

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: NORTH AREA COMMITTEE	Subject: KILSYTH AND VILLAGES COMMUNITY FORUM
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES	
Date: 9 MARCH 2005	Ref: BP/MF

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to submit the minute of the Kilsyth and Villages Community Forum meeting to the Area Committee. The minute of 10 January 2005 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Area Committee is requested to note the minute of the meeting held by the Kilsyth and Villages Community Forum.



KILSYTH & VILLAGES
COMMUNITY FORUM
10TH JANUARY 2005

PRESENT

Patrick Hunt	Croy Neighbourhood Watch
Paul Carter	Canal Society
Ian Jarvis	Friends of Burngreen Park
Carol Carter	Banton & Kelvinhead Community Council
Maureen Hendry	North Lanarkshire North CVS
Harry Marron	N.L.C. Community Learning & Development
Andy Gallacher	Forestry Commission (Scotland)
Malcolm Crosby	Forestry Commission (Scotland)
James Hunt	Croy Community Council
Lily Small	Kilsyth Old People's Welfare Committee
Ena Fleming	Kilsyth Senior Citizens
Jim Watson	N.L.C. Planning & Environment
Margaret Frew	Kilsyth Churches Working Together
Hugh Service	Queenzieburn Community Council
Margot Macmillan	Kilsyth Community Council
Sandra Wilson	Minute Secretary

APOLOGIES

John McColl Croy Community Council

As Mr Service was late in arriving Mr Carter opened the meeting by introducing Malcolm Crosby and Andy Gallacher both from the Forestry Commission (Scotland). Some background of the Scottish Lowland forestry was given and a variety of maps were available for members to look at, including some computer generated projections showing both planting and felling areas. Consultation takes place with locals and any other interested parties in the area involved.

The picture showed how felling was planned to lessen the impact on views from local towns. The existing variety of trees has little management in the past but there are now plans to give variety that hopefully would link up with the Kelvin Valley Country Park. Planting is mainly large broad leaf trees with Scots Pine.

There is a 30-40 year vision with approval given for 10 years work. Twechar has already been approved but public comment is welcomed, as this does not usually require major changes but small details that can be built into the existing picture.

The plan is reviewed every 5 years. The Carron Valley maps shown to the meeting had the same management plan only on a larger scale.

A question was asked about forestry roads. It was explained that small vehicles were used. Some upgrading of existing roads but no new major forestry roads as it was too steep and too expensive. The map of the woods at Twechar showed various pedestrian accesses.

At Twechar there are plans for selective thinning, to encourage wasting and woodland between Antonine Wall and the canal. No paths would be closed during felling but diversions would be used. Felling no longer takes whole hillsides away, only small areas and they do not follow each other. The aim is to leave 5 years between adjacent felling. A suggested idea was to have footpaths on one side of canal and secure berthing on the other side of the canal.

The maps go to the Councils for comment.

Funding – Scottish Executive have a Woodland in Towns which has funded work at Easterhouse and perhaps Croy. It is hoped to have ongoing funding to enable these plans to

continue in the future. If the Commission can go ahead at Croy this would be a Community Woodland that would encompass the Antonine Wall and the canal. These trees are now grown as multipurpose and not commercial.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Approved by Mr Jarvis and seconded by Ms Fleming.

MATTERS ARISING

Footpath at Waterfall Village. Mr Carter has asked to meet with N.L.C. access officer Mr Hendry and Waterways. Discussion has taken place with developer and they hope to restart the project. Discussion took place on the actual position of fencing and whether it was on council property. It was agreed there was health and safety issues and that it was sometimes difficult to move fences once erected. It was agreed to continue this issue to see what the developers were doing.

TREASURER'S REPORT

At the 31st of December the balance was £913.60pence
Interest was added to this.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Ms Palethorpe feels she must hand in her resignation as she is no longer a member of Kilsyth Community Council. After discussion the Forum agreed, as Ms Palethorpe was happy to remain in position as Treasurer of the Forum she should be asked to do so.

KELVIN VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

To date there have been 25 responses in favour of the country park and 1 against. Support from MSPs, Westminster MP, neighbouring councillors, N.L.C. councillors. Scottish National Heritage giving support and advice. Forestry Commission supporting the vision statement. Friends of the Burngreen Park and the Canal Society. Councillor Kennedy from Kirkintilloch was very enthusiastic hoping that it could dovetail with the Campsie proposal. N.L.C. K.V. Park's priority is to link various amenities, N.L.C. are in line with the Forum's plans. Mr Carter added that a ranger service would be beneficial that we should pursue the council on this issue. Hope to arrange some meeting with councillors and officials soon. A seminar is to take place in February, interest in developing country parks, accessing funding. The Scottish Executive has said that some funding is available. People counters have been put in place at Dumbreck Marsh since the footpaths were upgraded and the numbers have really escalated.

M80 PROPOSAL

Consultation for phase 1, 2 and 3 is ongoing. Objections have been made, a public enquiry will take place perhaps around May or June. Presentations given will include environmental as well as alternative routes.

Discussion took place about the value of the noise prevention procedures that would be put in place if the upgrade went ahead. Discussion also took place on how a Kelvin Valley road would affect a huge area and many communities. We would then have 2 trunk roads instead of one. It was suggested that a copy of the K.V.C.P. vision statement be sent to the Scottish Executive. The majority decision was that the Forum reiterates their support for the on line upgrade and oppose the Kelvin Valley route.

PICTURE OF HEALTH REVIEW

The chairperson asked how this forum meeting has turned into a public meeting. No preparation had been done for this type of meeting and it was being held in the wrong type of venue. Mr Hunt said that Mr Haire had been invited to attend the meeting where Mr Oliver for the C.V.S. was giving a presentation on this subject. Mr Hunt was unaware that Mr Haire was intending to speak. The Forum agreed that a letter of apology should be sent to Mr Oliver, also if any changes were to be made to the agreed agenda the chairperson or other relevant people should be notified in advance.

It was generally felt that even with this mix up it had been a good meeting. Questions that were raised had been sent to Lanarkshire Health chairperson.

Ms Hendry informed us that a seminar was to take place in Broadwood on the 31st January which was looking at Health Issues in the Community, starts at 9.30 a.m. and finishes at 3.00 p.m.

The Lanarkshire Health out of hours service – a follow up meeting will take place in the Garrell Vale, no date as yet.

Area Committee – meeting at Chryston High School on the 27th January at 7pm. Council Budget – council tax. Representative asked to go along.

Mr Hunt informed the Forum of an Access Day being held on the 20th March. The Antonine Walkway Trust, the Scottish National Heritage is organising this in conjunction with Palacerigg. Health checks would be available, access codes would be distributed and walks would be available. This would all be starting at the Auchinstarry Basin or Quarry between 10am and 11am.

Recycling blue bins being distributed, these are for paper only. There will no longer be a kerbside uplift for glass and cans; glass will now be taken to bottle banks. The general feeling was that this was a step backwards and that the Forum should write to Community Services about this.

Carron Valley and Campsie Hills workshops to be held in the New Town Hall, Cumbernauld, 27th January 10am till 6pm.

The crossing on the Airdrie Road at the new store has a vibrating cone to indicate which side of the crossing is in use.

The matter of cars parking on the pavement at East Burnside Street – it was pointed out the difficulties this caused for the visually impaired people who walked there.

A question was raised concerning The Small Communities Budget. Mr Watson informed us that £60,000 was allocated to each Area Committee and it was this Committee who evaluated and decided which projects benefited.

Kilsyth Community Council asked if the Forum could support their stand against the housing project at Calvary Park. It was agreed that as the Forum had not discussed this issue it was unable to do so.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday the 7th March 2005 in the Old Library at 7.00 p.m.

It was agreed that the following meeting would be held on Monday the 9.5.2005.