

APPROVED MINUTES
Buchanan Community Council Meeting
7.30pm Monday 5th September 2016 Buchanan Memorial Hall

D Morris welcomed everyone.

1. Attendees:

BCC Councillors: D Morris, L Buchanan, A Peebles
Cllr Ian Muirhead, D Robertson FC, I Denvir SC Link Officer
D Lee, J Hunter, M Hunter Toner, J Waddell, M Milner, A A Peebles, A Henson, D Henson, T Thomson, J Thomson, S Fraser.
Apologies received: W Nisbet, A Lee.

2. Statement of current CC standing D Morris advised that:

Following the resignation of 6 Councillors at the end of June, leaving just 3 Councillors. Stirling Council's Chief Governance Officer, Iain Strachan, advised that we can continue with vacancies being filled by interim elections at the end of the year. This process will be driven by SC. No date confirmed as yet. We will continue under that arrangement. No financial report had been received from Stirling Council yet. We understand that the CA holds £732 and the DA £647.

3. Appointment of Office Bearers:

Chairman - D Morris Proposed by L Buchanan, 2nded by A Peebles
Secretary - A Peebles Proposed by D Morris. 2nded by L Buchanan
Treasurer - L Buchanan Proposed by D Morris 2nded by A Peebles
Chairman noted that the role of Treasurer cannot be formalised until accounts are agreed and books handed over. A meeting will be held imminently to resolve this.

4. Declarations of Interest: None

5. Approval of Minutes

The Chair asked if any further amendments were required for the 3 sets of Minutes below. No further amendments presented.

The following Minutes were submitted for approval:

BCC Meeting March 2016 Minutes with substantial amendments

Car Park workshop June 2016 Minutes with amendments.

BCC Meeting June 2016 Minutes with numerous amendments.

All Minutes approved for Adoption and can be found on the BCC website.

6. Matters Arising from June Minutes

Vacancies and elections already clarified

Finances – Imminent meeting with Ian Denvir (SCLO) to pick up finances and past correspondence.

BCC Secretary email account is new (buchananccsecretary@outlook.com).

Despite requests from Stirling Council to do so, the previous secretary has not passed on the password to the previous designated BCC Secretary's email account so we cannot access that account.

New BCC website - www.buchanancc.org - has been set up and is continuing its development.

Car Park – Action Point from June meeting. J Twaddle was to have contacted Louise Reid Thomas SC Asset Dept., to 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. AP actioned this in Aug 2016. SC have informed us that no asset transfer request regarding Balmaha Car Park has been received. SC's current Disposal process notifies Community Councils when an asset becomes surplus. Under the new Asset Transfer legislation, any Asset Transfer requests would require to show community consultation and the asset transfer body would be required to provide evidence of formal consultation with the community and the relevant Community Council for that area.

Traffic congestion – Traffic Consultant employed briefly to explore options to manage traffic. Result - we need to gather photographic evidence of congestion including time, date and context. BCC would welcome help with this from Buchanan residents. Please email photographs to BCC Secretary and include date, time, location and extent of issue.

Buchanan Memorial Hall – The Chair advised this is a community asset and the BCC were keen to work with the Hall Committee to the greater good of the community. The BCC intended to extend an invitation to the Hall Committee to the next meeting. He invited M Milner to comment on the current hall position later in the meeting.

7. Correspondence

Letter from SC Waste Services re improved Collection System which will be introduced during September and October. Some information on the BCC website. Information will be sent to all houses from SC Waste Dept. Please look out for this information. It will take 6-8 weeks to roll out across the area.

SC email Digital Scotland 31.8.16 List of questions and answers from Digital Scotland and programme update.

National Standards for Community Engagement. Their new documentation is due to be launched at the end of the month. Details later in the meeting.

Gordon Watson, CEO of the National Park has invited the BCC and ELLVMG to a meeting in the Buchanan Memorial Hall at 7pm on Tuesday 13th Sept when he will give an update on the Implementation of new camping byelaws (Item 11). We understand this meeting is open to the public.

8. Reports

Police - No Police in attendance, the Chairman read a summary of their report which can be seen in full on the Buchanan CC website.

Antisocial behaviour includes 6 incidents of people found in possession of Cannabis between Balmaha and Rowardennan between 20 July and 29th Aug.

Road Safety Between Tuesday, 19th July 2016 and Wednesday, 3rd August 2016, three vehicles were damaged at a residential property in Buchanan Smithy. Enquiry is ongoing in relation to this incident. If anybody has any information, they are asked to contact Police Scotland or Crime Stoppers.

Byelaw contravention. Several reports were made to police over the reporting period about persons contravening the local bylaws by drinking in public, camping illegally or parking in contravention of them. Police took appropriate action.

Operation Ironworks will continue for the remainder of the summer and will proactively target issues in addition to responding to calls received.

Traffic Two separate collision incidents. No persons were injured. Driver without a valid motor insurance policy or driving licence. Reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued to numerous vehicles for contraventions of parking restrictions in the Buchanan Community Council area.

High visibility patrols and speed checks carried out in the BCC area to improve road safety.
Theft - 3 incidents of bikes being stolen from camp sites and surrounding areas. Police advise locking up bikes and garden equipment overnight.

Abandoned Vehicle – Rowardennan Police are aware and, in partnership with Stirling Council, progress is being made to remove it. Update – now removed (DR).

Cashel Forest Rescue Police, Lomond Mountain Rescue and the Coastguard helicopter assisted in locating two female walkers in Cashel Forest and returning them to safety.

Air Weapons Surrender Scheme - The Air Weapons and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2015 comes fully into effect on 31 December 2016. The new law will require any person who possesses, purchases, uses or acquires an air weapon to have a certificate to hold them legally. It will be an offence not to have a certificate for these purposes from 31 December 2016, unless you are exempt, but you are now able to apply to Police Scotland for a certificate.

BCC Response to Police – BCC to respond to Police recording D Robertson’s comment that the FC had benefitted from the help they had received from the Police and wished to pass on his thanks on behalf of the FC for their input.

ACTION Secretary

Planning – Report by AP.

The full list of planning applications awaiting approval can be found either on BCC or NP website.

2016/0024/DET Former Highland Way Hotel site. – NP Planning Dept. have advised us that the legal paper work has yet to be completed and therefore work cannot start on site.

Application Number 2016/0139/HAE Development Proposed: Extension and alterations to garage to form ancillary residential unit Location: Castle House Buchanan Castle Estate. We understand this will go before a Planning and Access Committee at which the BCC will be able to comment. No date as yet.

Application Number 2016/0072/DET Development Proposed: Erection of a chalet for short term holiday letting. Location: The Stables Buchanan Castle Estate Roads Drymen Applicant. No further news at this point.

5 planning applications for the Rowardennan Hotel which include 2 lodges for hotel manager accommodation though the plan only shows 1, 10 holiday let units and a replacement staff accommodation block.

Ref No 2016/0251/DET Proposal Installation of a BT broadband cabinet Location Land East of 2 Main Street Drymen. NO information on what effect it will have on BB in the area.

Questions: How long had the HW site has been waiting for approval? AP advised that this new application had been placed at the beginning of 2016. It went before the PAC on 27th June 2016 when it was approved. Legal paper work must be completed before work can start. SF (one of the applicants) advised that they were waiting for completion of Section 75 documents.

Concern was raised that the N P Planning Authority do not check that applicants have the money to complete works once approval has been granted. SF clarified that the area under concern was not his.

Resident considered it was a national disgrace that we should have this eye sore for so many years in such a beautiful place.

Roads – Report given by DM

G MacLachlan, SC Roads Dept. updated BCC. The Chevron and warning road signs for the new pedestrian crossing/entrance to new walk way on the B837 have been ordered. Putting them in place has been delayed for approximately another month (October 16) while De-

criminalised Parking information takes priority to enable Scottish Government to transfer these powers to Stirling Council.

Cllr Muirhead advised that:

- SC will be responsible for enforcing parking regulations to “decriminalize parking” which was formerly the responsibility of the Police.
- The new SC Roads Officer is Susie Hines though she was currently away. Jim McGregor is point of contact till she returns.

Forestry Commission Update given by D Robertson. Full report on BCC website.

- Salloch had had its busiest year despite the mud.
- Ironworks – Police and Rangers working together well.
- Annual parking tickets for Forestry Car Parks at Salloch and Rowardennan available from the shop at Balmaha.
- Parking at Rowardennan had reached a peak with 147 vehicles parked on one day. This was overload which causes its own problems.
- Ben Lomond Hill Path repairs have been completed. Just snagging items to complete.
- 22nd Sept Volunteers from NP will be helping to cut back vegetation.
- Balmaha Blue Route – Felling will start in the next 2 wks. A Harvester will be going in to clear wind-blow trees which will speed up work. The WHW will remain open with a Banksman on duty should work get close to the WHW.
- DR hopes that the BCC website, Communicator, distribution lists and meetings will continue to keep people and businesses up to date.

Affordable Housing. The Chairman reported that whilst work was continuing, the update from T Teasdale of RSHA had not been received yet. The BCC have informed TT that former Councillors who sat on the Housing Panel can no longer represent the Community Council and we would be looking to replace them as this project is important for the Community. No date for next meeting yet.

9. CONSULTATIONS details in the Communicator

- Meeting with NPA and ELLVMG** on 13th Sept – Implementation of new camping byelaws.
- Traffic calming measures for Milton of Buchanan.** The map showing proposed cycle lane through MoB and the proposed build out from Angela McGibbon SC, were circulated. The proposal is to install two separate bolt down rubber islands with a safe refuge for pedestrians between the islands. The cycle lane will run to the rear of the islands and will be highlighted to pedestrians with the use of green coloured surfacing. The bolt down islands can be easily removed if the build-out is causing problems.

Background:

This project is being driven by the Drymen Community Development Trust.

This has been proposed to protect cyclists.

The build out is not mandatory.

Proposal originated from Sustrans and SC have been updating them so they comply with their regulations.

The community can make recommendations.

Do we want road narrowing and if so what type?

Key responses –

This design would reduce the road width to 3m which is equivalent to single lane.

How does that sit with the community?

Congestion would result from road narrowing which could be counterproductive. School children safety is paramount.

This requires proper consultation.

This road takes large vehicles such as logging lorries, caravans, cars towing boats, buses, delivery vehicles, local buses and tourist coaches.

Concerns were raised that problems with build-out in Drymen would be repeated in Milton of Buchanan.

Cycle solutions should not excessively inconvenience other road users.

Other calming measures such as lines and signage are less intrusive.

Build out might protect cyclists better.

If painted information is sufficient at the start of the cycle lane why is there a need for this build out in the middle of the village?

Is this actually a means of highlighting a pedestrian crossing area? What other options are there to highlight a pedestrian crossing?

Why the Blue sign at entrance to Milton of Buchanan telling cyclist to rejoin carriageway? They would be on the road at that point.

Drymen build out causes its own problem and adds to congestion.

What evidence does SC have of results of evidence of success of the Drymen build out?

Was there a public consultation on Drymen build out?

PROPOSAL The BCC agreed to ask A McGibbon for an alternative design which doesn't include any road narrowing but does include signage on the road.

ACTION Secretary

A BCC Councillor will attend the DCDT meeting on 13th Sept 16 in Drymen.

ACTION BCC Council

SC organizational charts Cllr Muirhead advised that we went through the Stirling Councillors or Ian Denvir until new organizational charts of SC are available once restructuring was complete.

C. Parking update Balmaha.

Grant money has been spent.

J McGregor, SC, was to look at re alignment of parking spaces to see if more spaces could be created and further yellow lines be placed at the entrance to the car park. The Consultant had advised that electronic signage feed to Drymen would cost between £5-6K.

Photographic evidence of the problem essential to give power to our argument. All residents can help.

ACTION ALL

Could more parking areas be provided perhaps on FC land or other landowners land? No specific land identified at the meeting.

Balmaha was becoming too popular resulting in overspill onto pavement parking.

How is this going to be dealt with?

Advice from former chairman at June meeting that a law preventing parking on pavements was going to be introduced was incorrect.

Conflict between businesses and residents re influx of tourists.

Cllr Muirhead will investigate with SC what levels of enforcement for decriminalized parking can be expected in Balmaha in contrast with what has previously been provided by the Police.

ACTION Cllr Muirhead

SC will be able to issue fixed penalty notices.

Could there be signage in Drymen indicating parking availability up the east side of the Loch to Rowardennan?

Double yellow lines to be extended.
A number of approaches are required to deal with this problem.
Extending parking in Drymen might be an option.
On-going issue.
Traffic counter might help but it could only be in for a week.

D Car Park charging at Milarrochy. The Chairman read out Susan Brooks request for feedback from the community council of any considerations that they want to highlight regarding introduction of car parking charges as the NP work towards joined-up car park management across the Park.

Feedback:

Free parking for residents.
Resident's permits (already mentioned)
One day ticket for the whole of East side of the Loch including FC and NP owned car parks.
Concerns that parking charges would not reduce the existing parking problems.
Freeway adds to the problem.
What charges are the NP considering?
What will the NP enforcement strategy be?
Need to ask more residents. **ACTION Secretary** to inform NP

10. Questions from the floor

Sandy Fraser asked if acknowledgement could be given of work of previous Councillors. The Chairman agreed we would do this.

11. Upcoming Meetings

Chairman advised attendees of upcoming meetings Councillors would attend:

13.9.16 – NPA meeting re Implementation of new camping byelaws. The NPA will provide the local community with an update on the project, including the areas in which they are aiming to provide camping facilities. Public meeting including BCC and ELLVMG. 7pm Buchanan Memorial Hall.

13.9.16 –DCDT meeting including traffic calming measures/cycle path. 8pm Drymen Village Hall.

15.9.16 - City Park Development & Access to M9 Consultation 7pm Buchlyvie Village Hall. Programme for major investment for Stirling. 6 key projects. Stirling Council has already approved how £2m of funding will be allocated across a range of capital projects to kick-start the City Development Framework vision. To enable development of the City Park infrastructure work is being proposed. Road realignment of the A811 will be required and on/off slip for the M9.

Cllr Muirhead advised that Stirling were keen to bid for grant money to improve the city and rural areas. He recommended that the Councillors attended.

15.9.16 Open Transport Strategy meeting. The BCC recommended that everyone attend the Strategy consultation at 3-8pm Drymen Library

20.9.16 - Broadband Delivery Meeting, Stirling Council Chambers.

Public Consultancy Meetings

13.9.16 – Public meeting re Implementation of new camping byelaws (details above)

15.9.16 -Transport Strategy Consultation 3-8pm, Drymen Library. Details below.

12. AOCB

Transport Strategy Cllr Muirhead said that SC want to hear from the community what transport issues concern us e.g. Demand Response Transport, reduced bus services.

LB advised that the Transport Strategy was designed to ensure communities are connected, that people can get to where they want to and that for equality, those living in rural areas should not be unduly disadvantaged compared to urban dwellers. For Buchanan this might include access to Hospitals, Stirling City, bus links, lack of provision of late buses used by Balfron pupils involved in extra curricula activities. It was noted that pupils are able to access taxis via DRT services. Consultation responses can be made on line by 23.9.16.

National Standards for Community Engagement AP advised that the BCC have received a request from the Scottish Community Development Centre to provide an endorsement and support statement on the refreshed National Standards for Community Engagement. The revised version will form part of the statutory guidance on the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act.

AP recommended that the BCC adopts these principles.

A member of the public raised concern that feedback from the Consultations the public have been involved with in the past has not been forthcoming.

AP responded that feedback was a key part of the NSCE. In future the BCC will be able to go back to agencies and request feedback as necessary under the NSCE.

DATA Protection fee of £35 due 8.10.16. Chair stated this was an annual on-going fee which we were required to pay. Payment was approved now as an ongoing annual item of expenditure.

Hall update. The Chairman welcomed M Milner as a Hall Committee representative and asked if she would give feedback on the Hall. Where is it going? How bad is the situation?

M Milner replied she was only there as a member of the community.

She would like to convey thanks to the BCC for their extremely generous donation of £6K which will help push the hall along its proposed phased development. The Hall committee meet regularly. She said they would deliver a report when they'd decided and spent the £6K.

The Chairman asked how the HC plan to spend the money. MM replied they've had a plan for some years but gave no details.

In the past they have benefitted from grants from Historic Scotland (£30K some time ago), the Lottery grant and Heritage grant.

The Chairman reiterated that the BCC were keen to work together with the Hall Committee and asked her to provide regular information for the Communicator and BCC website as information to date has not been forthcoming on this community asset.

Asked who would be the regular contact MM said she didn't know, that would be a matter for the Committee and repeated she was just there as a member of the community. MM said she would take the notions back to the HC.

Any other comments

A resident offered her thanks to the three Councillors for their tremendous hard work and particularly praised the Communicator which was "wonderful" for keeping her up to date with what's going on in the community when she was unable to attend meetings.

The Chairman reminded everyone the current challenge for the Community Council was to find new enthusiastic volunteers to join them as Councillors to enable us to retain a Community Council.

The Chairman advised the date of next meeting, 7 November 2016, thanked people for attending and closed the meeting at 9.10pm.