

CAMBUSLANG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Tuesday 18th April 2017

Venue: Cambuslang Institute

Present

D Thomson Chairman
M Farmer Vice-Chairwoman
H B Allan Secretary
J Bachtler Treasurer
H Allison
Dr D Porter
M Gurling
S Smith

In Attendance

A Dixon
E Kenealy ("Reformer")
E A Allan (Minute Secretary)

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Members and others present to the Meeting.

Apologies

R Allison, Cllr W Brogan, Cllr P Clearie, Cllr R Clearie, Cllr C McColl, Cllr R Tullett, J Kelly MSP.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Meeting of 21st March were read.

Corrections

There were no corrections.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

The Minutes were approved by Mr Bachtler and seconded by Mr Thomson.

Police Report

There was no Police presence at the Meeting.

Chairman's Correspondence

There has been a series of correspondence in the name of the Chairman with Lindsay Freeland, Chief Executive of South Lanarkshire Council concerning a meeting which Cambuslang Community Council has been requesting to discuss the town centre business report and the setting up of a town centre task force. A meeting has been offered with the

Director of Economic Development, Michael McGlynn, but the Community Council thinks the Chief Executive should be at the first meeting. Cllrs Brogan, R Clearie, Deanie, McColl and Tullett have supported the Community Council in this.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary said details of numerous processions and applications for domestic extensions have been received.

Aldi have requested an extension to their opening hours from 8 am to 10 pm daily.

Treasurer's Report

CCC Main Bank Account

March	£61,714.58
Balance today	£50,889.10

Since the last meeting income of £1,050 from Healthy n Happy for the Smarter Choices project and interest of £7.67 has been received. Withdrawals listed in the minutes of the March Meeting have now cleared through the system leaving the balance as shown above.

There are still withdrawals pending in the system for payments from the Administration Grant for minutes, stationery (£275.00) and website (£7.37), transfer of fund raising to Cambuslang in Bloom (£87.92), TCCF for barrier baskets (£474.23) and payments in relation to CCF, including a banner for the Community Council.

Cambuslang in Bloom Account

March balance	£300.00
Balance today	£300.00

Amounts are still in the system for backdated fundraising (£87.92), shopkeepers' payments of £475.00, CCF grant of £2,000 and £664.14 raised by Sainsbury's bag-pack.

Friends of Holmhills Wood Community Park Account

February balance	£250.00
Balance today	£250.00

There is a CCF grant of £1,292 in the system.

The Treasurer advised the Meeting that the Admin Grant had been completely committed by the end of March.

TCCCF (Greening Main Street) is all committed, but £872.92 still to pay.

CCF (Greening Cambuslang) all committed by end of March but still £2,646.50 to pay.

Report is due to be made to South Lanarkshire Council following the end of the financial year.

Cycle Project

Mr Bachtler said, as reported at the last Meeting, with regard to Clyde Cycle Park, Scottish Enterprise have offered a three-year exclusive right to acquire the land. They have also said they would welcome an application for Community Asset Transfer, which could be done under Community Asset legislation. Mr Bachtler said leasing may be the best option. Scottish Enterprise has been asked to come up with the necessary paperwork.

Margaret Ferrier, MP, had a meeting with Liberty Steel, who are now owners of the Clydebridge site. They are interested in discussing how the Clyde Walkway might cross their site. It is also intended that the site of the new houses being constructed on the former Hoover site will have a path through this leading down to the riverside.

Friends of Holmhills Park

Mrs Farmer said the organisation is now fully constituted. She will provide a copy of the constitution for formal approval. Their next meeting will be 4th May between 7.00 and 8.00 pm. When Froglife renovated the pond no plants were put back into the pond. South Lanarkshire Countryside Rangers have been given seeds and plants which will be planted round the pond area to give biodiversity.

She said £1,292 has been received from the Greening Cambuslang project. This will be used to provide a bench in a scenic area of the park.

In the Main Issues Report of South Lanarkshire's Local Development Plan she noted that South Lanarkshire are talking about looking to see whether Holmhills Wood Community Park, which is now under greenbelt, should be classed as a local nature reserve.

One member of the group has offered to go on a VASLAN training course. Two of the group went on a survey with Froglife with the idea of possibly doing training or educational activities.

Friends of Douglas Park

Dr Porter said there is nothing new to report since the last meeting. They have not held another meeting, but are waiting to get the revised constitution back from the Charities organisation.

Community Choice Fund

Mr Bachtler said all funds had to be committed by the end of March. This has been done. An event was held in the Toll Pitch Pavilion on 27th March to celebrate the funding and projects. Once everything has been wrapped up, a report will be submitted to the Scottish Government. Projects will be implemented throughout the summer. It is hoped to get coverage of these in the "Reformer". As an example, Mr Bachtler said the Keirs Walk group hope to have a picnic once their project has been finalised.

Greening the Main Street

Mr Bachtler said there are a couple of outstanding items. "Welcome" panels were taken down at Christmas and then put back up in the wrong places and fixed poorly. South Lanarkshire Council have agreed to replace them in the right places. There was enough money left to buy two new banners. Labels for barrier baskets have been bought, as have two extra barrier baskets. Remaining money will be transferred to Cambuslang in Bloom.

Cambuslang in Bloom

Mrs Allison said a fundraising bag pack had been held in Sainsbury's. A number of young people from Universal Connections had attended. This bag pack was well received. Mrs Allison and Dr Porter have been going round collecting money from businesses for hanging baskets. She said a tree in the planter outside Kolor King has been badly vandalised. It has been snapped down the middle. Cambuslang in Bloom will be holding a meeting on 20th April.

Town Centre Regeneration

Mr Bachtler said he is happy to have a meeting with the Chief Executive of South Lanarkshire Council, or the Director of Economic Development, or both. The Community Council has also approached the Scottish Government. Mr Bachtler is hopeful that there is a range of funding opportunities which could be accessed. He is not positive that the boundary of Clyde Gateway is likely to be extended. He said if the Community Council want a meeting with Ministers, it will be necessary to have a specific focus. If there were to be a specific event arranged to be held on Main Street, it might be possible to invite Scottish ministers to that. He said he had written to the Chief Executives of the banks saying it was not good enough that they were closing branches and leaving the community to pick up the pieces.

Royal Bank of Scotland have offered to second a business officer to work with the Town Centre Regeneration Group. They have offered to run some sort of clinic or event for businesses in Main Street which may have ideas for expansion.

He said there may be some shops not yet present on Main Street which could do well, and gave an example of a repair cafe where a repair service for appliances could be offered.

Clydesdale Bank want to arrange a meeting. So far, there has been no response from TSB.

There was a rumour about M & Co (formerly known as Mackays) possibly closing. Douglas Dickie from the "Reformer" had phoned their Media Department who had said "No comment." Mr Bachtler said he had written to the Chief Executive of M & Co and explained what Cambuslang Community Council are trying to do and stressed how important the shop is to Main Street.

Mr Bachtler said a letter has been received from Margaret Ferrier, MP, supporting what the Town Centre Regeneration is trying to achieve.

Local Development Plan - Main Issues Report

Mrs Farmer distributed copies to all Members and asked if these could be studied and if Members could provide any feedback or issues which they wished to raise. The deadline for submissions is 12th May. Dr Porter raised the possible issue of the former Mitchells site being used as a park and ride facility.

Air Quality

Dr Porter said he found it rather surprising that the results for air quality in Cambuslang which appeared on the Air Quality website appear to have changed significantly. While small correction factors would be understandable he found huge correction factors more difficult to explain. A meeting with one of the engineering staff has been offered to explain how monitoring is carried out. It may be worth extending an invitation to a future Community Council Meeting. Where emission were previously above the legal limit, they now appear to be below the legal limit. However, what is becoming increasingly clear is that air quality is now getting a higher profile in the press. Issues are starting to emerge and there is more awareness of the long-term effects of pollution.

Any Other Business

Mr Bachtler said Mary Frances Coyle from Grenville Drive had expressed an interest in joining the Community Council. There is scope for her to be co-opted.

Hustings

Mr Bachtler said a Hustings Meeting will be held on Monday 24th April from 7.00 to 9.00 pm. Invitations have been sent to the eight candidates who are standing for election to South Lanarkshire Council. Mr Bachtler said he has written to different community groups, churches and the "Reformer" to publicise the event. Mr Thomson said it has also been advertised on the Facebook "About Cambuslang" page.

Closure of Police Station

A letter has been received from Chief Inspector McSherry advising that consideration is being given to the closure of Cambuslang Police Station. Mrs Farmer said the officers who are still working in the building make a contribution to the local community by their presence and also by patronising local businesses. Following discussion, Mr Bachtler said a letter will be sent on behalf of the Community Council expressing its opposition to any closure as increasing centralisation can be seen as diminishing local accountability. It would also be another example of jobs being relocated away from Cambuslang.

Closure of Meeting

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the Meeting, thanking all present for their attendance. The next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th May 2017 in Cambuslang Institute, Greenlees Road, Cambuslang at 7.30 pm.