



PLAINS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Meeting of Plains Community Council Meeting
held Tuesday 11th September 2012
at 7.30 p.m. within Plains Community Centre.**

Sederunt Mary Doris
Fay Kerr
Margaret Waddell
Lilian Geurts
Elspeth Wright
Bob Summerhill
Anne Summerhill

Attending Police Constable Dale Mallin, Strathclyde Police
Councillor Alan Beveridge
Mrs Helen Boyle Women's Health Group
Mrs Fay Kearney Women's Health Group
Mr Jim Walker Resident (7 p.m. to 8.10 p.m.)
Mrs Joyce Walker Resident (7 p.m. to 8.10 p.m.)
Mr John Wright Resident

- 1. Apologies** Anne Marshall, Councillor T Morgan.
- 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on Thursday 5th July 2012**

Item 5: Transfer of Community Council I.T. Equipment

Mrs Waddell stated she felt the wording of the minutes read as if she was being accused of stating a claim for the IT equipment with and for Mrs Elspeth Wright. She stated this had made her feel it was suggested she had done something wrong and was made to feel guilty. Mrs Waddell had advised the meeting of the 5th July that the information provided by the auditor had advised the opportunity for a Community Councillor to purchase the equipment existed.

Mrs Fay Kerr stated that there was no intention on her part in recording the minutes to offend or make any accusation of wrongdoing on either Margaret's or Elspeth's part. Mrs Lilian Geurts stated that she had not interpreted any such intention in the original draft minutes. Mrs Doris, Chairperson, concurred with Mrs Geurt's statement

and added that had she found anything offensive in this agenda item, she would have addressed the matter at that point in time.

Mrs Wright intimated she also felt the minutes did not accurately reflect the discussion of the meeting.

Bob Summerhill proposed that any further required amendment to this item be made to address the concerns expressed. This was agreed and the minutes were approved.

Minutes of the Community Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8th May 2012

The minutes of the Community Council meeting held on Tuesday 8th May were accepted as an accurate record.

Proposer Bob Summerhill
Secunder Lilian Geurts

3. Matters Arising

Minutes of Thursday 5th July 2012

There were no matters arising.

Minutes of Tuesday 8th May 2012

There were no matters arising.

4. AGM Chairperson's Report

The meeting noted items from the AGM would be attached to the AGM minutes.

5. Police Report

Police Constable Dale Mallin provided the following reported crime statistics for the village noting these were for the period from March 2012, a 6 month period.

Total calls to Strathclyde Police = 590. These included the following main issues within this total:

Road Traffic Offences	68
Assaults	15
Indecency	1
Complaints	112
Assistance to Members of the Public	72
Drug/Solvent Abuse	15
Disturbances	21
Firearms Incidents	2

P.C. Mallin provided the following comments to the above:

- Each of the firearms incidents were traced to organised approved shoots.
- 90% of the Road Traffic Offences relate to off-road bikes and quad bike reports. The reduction and removal of these types of RTA incidents are considered a high priority for Strathclyde Police. The disturbance to villager's lives is considerable. P.C. Mallin advised he is doing an action plan to deal with this for Police Inspector Balfour. Strathclyde Police does view these incidents as significant anti-social behaviour.

The meeting was advised by P.C. Mallin the national Police policy is that of non-pursuit with the aim to protect the public. A pilot initiative carried out within E Division, whereby Police Officers trained to use motor cycle vehicles, similar to the off-road bikes, will not be rolled-out to N Division due to expenditure cuts.

Mr Jim Walker strongly expressed his opposition to the policy of non-pursuit and sought the assistance of the Community Council to write to Inspector Balfour, highlighting the concerns of the village and the need to tackle this problem for the village. Mr Walker's view was for the focus of the police policy to change.

Councillor Beveridge advised he has written to Strathclyde Police Chief Constable about the need to support the Police off-road bike initiative and seeking the roll-out to this area. Councillor Beveridge has also written to Chief Superintendent Teller, MSP Alex Neil and, through Alex Neil to Kenny MacAskill, the Scottish Government Justice Secretary, outlining his concerns about the ease of supply of these vehicles.

Bob Summerhill proposed the Community Council support Mr Walker by writing to Inspector Balfour. This was agreed.

Mrs Doris advised the Community Council can, if requested, hold a special meeting to seek views on and address single issues. She further explained to Mr Walker the procedures to be followed to enable such a meeting to take place. Mrs Doris also suggested writing a letter to the Advertiser once such procedures were in place.

Mr and Mrs Walker left the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

6. NLC Report

In Councillor Morgan's absence there was no council update report.

7. NR/Scottish Transport

1) Network Rail

Mrs Doris stated she understood the potential for a station in Plains is back at square one. Within the Scottish Government Strategy £30m has been set aside for a Network Rail refurbishment programme with only £5m if this for new stations. Mrs Doris was unclear whether Alex Neil MSP, previous Scottish Government Secretary for Infrastructure, will continue with work uncompleted relating to this. It was noted Mr Neil remains the constituency MSP.

Councillor Beveridge advised he has written to North Lanarkshire Council Leader urging the council to apply for funding for a station in Plains.

2) *Scottish Transport / Cycle Path*

Mrs Geurts advised the last letter she had received about this issue was in May 2012, with no further update on the meeting held between Network Rail and North Lanarkshire Council regarding the costs. Negotiations are being undertaken with Sustrans. Mrs Geurts will seek further clarification.

Councillor Beveridge advised he will provide Mrs Doris with updates on both of the above issues

8. A.E.S – Greengairs East Wind Farm

Mrs Doris advised the Community Council's submission has been acknowledged, and will be considered, by North Lanarkshire Council. She further commented on the extent of mitigation measures within planning applications which developers would be unlikely to be able to meet in terms of resolving the development of unstable, contaminated and water saturated land. Mrs Doris also pointed out that the nearby Greengairs Wind Farm Development, consented in 2009 was, as yet, lying dormant, probably due to the developers being unable to provide acceptable mitigation measures to these problems.

9. Covanta / Green Hills Incinerator

Mrs Doris advised the Community Council's objection submission to SEPA has not yet been acknowledged. She further commented on NLC's current planning policy, noting in particular that potential health issues of any development are not considered by NLC Planning Dept. Mrs Doris also commented that Local Authority planning policy appears unfair in that local communities have no right of appeal against a Local Authority decision, while the applicant/developer, should the Local Authority refuse consent, has the right of appeal to the Scottish Government to overturn the Local Authority's decision.

Covanta held a series of pre-planning application events and the Community Council will remain aware of the expected planning application to propose three amendments to the original planning application.

Mrs Doris proposed the information on the Covanta Community Liaison Panel, which Mrs Elspeth Wright had available for the meeting, be discussed later in the meeting agenda. Mrs Doris also informed members of the dates and venues of the pre-application public events to be held by Gillespie Investments Ltd in respect of this company's proposed application for an additional three years time extension for their proposed development of a Data Centre at Green Hills.

10. Funding accessed by PCC

It was agreed to hold this item over to the next Community Council meeting.

11. Plains Community Futures Report

Bob Summerhill reported on the success of the Beautiful Scotland submissions. Plains village has been awarded a Silver Award and the Allotments have been awarded a Special Certificate.

The next stage of the Community Garden project can now progress with the successful granting of total funding of approximately £92,000 from WREN, the Environmental Key Fund and North Lanarkshire Council. It is likely the project will commence on site early 2013 given the now lateness of the seasons.

Minutes / action notes of the previous meeting will be available following the approval at the next meeting.

Post meeting note: the funding level awarded is £93,273.

12. Treasurer's Report

Mrs Waddell advised the meeting the current balance is £1,501.55 which includes the annual administration grant received of £630. The expenditure total of £6,362.16 includes the third party funding for the Community Garden. The future disbursement of the Community Garden grant funding from North Lanarkshire Council will redress the third party additional amount of £1,099.72.

13. Correspondence

1) *North Lanarkshire Council Tenant's Participation Strategy 2012 – 2015*

Mrs Fay Kerr had completed the Community Council response.

2) *North Lanarkshire Council Consultation on Draft Supplementary Guidance – Batch 14.*

It was agreed the documents, which are supplementary to the Local Plan documentation, did not require a response from the Community Council.

14. A.O.C.B.

- 1) Further to the correspondence, between the Community Council and the Women's Health Group, Mrs Fay Kearney was welcomed as a co-opted member to the Community Council.
- 2) Mrs Helen Boyle, Women's Health Group, advised the meeting the group has submitted an application to the Big Lottery Fund; has had support from VANL; new members have joined the group and, unfortunately the weather has had an adverse affect on the group's garden this year.
- 3) Mrs Doris circulated information on the August Local Area Partnership meeting. She proposed the Community Council ask a member of the Local Area Team to attend a Community Council meeting, to discuss engagement and involvement in the development of the Single Outcome Agreement.
- 4) Mrs Doris circulated information on the impact of welfare reforms on service users and the economy. Councillor Beveridge agreed, further to Councillor awareness training, to give an update on the reforms at the November Community Council meeting.
- 5) Installation of Bollards – Various Sites. It was noted this work had not yet been completed at all of the identified sites. Mrs Doris will pursue.

- 6) Airdrie and Villages Forum – Elspeth Wright had indicated to the Community Council in May, that further to her intended resignation as the chairperson of the Community Council she would no longer continue as the Community Council representative on the forum. The Community Council was provided with the date of the next forum meeting and to consider representation.
- 7) Covanta Community Liaison Panel – there was no time to discuss this at the end of the meeting. Will be held over to the next meeting.

15. Date of Next Meeting 9th October 2012, 7.30 p.m. Plains Community Centre.