

KILSYTH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of meeting held on 19 January 2005

PRESENT: Margot MacMillan Betty Currie Alex Machray Jean McLachlan
Hugh Dempsey John Freebairn Rita Brown Brian Taylor
John Cullen John Smithson Alan Stevenson
Community Police Officers (part-time) Local Press

1. APOLOGIES: Scott Johnson Aileen Fleming Gordon Letham Carol Sullivan
Ray Cooper Councillor Jean Jones Apologies were also received
from Mr Michael Mathieson MSP who was unable to attend due to a bereavement.

2. POLICE REPORT

Constables David Cormack and Colin Wiseman provided a short police report. Three males had been apprehended for unrelated incidents involving theft. Drugs to the value of approximately £18,000 had been seized from a house in Kilsyth by the special police unit. Bogus workmen, posing as utility workers, were still operating in the town and various incidents were being investigated. A road accident had taken place on Airdrie Road near to the junction with Backbrae Street. A 68-year-old male was knocked down and seriously injured. The driver of the vehicle was not at fault as the pedestrian had stepped out onto the road. John Freebairn stated that the street lighting in this area was poor and this had been reported to NLC in the past. It was agreed to raise this issue again with the Council. In answer to a question, the Police Officers confirmed that drugs were an ongoing issue in the town as is the case in most parts of the country. Rita Brown raised the issue of traffic management at Balmalloch Primary School. This ongoing problem had been discussed at our November meeting with Mr Tom Peebles, NLC Planning Dept. It was agreed that we should check with Mr. Peebles if any progress had been made following our meeting.

3. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A letter had been received from Mr Alex Ross regarding the proposals from SuperCounty for the gap site on Main Street. This was noted.
John Freebairn had been asked to raise the issue of a container blocking what was understood to be a right of way from the couches to the southwest entrance to Colzium Estate. The Chairman agreed to enquire as to who was responsible for the container.

Rita Brown commented on the lack of consultation from NLC regarding the introduction of large paper recycling bins. These were to be delivered to all households in the next few weeks. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to NLC to make them aware of our concerns, as some householders had not been notified.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTE OF MEETING HELD ON 8 DECEMBER 2004

Brian Taylor, seconded by Jean McLachlan, adopted the minute.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTE

It was agreed at the meeting held on 8 December 2004 that the previous Community Council's decision to support the Scottish Executive's proposed upgrade of the A80 would be reviewed at this meeting. The Chairman suggested that, as we had discussed this matter at length at previous meetings, we should now vote on the proposal that we continue to support the Scottish Executive's plans. The Chairman had received notifications from 3 councillors who were unable to attend. These authorised her to support the present position by proxy votes. Hugh Dempsey questioned if this was valid. John Freebairn had circulated a paper to some Councillors and requested that we discuss the matter again. Hugh Dempsey supported this and suggested another new route should be investigated. The Chairman moved that a vote be taken to confirm our continued support for the Scottish Executive's proposals. The result, including the 3 proxy votes, was as follows: -

For the motion 7; Against the motion 4; Abstentions 2.

The status quo was therefore accepted. John Freebairn and Hugh Dempsey complained that there had been insufficient discussion on the subject before the vote was taken but the consensus of the meeting was that we should move to other business.

John Cullen confirmed that he had passed a list of issues to the Secretary regarding Bogside Park. This detailed the problems being experienced by the various football teams who use the park and changing facilities. Councillor Jones had advised the Chairman that some issues were already in hand. It was agreed that copies of all correspondence on this matter should be copied to Councillor Jones.

The Chairman suggested that we invite "The Friends of Burngreen" to be represented on the Community Council by co-option of a new member. This was agreed.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reported the present balance in account as £2,382.50. This included a payment from NLC of £500.00. Hugh Dempsey suggested that we should open a separate account for the Dumbreck Marshes Project organised by Gordon Letham. This would clearly identify Community Council funds and Project funds. After discussion, it was agreed that the Treasurer should provide separate balances each month for Community Council and Project funds.

7. CORRESPONDENCE – CHAIRMAN & SECRETARY

Copy of each is attached

The Chairman circulated a note giving the Secretary's new email address.

A letter had been received from Councillor Jones regarding parking in Burngreen adjacent to the Social Services building. Alex Machray agreed to send a copy of the minute of our November meeting to Mr. Tom Peebles, NLC Planning Dept., requesting a progress report on the issues raised at that meeting.

8. PLANNING MATTERS

The Chairman confirmed that planning permission had been refused for a number of chalets at Banton Loch.

NLC Planning Dept. has confirmed that each letter of the signage of the new development at 56 Main Street would be illuminated individually. The Community Council also noted that the original planning application has now been amended to include a Café/Bar.

Mr Ronnie Chalmers was seeking planning approval to build 10+2 houses and re-locate his equestrian centre. After some considerable discussion on the proposed development, time was given to consider this application. A vote was taken later in the meeting to determine the Community Council's position regarding the proposed development. For Application 9; Against Application 1.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The Clanranald Trust had held a meeting in Burngreen and confirmed their intention to form an advisory committee. Brian Taylor had previously agreed to represent the Community Council on this committee. The Chairman suggested it might be good if we had 2 representatives on the committee. John Smithson agreed to join Brian on the committee.

The Dumbreck Marsh projects were now complete and other projects in the Bogside area were being considered.

Auchinstarry Basin on the Forth and Clyde Canal was now operational.

NLC had written clarifying their position regarding the Vision Statement for a Kelvin Valley Country Park produced by Kilsyth and Villages Forum. This letter stated that NLC's Kelvin Valley Action Plan would take precedence over the Vision Statement and the priority was to make progress on that plan.

10. TOWN CENTRE

Farmers Market.

The last Farmers Market, including the boot sale, produced a small profit. It is hoped that the new leaflets promoting the Market will be available for the February Market.

11. STATIONERY

The production of new stationery bearing the Community Council Coat of Arms was discussed. It was agreed that Scott Johnson should order 5 reams at a total cost of £150. The existing stationery will continue to be used meantime.

12. A.O.C.B.

John Cullen raised the issue of public halls now requiring to have a loop hearing system available. It was agreed that the Secretary should write to NLC, Community Services Department, as Burngreen Hall and Bogside Pavilion do not have a loop hearing system.

Alan Stevenson raised the issue of insufficient road markings between Kilsyth and Kelvinhead. It was agreed to include this matter in the correspondence with Mr Tom Peebles of NLC Planning/Transport Department.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on 16 February 2005 starting at 7.30pm.