

CAMBUSLANG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Tuesday 15th April 2014 **Venue: Cambuslang St Andrews Church Hall**

Present

I McKenzie Chairman
H B Allan Secretary
I Frame Treasurer
A Reynolds Vice Chairman
D Thomson
B H Hartel
R Rooney
H Allison
R Allison
T Stringfellow
D MacDonald

In Attendance

Cllr C McColl
S Fulton (Cambuslang FC)
S Reilly (VASLAN)
A M Graham (Rut & C'lg Foodbank)
F Mathie (SLLC)
E Cais
M McElwee
K Smith ("Reformer")
E A Allan (Minute Secretary)

Welcome

The Chairman opened the Meeting, welcoming Members, Elected Representatives and others attending.

Apologies

E Wallace, S Smith, M Gurling, J Bachtler, N Berry, J Taylor, Cllr W Brogan, Cllr P Clearie, Cllr R Clearie, Cllr C Deanie, Cllr R Tullett, Sgt G McLaughlin (PS Scotland), T Greatrex, MP, J Kelly, MSP, J Stewart

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Meeting of 18th March were read.

Corrections

The Minute Secretary said that Mr Taylor had proposed that a letter be composed raising objection to the Cambus Court site development proposals.

Matters Arising

Apologies – Mr MacDonald apologised for his absence from the last Meeting. He had been unable to submit apologies in advance as a last minute work situation had arisen. Mr Reynolds said he had tried to submit apologies to the Chairman, but unfortunately had not been aware that the Chairman was also going to be absent from the Meeting, so his apology had not been recorded.

Slabs on Main Street – Cllr McColl has reported the slabs. She has spoken to the Roads Department and asked that they carry out a complete examination. Mrs Allison said Cllr Tullett had carried out a walkabout on Main Street with herself, Mr Allison and officers

from South Lanarkshire Council. The Minute Secretary said Cllr Tullett had asked for the Meeting to be advised that it appeared that a lot of the problems had been caused by utility companies not reinstating the pavement to a high enough standard after work had been carried out. Cllr Tullett said he had been made aware that Scottish Power plan to upgrade cables along Main Street and into shops later this summer. Officers from South Lanarkshire Council will closely monitor the work which is carried out to make sure it addresses some of the defects which have been identified.

Website – The setting up of the website was approved by the Meeting.

Bike Project – The Chairman said Mr Bachtler had provided an update on this which would be circulated to the Meeting. The Chairman asked that, in Mr Bachtler's absence, thanks to him should be recorded for the work he has put in on this.

Cambus Court – The Chairman said that Cllr Tullett had made an objection to the proposed development. The Chairman acknowledged that Cllrs P Clearie and R Clearie could not make any comment on this proposed development to the Community Council as they are on the Planning Committee and Cllr McColl is in the same situation as she is a substitute if needed on the Planning Committee. Mr Hartel said the application is in and people have made submissions. Representations will be accepted up until just before it comes to Committee. Attempts are being made to justify this project on the grounds of materials used and reconstituted stone from the building being used. Attempts are being made to draw comparisons with the flatted development at the old Cambuslang Library site, but this site is not in the conservation area, so such comparisons are not relevant. Mr Hartel said to some extent you do feel disenfranchised. He does not know what the public have to do to prevent this proposal going ahead. The Chairman asked if the Planning Meeting was open to the public. Cllr McColl said it was, and the public can ask to make representation. The Chairman suggested that a hearing should be asked for. Mr Reynolds seconded this proposal, and this was agreed unanimously by the Members.

Police Report – Cllr McColl said with regard to parking at Hawthorn Walk, she has been concerned about parking in this area and on occasion vehicles being parked almost right on the roundabout. It is dangerous to have cars parked on the pavement.

Cambuslang Police Station – Cllr McColl said that police officers will be working from Cambuslang Police Station from 7.00 am to 3.00 am on weekdays and 7.00 am to 4.00 pm on weekends. There will be officers in the building but there will not be a public counter. Members of the public wishing to contact police on a non-emergency matter should call 101.

Kyle Court – Mr Rooney said the situation with regard to cigarette butts around this area is still the same.

Derelict Building on Dukes Road – Cllr McColl said she has spoken to the owners of the building. There are three different owners. This has been made safe. Young children were coming down and going into the building. The owner of India Palms was getting smoke coming into his premises. Environmental Health has been to look at the area. She said it is very difficult to get some of the owners to acknowledge letters.

Police Report

There was no police presence at the Meeting.

Chairman's Correspondence

There was no Chairman's correspondence.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary said there was nothing to report in relation to planning applications.

Notification has been received of several forthcoming public processions.

Treasurer's Report

March balance	£1,947.88
Balance today	£1,368.07

The Treasurer advised the balance of £144.44 still remains in the Morriston Park Fund.

Bike Project

The Chairman circulated a report from Mr Bachtler of recent developments.

Community Council Consultation

The Chairman advised the Meeting that this is now into the third round of the consultation process.

VASLAN

The Chairman introduced Stuart Reilly from VASLAN and invited him to address the Meeting.

Mr Reilly gave a comprehensive presentation to the Meeting on the work of VASLAN. He said VASLAN is committed to ensuring the quality of community and voluntary sector action in South Lanarkshire is among the best in Scotland. VASLAN supports and promotes volunteering and supports community and voluntary organisations and also support and develop social enterprise. Support is available through information sessions, roaming surgeries, support by telephone and email, their website, Facebook, Twitter and one-to-one support visits can be arranged by request.

Any groups which are being set up can come along to VASLAN at any stage to seek advice on such matters as identifying training needs or drawing up a constitution. They can also obtain advice on committee skills or bookkeeping.

1,370 voluntary organisations are registered, as are 3,300 volunteers. There are opportunities for voluntary appointments for potential volunteers. Members can be advised through the Volunteer Scotland website.

VASLAN want to ensure that the voluntary and community sector is heard.

VASLAN have an office at 25 Main Street, Cambuslang.

The Chairman thanked Mr Reilly for his presentation and asked if Members had any questions.

Mr Reynolds asked if Cambuslang Community Council could be linked in some way on the VASLAN website. The Chairman said that once the Community Council website is set up, mutual links could be beneficial.

Cambuslang and Rutherglen Foodbank

The Chairman introduced Anne Marie Graham and invited her to address the Meeting.

Ms Graham said she is project manager for Rutherglen and Cambuslang Foodbank. When you look at Scotland as a whole, this area is within the top five most deprived areas in terms of health, income, education and employment. The Foodbank comes under the Trussell Trust. People who are referred to the Foodbank are not necessarily people who have chaotic lifestyles, but people who have fallen through the cracks temporarily and need help to get over a hurdle. These people are not always unemployed but can be people in low paid jobs or people who have taken out payday loans.

The Foodbanks receive donations from individuals and from local businesses, schools and churches. Following a recent collection at Tesco, Tesco topped up the amount collected by 30 per cent. A recent collection was held at Morrisons, which resulted in a collection of 4.2 tonnes of food. The more people want to know, the more people want to help.

The Foodbank aims to restore dignity and revive hope in people.

In the first week in May, a Foodbank will be opening at the Bonus Ball (Whitlawburn Resource Centre). The premises in Cambuslang are underneath the VASLAN office.

The Chairman thanked Ms Graham for her presentation. He said he would like to link up with organisations through putting links on the Community Council website. Cllr McColl said the Foodbanks are doing a tremendous job. Ms Graham said there are people who will go and collect larger donations of food.

Cllr McColl asked what would happen if someone old was in need of food. Ms Graham said they would try to arrange something, but would not go into someone's house.

Mr Thomson asked what sort of food was looked for as donations. Ms Graham said store cupboard items with fairly long shelf life, such as tinned food, beans, soup, long life milk, basically anything which would not go "off" quickly. Other things such as tinned fruit, tinned rice, instant mash, noodles or pasta, although not regarded as staples were also suitable.

Stonelaw High Community Sports Hub

The Chairman introduced Fiona Mathie and asked her to give the Meeting information on this initiative.

Ms Mathie said she works for South Lanarkshire Council in a post funded by Sport Scotland. She works with sports clubs in and around South Lanarkshire and helps set up sports hubs to try to bring clubs together and share resources.

The local hub for this area is at Stonelaw High School. It is relatively new. An event is being held on 27th April from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm. There are currently 16 clubs engaged at Stonelaw and on this date they will offer taster sessions to the local community. They are primarily targeted at children. They are trying to boost numbers and engage with the local community. Activities include football, dance, karate and basketball. Tesco are donating water and fruit. The contact number for Stonelaw is 0141 647 6779.

The Chairman thanked Ms Mathie for the information provided.

Cambuslang FC

The Chairman invited Mr Fulton to address the Meeting.

Mr Fulton said he is working with Mr Stewart of Celtic Boys Club to try to obtain facilities in the Cambuslang area. Between the two clubs, they have about 300 children and provide three to five hours per week in a controlled environment.

They have looked at two sites – the Peter Brownlie red ash which they would like to convert to a 3G artificial surface, but South Lanarkshire Council have not been as positive as had been hoped, and also private land, namely the Gaelic football pitch on the way to Rutherglen. Initial discussions have been favourable.

Mr Fulton said the aim is to come together as a Community Development Trust as it is felt that this would be the best way to progress. Any facility which was set up would be operated in this way.

The Chairman thanked Mr Fulton for his report and said that the owners of the Gaelic football pitch have agreed to meet with Mr Fulton and Mr Stewart. The Chairman will also attend the meeting to represent the Community Council. The intention is that any site which is developed will be multi-functional to be of the widest benefit possible to the community and allow scope for the fullest potential development of any site.

The Chairman asked Mr Reilly if VASLAN would be able to offer any help. Mr Reilly said if VASLAN was approached, they would be happy to see what advice or support they could give.

The Chairman said he would like to propose that this moves to the next stage and that a Community Development Trust should be set up. This was agreed by the Meeting.

Mr Reynolds asked why South Lanarkshire Council were being negative about the Peter Brownlie site. Mr Fulton said there are two pitches there – a grass park and an ash park.

He thought it possible there might have been some misunderstanding about how much of the site it was hoped to acquire, as the grass park is always busy.

Ms Mathie said if clubs come together this always gives a stronger voice when seeking to identify sources of funding. Mr Reynolds asked if it might be worth considering approaching the governing bodies of football such as the Scottish Football Association.

Mr Rooney said the actual name of the Gaelic football pitch is Pierce Park.

Cllr McColl said the Gaelic football site had problems with Japanese knotweed. The Chairman said treatment has been carried out and certification would be received confirming that.

Mr Thomson said the Gaelic football pitch is on a busy road. What would happen with regard to parking? Mr Fulton said there is actually a very considerable amount of land on the site and they are looking at different options for making use of the land available.

Mr Reynolds said the pitches which had previously been at Whitlawburn have now been taken away. Mr Fulton said while there are seven 3G pitches in East Kilbride, 4 in Hamilton and one in Carluke, Cambuslang has no such provision.

The Chairman said that the issue of setting up a Community Development Trust will now be taken forward.

Any Other Business

Cllr McColl said that Summerfest will be held on 21st June.

Mr Reynolds said on the previous weekend there had been a big smash involving a bus at Western Road/Greenlees Road. The next day the council came and replaced the traffic lights. Cllr McColl said she did not know how the accident happened. She understood the police are still investigating.

Mr Reynolds said if you go up Greenlees Road to where the new houses have been built across from Kirkhill Golf Club there is a lot of rubbish lying next to the open ground. Who is responsible for ensuring areas around private developments are cleared? Should Planning not check that everything has been cleared? Cllr McColl said that she has been trying to find out who takes responsibility for checking.

Closure of Meeting

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the Meeting, reminding all present that the next Meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th May 2014 in St Andrews Church Hall, Main Street, Cambuslang at 7.30 pm.