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**Minute of the Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council held in public on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2007 in the Community Centre, Cardowan Drive, Stepps.**

**Councillors Present:** Rob Stuart (Chair); Harry Erentz; Marvyn Mackay; Ken Maxwell; and Frances McAveety

**In Attendance:** PC E Morrin and PC C McGladdery, Strathclyde Police

**Public:** 7 persons

**Apologies:** Louise Pender, Carol Graham, Alex Gibson and Eddie Ceresa and Cllr Brian Wallace (NLC).

**1.0 Remarks / Introductions**

1.1 Rob Stuart opened the meeting and welcomed everyone, particularly representatives from Strathclyde Police to the meeting.

**Apologies**

2.1 Apologies had been received from Carol Graham, Louise Pender, Alex Gibson and Eddie Ceresa

**Minute of the previous meeting (18<sup>th</sup> December 2006)**

3.1 Due to an oversight on the part of the Secretary, the minute of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> December 2006 was not available for this meeting.

**4.0 Community Policing**

4.1 PC McGladdery gave a report on the crime noted in the area in the last 4 weeks. There were no major crimes reported and the usual range of criminal activity had included consumption of alcohol in public places; Road Traffic Act offences; house-breaking and attempted housebreaking; shoplifting and bogus tradespersons. In response to a question about a scheme for protection of vulnerable persons living alone, PC Morrin stated that there are leaflets and stickers available for such persons if arrangements can be made to have them distributed. The Police would also be willing to talk to local groups of such persons and it was suggested that the Friendship Club which meets at Stepps Parish Church might be contacted to have such a talk.

4.2 Another question was raised about the incidence of anti-social behaviour in Dunalastair Park and the response was that this was an area which was being given special attention at present in response to the high number of complaints from local residents.

4.3 The concerns regarding a double decker bus regularly using Cardowan Drive was raised again and the response given that so long as the driver was not committing any offence and it was a public highway, there was nothing which could be done by the police.

4.4 Despite the regular visits by a Traffic Warden, there were still concerns about illegal parking in Cumbernauld Road and Cardowan Drive. Police and Cllr Wallace had been trying to have the double yellow lines repainted as in many places they were difficult to see due to wear and tear. Further contact to be made with Roads Department.

4.5 There being no further questions, Rob Stuart thanked the police for their attendance.

**5.0 Matters arising from previous meeting**

5.1 In the absence of the minute of the previous meeting, Marvyn Mackay highlighted the following matters from his notes.

5.2 Although it appeared that the leaflets with the uplift dates for the glass Wheelie Bins had now been redistributed, in some streets, particularly Whitehill Avenue, these had not been uplifted in December and the bins were still out on the pavements three weeks later. Cleansing Services to be contacted.

5.3 Rob Stuart advised that he had no further information on the possibility of the Playgroup leasing the Hockey Pavilion. He would make further enquiries

- 5.4 There had been no confirmation from Cllr Wallace regarding the resurfacing of Whitehill Avenue.
- 5.5 Marvyn Mackay had not yet been able to write to the Secretary of the Northern Corridor Community Forum regarding affiliation of the Council to this Forum.
- 5.6 There was nothing further to report on the tree planting programme in Stepps Park and it was noted that 5 more trees had been uprooted during the recent storms.

## **6.0 Planning Matters**

- 6.1 Rob Stuart distributed the updated list of planning applications. The only new one of note was an application by Thermashield Insulation to extend their factory at 30 Cumbernauld Road. As the only possibility for such an extension was to the rear of the property, he did not think there would be any objection.
- 6.2 In relation to the applications outstanding from the last meetings these were updated as follows:-
- The application for a Motorway Service Station at Hornhill Farm is still under consideration and no date had been set for a site visit or committee.
  - Similarly with the housing development at Frankfield Loch, this is still under consideration and no date set for site visit or committee.
  - Also with regard to the level pedestrian access from Nicolson Court to Station Road, there had still not been any action by NLC or the owner.
  - Scottish Water Emergency Plan – still no reply from Scottish Water.
  - AWG sign application – no decision as yet by NLC.
  - Rob had still to look at the plans for rear of 26-28 Ballaig Crescent which was previously 7 Laundry Lane.
  - 141-149 Cumbernauld Road, Rob had not been able to obtain any information on the possibility that this development was not proceeding.
- 6.3 Additionally, Rob reported that although the new school is progressing satisfactorily there was a current concern about the recent flooding in Blenheim Avenue, particularly the car park. The contractors stated that this was not their responsibility nor was it due to their excavations. This was doubtful given the recent work done by Scottish Water which had eliminated the problem prior to the work on the new school commencing. There would be further discussions between the relevant parties to seek a solution.

## **7.0 Treasurer's Report**

- 7.1 K. Maxwell reported that there had been no expenditure since the last meeting and the balance in account was still £1,868.57p. Marvyn Mackay reported that due to personal circumstances he had not been able to acquire the printer/copier/fax as approved at the last meeting but he had been able to check that the particular model he was intending to purchase had not been offered as a Sale item in the January sales.

## **8.0 Secretary's Report**

- 8.1 M. Mackay reported on the correspondence received since the last meeting
- 8.2 Letter from Head of Legal Services, North Lanarkshire Council regarding the setting up of a North Lanarkshire Licensing Forum. This was a new statutory body to comment on the general policy approach of Licensing Boards, but not on individual licence applications. The Council was invited to nominate an interested person for possible appointment to the Forum. As no one volunteered to have their name put forward, the chair proposed that this be held over until the next meeting for further consideration.
- 8.3 Letter from Director of Public Health, NHS Lanarkshire seeking comments by way of consultation on a document entitled 'Evidence Base for Lifestyle Interventions for Health Improvement 2006'. There were sections in the report on smoking; healthy eating; physical activity; mental health; alcohol; sexual health; oral health; drugs and ultra violet radiation. There was a questionnaire (not enclosed) to assist with comments on each section. Secretary to obtain a copy of the questionnaire.

- 8.4 Letter from Assessor and Electoral Registration Officer enclosing amendments to the Register of Electors since 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006.
- 8.5 Letter from Postwatch Scotland regarding the current consultation document on the post office network and advising of workshops to be held in Inverness and Edinburgh in January and February. Noted.
- 8.6 Letter from East Glasgow Community and Health Care Partnership enclosing details of the proposal for the Northern Corridor Health Partnership to merge with the Northern Corridor Community Forum. This was as reported at the last meeting and the subsequent action was noted.
- 8.7 Letter from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde enclosing minutes of meetings of the North Monitoring Group for 17<sup>th</sup> November and 1<sup>st</sup> December 2006. Marvyn explained that this group was set up to ensure the continuity of Acute Hospital Services during the changes taking place in Glasgow Hospitals and in particular the closure of A & E at Stobhill Hospital. Nothing of significance to note in the current minutes.
- 8.8 Letter from Director of Housing and Property Services, North Lanarkshire Council enclosing for information only, a copy of the recently agreed Tenant Participation Strategy. Noted.
- 8.9 Letter from Scottish Association for Mental Health offering places on forthcoming courses on Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training(Assist). No expressions of interest in attending these courses.

#### **9.0 Councillor's Verbal Reports**

- 9.1 Frances enquired about the situation with regard to the bus local services and was advised that there was nothing further to report. Rob felt that the Service 32/33 was no longer an option worth pursuing as our overtures and those of Cllr Wallace and the community had been rejected. He felt that the council should now be making the matter a political issue and concentrate on Service 36 as suggested by Cllr Brian Wallace after discussion with Elaine Smith MSP. The Council agreed with this and Marvyn said a list of local and national politicians had been put together by Rob. He could write a letter to send to those on the list. Agreed.
- 9.2 Rob reported that he had received an e-mail from an Emma Kirk who stated that as an interested and concerned local resident, she would be interested in becoming a member of the Community Council. Rob had still to check out if she was eligible to be co-opted, as that was the only means open to become a Councillor between elections. He was very keen to confirm this since she was a professional planner whose skills would be most useful on the Council.
- 9.3 On behalf of several residents of Nicolson Court, Marvyn raised the issue of Steps station car park from which there was now a considerable overflow and many of these vehicles were being parked on Nicolson Court, some illegally, in such a way as to cause a hazard to pedestrians and passing traffic. This was particularly a problem as this was a busy pedestrian route for parents and young children going to and from Steps, Cardowan and Crowwood Grange to Steps and St Joseph's Primary School, and it was an accident waiting to happen. There was agreement that there was a problem and the matter was continued for discussion with Cllr Wallace and possibly later with Network Rail.

#### **10.0 Any other business**

- 10.1 There was no other business raised.

#### **11.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

- 11.1 The next meeting of Steps and District Community Council will be on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2007 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre, Cardowan Drive, Steps.