

CAMBUSLANG COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Tuesday 18th February 2014

Venue: Cambuslang St Andrews Church Hall

Present

I McKenzie Chairman
H B Allan Secretary
I Frame Treasurer
A Reynolds Vice Chairman
D Thomson
R Allison
H Allison
S Smith
B H Hartel
J Bachtler
D MacDonald
T Stringfellow
J Taylor

In Attendance

Cllr R Tullett
Sgt G McLaughlin (P.S. Scotland)
PC C Fellowes (P.S. Scotland)
S Fulton (Cambuslang FC)
K A Whyte (Cambuslang FC)
J Stewart (Celtic BC)
L Jamieson (COSLA)
D Berry
C Kalsi
G Kalsi
E A Allan (Minute Secretary)

Welcome

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

Apologies

E Wallace, R Rooney, M Gurling, N Berry, Cllr W Brogan, Cllr P Clearie, Cllr R Clearie, Cllr C Deanie, Cllr C McColl, Inspector J Gillespie (Strathclyde Police), T Greatrex, MP, J Kelly, MSP, K Smith (“Reformer”)

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Meeting of 19th November were read.

Corrections

There were no corrections.

Matters Arising

Car Wash on Bridge Street – This does not need a licence. Cllr McColl said rates are being paid. The operators must have some statutory documentation. Mrs Allison asked if they are paying rates who monitors water used?

Community Resource Network – The Chairman said he hopes he will have an update for the next Meeting.

Bike Project – The Chairman said Mr Bachtler will provide an update on this.

Fringe Event – The Chairman said this would be carried forward to the next Meeting.

West Coats Road – Mrs Allison said the position with traffic U-turning in this area is still as bad.

Westburn Residents – Mrs Allison said that the residents in this area have now lost their housing co-operative and have been taken back into South Lanarkshire Council control.

J D Wetherspoon – The Chairman has made contact with J D Wetherspoon. He will be writing to them to see if there is a possibility of some sort of combined use for the former bingo hall on Main Street.

Cambus Court – Mr Hartel said he had spoken to South Lanarkshire Council Planning Department. A proposal and drawings for development of the site are expected next week.

The Minutes were approved by Mr Bachtler and seconded by Mrs Allison.

Police Report

See Appendix 1.

Questions to Police Representatives

The Chairman thanked the Police representatives for their report and opened the Meeting to questions. Mr Reynolds asked how many Neighbourhood Watch schemes were in operation in Cambuslang. Sgt McLaughlin said she did not know the exact number, but there were not many in Cambuslang, but a few in Rutherglen. PC Fellowes said there are some in Halfway.

The Chairman said the public counter closure in Cambuslang police station is now a fait accompli. He thinks this is sad. Mr Thomson asked if any consideration might be given to opening it part-time, possibly using volunteers or civilians. Sgt McLaughlin said this was not an option. Rutherglen is open from 8.00 to 6.00 pm, closed between 12.30 and 1.30. The footfall going into Cambuslang police station prior to the closure of the public counter had been minimal. Cllr Tullett said when he commented on this matter in the “Reformer” he was surprised that no one he met afterwards mentioned this to him. The police are like all public bodies and are having to make best use of resources. Sgt McLaughlin said there is an emergency telephone outside Cambuslang police station, and anyone can always dial 999 in emergency or 101 in other cases and the police will be there. Appointments can be arranged or surgeries where people can come in and speak to someone. Mr Thomson said if you find lost property this would mean you had to take it to Rutherglen. Sgt McLaughlin said if this was not possible, if the police are telephoned they will arrange to come and collect it.

Mrs Allison said the underpass had been badly vandalised on 18th January. The police had attended. Mr and Mrs Allison’s car was vandalised on the Thursday/Friday before the Meeting, being spray painted. PC Fellowes said spray painting is more common in Fernhill, but is not very common in Cambuslang. Mrs Allison said the car was in the car park at Rosebank Tower. She has asked for some form of CCTV. Cllr Tullett said there

is a mobile unit which can be installed. This is used by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team if there are issues in any particular area.

The Chairman said a letter had been received from Mr McCallum, a Brownside Road resident, with regard to the roundabouts at the Brownside Road/Langlea Road junction and confusion about some junctions having single lines and some having double lines. This letter had been forwarded to the Councillors for this ward. A reply had been sent to Mr McCallum from South Lanarkshire Council. In this letter, South Lanarkshire Council had said that double lines can be used on approach to a mini roundabout “where driver speeds may be higher than is appropriate”. It is an ongoing contention that speeds in that part of Brownside Road are indeed higher than is appropriate. Mrs Berry outlined specific problems she had encountered at the roundabouts.

The Chairman introduced Ms Jamieson from COSLA who advised Members she was there to highlight a doorstep crime campaign which is being launched on Tuesday 25th February from 9.00 to 11.00 am in the Old Parish Church in Cambuslang in conjunction with Police Scotland. Doorstep criminals are mobile. They work across council borders. Winter is when doorstep criminals tell people slates have come off roofs and they have significant problems which need repaired. People are often embarrassed because they have lost a lot of money. Ms Jamieson is asking for victims of such a crime, or their families or friends, to report doorstep crime.

Mrs Smith said there are still ongoing issues around the Croft Road junction and also with parking on the pavement around Tabernacle Lane/Johnston Drive. Sgt McLaughlin said the Croft Road area was not designed for the number of cars which use it now. The police will monitor this area.

There being no further questions to the Police representatives, the Chairman thanked them for their attendance and the Police representatives left the Meeting.

Chairman’s Correspondence

The Chairman said that notification had been received that Aldi propose to start construction on the forthcoming store on the former South Lanarkshire College site in March with an opening in October.

Secretary’s Report

The Secretary advised the Meeting that the application for a pharmacy in Kyle Square has again been rejected.

J D Wetherspoons have lodged a licensing application for the former bingo hall on Main Street.

Treasurer’s Report

October balance	£1,988.68
Balance today	£1,988.68

Proposed Changes to Community Council Scheme

Mr Taylor advised the Meeting that Halfway Community Council has been reinstated and has now started up again.

The proposed changes will be looked at to see any amendments which have been made to previous proposals.

Bike Project

Mr Bachtler circulated a report of recent developments. Mr Reynolds said there are already some parking bays and small bike sheds at Cambuslang and Kirkhill stations. Mr Bachtler said storage facilities have to be there.

The Secretary said the Minute Secretary had almost been knocked over by a cyclist speeding up a narrow pavement in Rutherglen and she had been verbally abused when she complained to him. Mr Bachtler said training for cyclists was necessary, and also training for pedestrians and car users.

The Chairman asked how much was set aside from the South Lanarkshire Council budget for the cycle project. Cllr Tullett said he would look into that. When any cycle routes are being considered, it is necessary to look at the width of pavements.

Football Pitch in Cambuslang

The Chairman thanked representatives of Cambuslang FC and Celtic BC for their attendance and invited them to address the Meeting.

Mr Fulton and Mr Stewart have looked at what could be done to improve facilities in the area. At present, football facilities in the Cambuslang area are very poor. They would like to get a 3G park in Cambuslang. Mr Stewart said they would like the support of the Community Council in this venture. Mr Fulton said it would be a community based training facility. Between the two clubs, they could offer around 400 children four to five hours' supervised training in a controlled environment. At present the Peter Brownlie facility is lying derelict. They hope to approach South Lanarkshire Council with a view to acquiring a long term lease on this facility, which already has changing rooms and floodlights.

Mr Taylor said that Cambuslang Park has football areas. Mr Stewart said they do use the park on occasions from spring onwards, but a problem is vandalism. If a Portakabin was erected, it would be vandalised or become a magnet for underage drinking.

The Chairman said they are trying to go down the route of a development trust where it is run by the community for the community.

The local Councillors have been approached and are supportive. Mr Fulton has also been speaking to James Kelly, MSP and Tom Greatrex, MP.

Mr Reynolds said if they have the support of the councillors, they should contact the SFA and get involvement and support from that side of football as well.

The Chairman asked if the Meeting was in support of this proposal. Members approved this unanimously. The Chairman said a sub-committee could be set up. Mr Fulton and Mr Stewart said they would put forward a proposal for the next Meeting.

Any Other Business

Mrs Allison said Cllr McColl had advised that following the Tattoo Artist shop opening at the top of Main Street, another tattoo artist will be starting to operate in the Classy Chicks shop.

Mr MacDonald said that the car wash on Bridge Street is in an area which was supposed to be involved in redevelopment. The Chairman said he does not know the position with regard to the proposed redevelopment and the current position with regard to Sainsbury, but agreed with Mr MacDonald that the relief road to the proposed development was intended to be where the car wash is currently operating. Mrs Allison said she believes that some of the property currently on the sites has not yet been acquired. Mr Taylor said Mitchells have already moved out. Mr MacDonald said Main Street will be finished, as will small businesses in Cambuslang, if there is no car park.

Mrs Smith said she comes to Meetings month after month and sometimes there is one Councillor from East Cambuslang and sometimes there are none. None of the Councillors for the East Cambuslang ward actually hold surgeries in Central Cambuslang, so surgeries are not always easy to get to.

The Chairman said he is hoping to have a representative from Whitlawburn Recycling Project at a future Meeting. He is also trying to build up a relationship with Healthy and Happy.

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 18th March 2014 in St Andrews Church Hall, Main Street, Cambuslang at 7.30 pm.

APPENDIX ONE

Police Report Given to Cambuslang Community Council on 18th February 2014

Sgt McLaughlin said that, following on from Sgt Hope's report, housebreakings are quite high. The police have had an operation running which was targeting housebreaking involving high value cars. A number of people have been reported. A new operation is now running which is dealing with housebreaking of a more domestic nature as opposed to commercial or high value. There have been a number of housebreakings in the Drumsargard, Brownside Road and Mansfield Avenue areas. People should make sure windows and doors are locked, and make sure lights are left on if going out for the evening.

Sgt McLaughlin said she expected mention to be made by Members of the public counter closures, including that at Cambuslang.

PC Fellowes said there have been some instances of youngsters running amok and some vandalism reported and public nuisance issues in the Halfway, Drumsargard and Westburn areas.

Sgt McLaughlin said that the Safer Rutherglen Campaign has recently started. If this is successful, it is something which will be extended. Almost 200 have signed up to this so far. Tweets are currently put out giving details of anything going on. Community Safety notices are also put out, and the Fire Service have also put out fire safety notices as well.

Sgt McLaughlin asked people to continue to be vigilant in relation to bogus callers.

In response to a comment from the Chairman that information had been received from someone whose bank card had been skimmed, Sgt McLaughlin said that this is widespread throughout the area. Skimming devices are fitted to ATM machines. When using these machines it is important to be extra careful. Make sure no one is watching. Devices are smaller than a mobile phone and take a picture of you putting in your PIN number. PC Fellowes said there is also a device where an attempt is made to retain the card. Little clips are fixed to the side of the machine to try and make it appear that the card is stuck. Sgt McLaughlin said that sometimes a machine is set up to say there is a fault. If such a message is seen, the card should be taken out and taken to another machine rather than trying the same machine again. Banks are trying to make Chip and Pin more secure.