (JC)**

JC, acting as chair in the absence of MW opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed all those in attendance via Zoom; apologies were recorded as indicated above and no conflicts of interest were noted. The meeting attendees were informed that it was being recorded for the purposes of the minutes.

### **B 1753 Approval of Minutes, Matters Arising and Action Log (JC/LH)**

The minutes were approved of the 21st April 2020 CC meeting. Proposed by MB and seconded by IMc.

One correction is required: Alexander Stewart, MSP. has been inadvertently omitted from the list of attendees although he was in fact in attendance

In relation to Item B 1747 and the resident who raised concerns about the Covid -19 risk from the Health Centre door handles, Councillor Dodds has contacted the surgery and the relevant staff member has indicated that the matter has been raised at a meeting with the Estates Manager and the Building Maintenance Supervisor in the context of Covid-19 issues.

Also, in terms of Item B 1747 and the speeding on Airthrey Road, Councillor Dodds reported that, after he had raised the matter with the police, they had started to monitor the traffic on the road with a speed camera.

### **B 1754 Police Report (LH)**

The report encompasses all relevant crime and other matters which have occurred between the dates 21st April to 16th May 2020.

Our current priorities in the Bridge of Allan area continue to be Anti-Social Behaviour, Housebreakings, Road Safety and Community Engagement and Reassurance.

It should be noted that there were 10 recorded crimes within the Bridge of Allan area below are the pertinent ones to the local community.

#### **ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

We are aware of issues raised to the CPT in relation to anti-social behaviour within the Avenue, we would encourage the community to call 101 regarding all anti-social behaviour within the local area.

#### **DRUG MISUSE**

On 25th April at Stirling University, a male was found in possession of a small amount of cannabis, the male was cautioned and charged in relation to this and issued a warning.

On 13th May at Cornton Road, a male was found in possession of a small amount of cannabis, the male was cautioned and charged in relation to this and issued a warning.

**VIOLENT CRIME** - nothing to report.

#### **HOUSEBREAKINGS/CRIMES OF DISHONESTY**

On 5th May at Stirling University several bikes were stolen, a male youth was identified by police and charged with the offences and the bikes were recovered.

Between 5th and 6th May at Henderson Street, there was an attempt house breaking whereby the lock of a door was super glued and tampered with. Enquiries are ongoing in relation to this, if you have any information please contact 101 ref: PS-20200506-2405.

On 6th May at Blairforkie Drive, a secured bike was stolen, the bike is described as white Carrera Hybrid Ladies bike, enquiries are ongoing in relation to this please contact 101 ref: PS-20200509-2260.

#### **ROAD SAFETY AND ROAD TRAFFIC RELATED CRIME**

On 24th April at Lecropt a male was found to be travelling above the speed limit and when stopped by police, he was found to have no insurance or licence. The male was cautioned and charged with these offences and will be reported to the PF in relation to this.

#### **MATTERS OF NOTE**

When you see my colleagues out and about, you will start to notice that the majority of us are now carrying some additional technology with us! The devices are part of the Police Scotland "mobile working" project, and we are one of the last divisions to see the rollout. In short, all operational officers are being issued with electronic notebook/PDAs in order to speed up routine tasks, and ensuring we don't need to return to the office as often during the course of a shift. It has taken some getting used to, for tasks such as noting statements etc, but some of the features have proved advantageous. Each officer can now carry out their own checks on the street using national databases, without having to wait for a slot to talk to the Area Control Room. Historically, on busier nights it was often impossible to get air time to carry out checks owing to ongoing incidents elsewhere. We can also get emails on the go whilst out and about, and carry out

numerous pieces of paperwork that are required in the course of a shift. With the current restrictions, I am now only needing to return to the office for my lunch/dinner, and the rest of the shift is spent where I am best placed, and that is within the local communities. Hopefully that will explain why you will see officers sitting on their “phones” at the side of the road from time to time! We are either answering emails, speaking with local residents, or obtaining details of the incident we are being sent to. It is all subjective of 4G signal of course, and so far there are only a few spots that the devices don't seem to work.

Since the last community council meeting there has been 88 calls to the Bridge of Allan beat code please bear in mind this also covers parts of the Cornton and the motorway. Of these calls 1 was a domestic related incident, 3 were road traffic incidents and 3 were concern for person type calls.

Due to COVID19 CPT are unable to be as active in the community due to social distancing guidelines and other matters at present. We would like to encourage the local community to continue to adhere to these guidelines set by the government.

### **B 1755 Covid-19 (JC)**

JC provided an update to the CC on the successful launch of The Larder, a free food hub that has been set up by the CC in conjunction with Bridge of Allan Cares Group and The Kitchen at 44. The larder has been operating for 3 weeks and are open two days per week. We are helping on average 25 households per week either through people visiting or requesting deliveries. This week we have been able to extend our provisions with chilled cooked food cooked and donated by our local businesses. We are grateful to the Parish Church for the use of the Church hall and to all the businesses who have donated produce. The Larder thanks people publicly via our social media channels. There are around 20 volunteers involved. Financial donations have also been provided by Stirling Council, the round table and a local resident. The CC would like to thank everyone involved in this very worthwhile initiative. Also noted was the contribution that JC has made in getting this initiative going.

### **B 1756 Common Good Fund (LH)**

LH provided an update on behalf of Alasdair Taylor:

- 1) In terms of materials such an application form and guidance form, these are ready to be published on the CC website and AT feels it may be worth underlying for people out in the wider community that there is a some money available (although limited) so to start to think about some element of funding.
- 2) Link has been sent out to a scoring sheet. All CC to score themselves against it and send score to AD who will aggregate and collate scores to form an average.
- 3) Alasdair Taylor has written to Chief Financial Officer, Jim Boyle with a request for some details of potential investment options and also for their consideration of what risk opportunity balance they would support for any potential stock market investment. Also copied was Councillor Houston as he was involved in the previous discussion.

Gavin Drummond questioned the lack of visibility of the contents of score sheet. JC and LH did confirm that the common good fund has been discussed a number of times at the CC meeting however the score sheet has not been shared. **Action:** scoring sheet and relevant forms to be put on CC website for public consumption. AD to cascade link to Standard Life attitude to risk form questionnaire.

### **B 1757 Play Park Initiative/ Changing Places Project (SH)**

In the absence of SH, AD provided an update. The CC made contact with SC for an update on the costings and the progress on the purchase the equipment. SC did provide an update however due to Covid-19 a lot of projects are currently on hold as well as manufacturing facilities for some of their equipment but they will continue to update the CC and gave reassurance to the CC that lottery funding which was meant to be spent within 12 months should be able to be carried over if needed and when SC are in a position to start they will.

#### **B 1758 Telephone Box (JC)**

Item to be carried forward to the next CC meeting. JC did suggest that we ask the community for views of whether they would like to see anything to be done with the post box and also whether there is any appetite in current climate for anyone who would like to get involved in this project from the community e.g. trades people. The telephone box is not currently in the greatest of conditions e.g. missing glass pane/ cabling etc. **Action:** CC in favour of suggestion and MB will put some further information on the CC facebook site to gage initial feedback.

#### **B 1759 CC Links with Callender CC (Cllr J McDonald)**

Cllr J McDonald attends both the BoA and Callendar CC meetings and recognised that as there are similarities between both communities whether there would be benefit to have closer links and discussing certain issues of common interest. The CC were receptive to this.

**Action:** Councillor Alastair Majury will pick up with SC to get visibility about a community contact who is currently coordinating community volunteer groups and they are collating useful documents and guidance between groups which the CC could benefit from.

#### **B 1760 Planning Report (IMc)**

No planning schedule so far for this week. Last week's schedule did have planning applications on it however nothing relevant for BoA.

There was a discussion in relation to the Craigforth proposed development although it is out with the area. **Action:** all to view the proposed development for Craigforth and let IMc have any observations/ comments.

The next SC Planning meeting will be held on 26 May 20 which will be an online meeting.

#### **B 1761 Secretary's Report (LH)**

The CC has received two anonymous communications expressing concern about the health and safety vulnerability (in terms of inadequate PPE protection) of the 400 Stirling University nursing students due to begin their health service placements at the end of last month. The matter has been passed on to the local health authority.

Councillor Dodds has sent the CC notification of a number of issues he has raised with Stirling Council; these related to customers outside a local takeaway failing to fully observe distancing guidelines, to future maintenance requirements to address the number of large potholes and sunken drainage covers on Upper Glen road and on the need to cut the grass in the Memorial Park. Regarding the latter matter, with more staff returning to work, SC's ride-on mowers have now recommenced grass cutting in areas of the town, including the Memorial Park.

Councillor Tollemache has forwarded a communication from SC indicating that details on how SC will deliver the CPMP work, under the present conditions will be provided after the internal meeting scheduled for 9th June.

One of our Community Police officers, PC Chalmers forwarded to the CC a community communication from the Forth Valley Division Superintendent for Partnerships publicizing an online survey to determine public attitudes towards the police in the context of the pandemic crisis.

A local resident has written to the CC to express surprise that the CC did not take the view that the locating of a peace garden in the Memorial Park, a garden regarded by the resident as a Japanese war memorial, was inherently inappropriate. Our Chair has emailed that the garden was never intended to be a Japanese war memorial and is, in fact, dedicated to the victims of war.

Another resident has sent details of a suspicious incident in the town centre and we have forwarded the matter to the local police.

The CC received notification of two recently undertaken interactive online consultation events on the planning proposals for the Craigforth Campus.

The CC has received a copy of the most recent newsletter from Our Connected Neighbourhoods and also a copy of the most recent Scottish Flood Forum newsletter.

### B 1762 Treasurer’s Report (AD)

Bridge of Allan Community Council				
Treasurer's report				
April				
Restricted Funds	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance
<u>1. Playparks Fund</u>	29396.06			<u>29396.06</u>
<u>2. Administration Fund</u>	5046.65			
Web hosting -May			6	
Zoom subscriptions April			14.39	
Minutes - April/May			80	
				<u>4946.26</u>
<u>3. Covid Funds</u>	0			
Stirling Council Grant		500		
Stirling and BofA round table		250		
Resident donation		40		
				<u>790</u>
<u>4. Christmas lights 2020</u>	109			<u>109</u>
				<u>35241.32</u>
<b>Total Available Funds</b>				<u><u>35241.32</u></u>
<b>Add unrepresented cheques/payments *:</b>				
Christmas Craft expenses				24
Stationary				20
Donation to start up stirling		cheque sent not cashed		165
Tea's company training		transaction not confirmed		262.43
Zoom				14.39
minutes				80
<b>Less outstanding receipts</b>				
Lights sponsor		cheque not collected		150
Larder - donation cash not banked				40
				<u>35617.14</u>
<b>Bank balance at 19th April</b>				<u><u>35617.14</u></u>
Anna Doeser Treasurer May 19th 2020				

\* a few more pending cheques do to covid 19 movement restrictions

### B 1763 AOCB

- JC thanked all those who have made donations to the larder.

- AD asked MB for access to CC webpage to enable it to be used as a repository for useful documents e.g. volunteer documents for the larder volunteers (Covid response section) and to provide some information about businesses which are open and providing services. **Action:** MB and AD to discuss offline to co-ordinate approach.
- Point raised about the brown bins which are no longer being collected and no further information on the SC website although garden waste is currently permitted in the grey bin at the moment. It was confirmed that plans are underway and SC are looking to reinstate full service on the brown bin collection soon.
- JC raised a request from Sheila McGregor (Friends volunteer) regarding the hanging baskets and whether the CC would have any objections with using hanging basket stands for bunting/ pennants created by local groups. The CC fully supported this activity.

#### **B 1764 Date of Next Meeting**

JC closed the meeting at 8.44 pm. The date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 at 7.30pm.** It was recognised that June would normally be the month of the AGM, however the date of the AGM can be deferred if appropriate. LH, MW & JC to have an offline discussion to agree when the AGM will be.