

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MEETING 27/6/16 Memorial HALL 7 .30PM  
ADOPTED MINUTES

Present

J.Bannerman (Chair), A. Hannan (Treasurer), Joe Twaddle (Secretary  
L. Buchanan, A. Peebles, D. Morris, D. Fraser, W. MacAllister (Vice  
Chairman)

D. Lee, Anne Lee, Alan Murdoch, K. McNaughton , W. Nisbet, E.  
Twaddle, L. Bates, Sandy Fraser, Stuart Fraser, David Robertson  
(Forestry), M. MacDonald, D/Arcari, Ian Denvir (St Council)

Apologies and resignation from B Crooks.

Apologies Cllr Berrill

The minutes of the meeting held 7/5/16 were discussed.  
The Coldrach Farm, to which the CC had sent responses with  
objections, had been passed by the Planning Committee. It was noted  
that the Coldrach Farm application contained our recommendation  
that construction traffic should use the route from Buchanan Smithy.  
Ref Planning Application 2016/0024/DET This application went  
before a Planning and Access Committee Meeting on 27.6.16. JT  
spoke on behalf of the BCC to reinforce our objections. The PAC  
approved this application which is now awaiting all paperwork to be  
completed before work can commence.

A workshop to help solve the procedure problems raised at the last  
meeting by L. Bates and M. Saunders had been held. JB read out a  
statement which outlined the changes agreed at this workshop.  
The Chairman stated he was drafting proposals raised at the meeting  
which he would outline at the September BCC meeting when the  
Councillors would vote on them.

May Minutes were proposed by David Fraser and seconded by Dave  
Morris.

David Robertson gave a full summary of work to be done to remove  
fallen timber on the "Blue Walk". When it opens `Liz Walker will  
record usage before deciding the standard of finish. It was  
emphasized that before the closure by wind blow it had been a  
popular route for families.

Work due to start late August/early September tbc. Footfall review will take place after reinstatement of the path and signs are up.

Overflow parking in Balmaha and the C6 had been the subject of a workshop. This was chaired by J.McIlhagger(Traffic engineer) attended by CC councilors , D Morris, L Buchanan , A Peebles, A Hannan, B Crooks and J Twaddle + S.Brooks (Park), J.McGregor(Roads)I. Denvir (St.C.) David Robertson(Forestry) Con. R Murphy and Con . S Graham. Among the items to be followed up are: Electronic display/counters, relining car park to give more spaces, relining the entrance, contacting farmers to open fields at peak times. A photographic record and record of car numbers to be done. Amendments already received from J McGregor, S Brooks and D Robertson are to be included and the Amended Minutes are to be presented to the BCC Sept meeting for approval. Susan Brooks requested some feedback from the Community.

#### Treasurer Report

The Treasurer stated that no financial transactions had taken place since the AGM hence he had not produced a new statement. Balances recorded at the AGM were Dep Ac £647.09 and Sav Ac £6,732.92.

E. Twaddle then asked the CC to consider donating £6,000,00 to the hall committee for repairs to the hall—stating that she had learned that that one large window needed to be replaced and was confident that the committee would spend the money wisely. The meeting was mindful that the Hall was one asset which was used by the whole community and so all will benefit from its continued use and that repairs and upgrades are needed.

Walter McAllister advised the CC that the Hall Committee were down to their last few pennies and in danger of losing the hall.

A Peebles suggested that the Hall Committee members were invited to the next BCC meeting (Sept) to give an update on the position of the Hall after which the CC could discuss the transfer of funds.

E Twaddle stated that the decision had to be made tonight.

LB suggested it might be appropriate to consult the wider community to decide how money held by the CC could or should be spent. She outlined a need for information on running costs, future capital requirements, usage rates, what the hall committee have done to improve usage and what funding applications have been made.

A suggestion from the floor that the donation should be reduced to £5000 was refused.

A suggestion from LB that we use some of the money for a feasibility study to investigate having a shared hall with Drymen and Croftamie was refused.

DM asked what level of funding the CC needed to function to ensure we don't run funds so low we couldn't function. He queried the Treasurer specifically on the balance of the deposit account which had not moved materially in the last year. His understanding was that this held grant funds for the Land Transfer project which he would have expected to have been transferred to the BCP.

The Treasurer confirmed that all Land Transfer funds had been transferred to the BCP.

JT said we get a grant of £400pa. Outgoings include hall rental. It was confirmed that the BCC couldn't apply for grants for the hall.

LB stated that the CC needed all of its funds to enable responses to major changes in its role planned by government. She felt there should be a public meeting to discuss and asked for her concern regarding lack of due diligence prior to the decision being taken was recorded.

The motion to donate £6,000.00 to Buchanan Hall Committee was proposed by J. Bannerman and seconded by A. Hannan

Vote = 5-0 in favour. LB and AP abstained.

DM didn't veto the proposal but required the Hall Committee to report back on how they would spend the money. The Chairman agreed.

LB suggested that no money should be transferred until the BCC had reviewed its own requirements. These would take into account future changes in CC business resulting from expectation that communities will do more for themselves as the Community Empowerment legislation beds in. She was not against the hall being given money and wanted to have a discussion and good quality information on how to secure the future of the hall and help it grow. AP abstained due to the lack of background information provided by any hall committee member. She agreed the community needs a hall. During the above discussions there was much praise for the book we produced in 2007, "Buchanan Remembered" (the monies from this was why the BCC accounts were so healthy). There was a suggestion that a follow up book would be a good project—this was left for future investigation.

A. Lee asked for support in objecting to the application to convert a garage to accommodation in Buchanan Castle Estate. This would

divide the garden area and the proposed conversion was very large so the proposal was contrary to the advice in the Buchanan South Draft Planning Doc. She added that by passing the application there was a danger it would set a precedent and change the housing density on the estate.

It was agreed that the CC would confirm their objection on these grounds.

A similar application by “the Stables” – but for letting” was also discussed. The meeting agreed that both presented a precedent which was contrary to recommendations contained in the above Doc. for Buchanan castle. Again it was agreed to confirm our objection since, although the property was in the Drymen ward, its close proximity to Buchanan boundary made the objection a valid one.

**Action** JT would advise the NP on both these applications that there was a general concern that by approving these applications they would set a precedent for subdivision of plots on the Buchanan Estate which would not preserve the character of the estate. Submissions by JT – 2016/0139/HAE “SETS A PRECEDENT” and for 2016/0072/DET “CC MEETING 27/6/16 CONFIRMATION OF PRVIOUS SUBMISSION”

AOCB

It was agreed that we request that the BCC is kept informed and consulted on any potential asset transfer/lease/heads of terms agreements for the Balmaha Car Park as outcomes may impact on the community.

ACTION JT to contact Louise Reid Thomas SC Asset Dept.  
UPDATE 30/08/16 this was not done. AP emailed 28.8.16

Ian Denvir who is P. Campbell’s replacement was introduced. Ian provides the link between the CC and Stirling Council. He advised that there were changes with SC. There will be more accountability. They will be working more with the communities. Eventually they will have a base in Balfron, sharing it with other local services. He wished to develop a relationship with the community.

He advised there were a variety of grants available.

Diverse ways of working: - Use the hall more? Locals know best what communities want. Would passing visitors be potential customers? If we wanted to have the hall in an asset transfer a business plan for the next 5 – 10 years would need to be provided.

Currently you have got the fabric in the hall, now diversify to provide the means to sustain it.

In the last piece of business J. Twaddle intimated his intention to resign as a Councillor at 12noon on the 28<sup>th</sup> June. He was no longer willing to work with some of the Councillors whose negative behaviour and attitude to the CC'S workings made any progress on and successful conclusion of any initiatives virtually impossible to achieve.

W. McAllister & D. Fraser also submitted their intention to resign. The Chair advised those present that the CC would have to dissolve due to the number of Councillors falling below 7. Ian Denvir said he would seek advice and email the Chair as to how we proceed.

ACTION SB to circulate.

The meeting was closed.

**UPDATE Stirling** Council later advised the remaining Councillors that the Chairman and Treasurer resigned on the 28<sup>th</sup> June following the transfer of funds to the Hall Committee.