

**Minute of the Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council held in public on Monday
19th May 2008 in the Cultural Centre, Blenheim Avenue, Stepps.**

Councillors Present: Rob Stuart (Chair); Harry Erentz; Marvyn Mackay; Ken Maxwell; Carol Graham; Frances McAveety; and Jennifer Cloggie.

Public: 8 Persons

Apologies: Louise Pender and Alex Gibson; PCs Chris McLeish, Andy Hastie and PC Caroline McGladdery, Strathclyde Police; Cllrs Brian Wallace and Frances McGlinchey, NLC

1.0 Remarks / Introductions

1.1 Rob Stuart welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies received from Louise Pender and Alex Gibson; PCs Chris McLeish, Andy Hastie and PC Caroline McGladdery, Strathclyde Police; Cllrs Brian Wallace and Frances McGlinchey, NLC.

3.0 Minutes of the previous meetings 17th March 2008 and 21st April 2008

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17th March 2008 approved, proposed by Ken Maxwell and seconded by Rob Stuart.

3.2 Minutes of meeting of the Council held on 21st April 2008 approved, proposed by Harry Erentz and seconded by Rob Stuart.

4.0 Community Policing

4.1 There were no police representatives present and no report received.

5.0 Matters arising from previous meeting

5.1 Item 4.1 Rob Stuart noted that crime had been reducing over the last two months and he assumed that this trend was continuing as he was not aware of any major incidents in the last month.

5.2 Item 5.2 Rob Stuart reported that the new alternate weekly bin collections would commence during week beginning 2nd June 2008 starting with the blue bin. Every household will receive a DVD from NLC explaining the new arrangements

5.3 Item 5.3 Cllr Wallace had advised that he had asked NLC officials to take action on the matter of replacing the boundary fence on the north side of Mt Harriet Drive.

5.4 Item 5.4 There was still nothing to report on proposals to deal with overflow from the station car park.

5.5 Item 5.5 Rob Stuart reported that he had spoken to someone in the Parks Department regarding the storage of the fuel and burner equipment for the Millennium Beacon and he was waiting to hear their response.

5.5a Item 5.5a A directional sign to Glasgow at the junction of Lenzie Road with Cumbernauld Road had still to be erected by the Roads Department.

5.6 Item 5.6 Rob Stuart reported that he had lodged an objection with NLC regarding the planning application by Clyde Valley Housing Association for a development of socially rented housing on the site of the former Stepps Primary School. This means that the Council should be involved in further consultation prior to a decision by NLC. The demolition of the school has begun. The gable end and the gargoyles were carefully removed for storage prior to relocation to a suitable site yet to be identified.

5.7 Item 5.9 There was nothing to report with regard to the update on the Local Plan.

5.8 Item 6.1 Rob Stuart advised that NLC had received amended plans regarding the application to convert a house at 75 Cumbernauld Road for use as a place of worship. Local residents in attendance at the meeting reported that worship and/or other activities

had already taken place at the premises and these had been going on until the early hours of the morning.

- 5.9 Item 6.2 There was nothing further to report on Crowwood Grange estate's application for a further housing development east of Dewar Road. There would be no action on this application until the local plan was approved.
- 5.10 Item 6.3 It was reported that the boxing coach was now planning to train more than one boxer in the former Guide Hut. Rob Stuart believed this would require a change of use planning application and he agreed to make enquiries with the planning department.
- 5.11 Item 9.3 The street lights at the entrance to the new Stepps Primary School were still not working. Cllr Wallace was making enquiries about this.
- 5.12 Item 10.1 Marvyn Mackay reported that he had received correspondence from Cllr Brian Wallace which stated that water seepage at the rear of Parkview Drive would be investigated by Julie Heron, Project Officer, NLC and advise him of any action required.
- 5.13 Item 10.3 It was reported that although Loch Road is still not open, the footpath has been re-opened in the last couple of weeks.
- 5.14 Item 10.4 Marvyn Mackay reported that work had commenced on re-instating the tactile pavement at the traffic lights at Cardowan Road/Cumbernauld Road junction.

6.0 Planning Matters

- 6.1 Rob Stuart reported that there was nothing new on the weekly planning lists. The report he had circulated had reduced the list to those applications still awaiting a decision.
- 6.2 It was reported that tree lopping had already taken place at 115 Cumbernauld Road.
- 6.3 There was further discussion on the application for change of use of the house at 75 Cumbernauld Road about which a number of immediate residents who were in attendance at the meeting expressed some reservations. Rob Stuart stated that since an amended application had been submitted, we would need to see what these changes were and raise any objections based the new amended application. However, any objection would still have to be on planning grounds such as parking. The Planning Department was obliged to give potential objectors advice on the grounds for objection.

7.0 Treasurer's Report

- 7.1 Ken Maxwell stated that he had nothing to add to his earlier report given to the Annual General Meeting and that there was a balance in account of £2014.66.

8.0 Secretary's Report

- 8.1 Marvyn Mackay reported on correspondence received since the last meeting.
- 8.2 Letter from North Lanarkshire Council enclosing a copy of the A_Z Guide to Public Services in North Lanarkshire. Passed to the chair for reference.
- 8.3 Letter from CCL Brian Wallace, NLC advising that automatic doors have been ordered for the Stepps Cultural Centre; Ron Dufour, Educational Officer, NLC will investigate the position with regard to the brass war memorial plaque and other artefacts to be mounted inside the Cultural Centre; and as reported above the flooding to the rear of the new school will be checked.
- 8.4 Letter from NLC enclosing an invitation to the launch of NLC Corporate Plan 2008-12 on Wednesday 4th June 2008. Neither the chair nor the secretary would be able to attend.
- 8.5 Letter from Margaret Mitchell MSP regarding a 'Save our phone boxes Campaign' in response to proposals by BT to remove a considerable number of these across the country. The Council felt that this should be supported as it was felt that the box at the Royal Bank was essential and was required by the community.
- 8.6 Letter from the Scottish Government enclosing a consultation document on Draft model scheme for the establishment of Community Councils and Draft code of conduct for Community Councillors. This was an important document and it was agreed that a response should be submitted on behalf of the council.

8.7 Letter from the Association of Community Councils seeking nominations for ASCC Area representative for North Lanarkshire local authority area. This post was previously held by someone from Moodiesburn Community Council and it was agreed that the secretary would raise this at the next meeting of the Northern Corridor Community Forum.

8.8 Letter from Calor Village of the Year competition advising that the closing date for this year's entries was 31st May 2008. Council did not wish to submit an entry.

9.0 Northern Corridor Community Forum

9.1 Marvyn Mackay reported that the executive members from the Community Forums in the North Area of North Lanarkshire had met and agreed to pursue the issues of support to the forums from NLC; the upgrading of the A80 and public transport issues; and the provision of health services in the area as the main issues at the Local Area Partnership meetings at which they were represented. He would advise of responses and developments

10.0 Councillor's Verbal Reports

10.1 Harry Erentz raised a number of issues which he wished the Council to be aware of and consider possible action:-

1. The use of premises at 2 Cumbernauld Road for business purposes and the large number of vehicles parked around the house.
2. The housing development at the Pear Tree Caravan Site which appeared to be contrary to the plans submitted and approved.
3. The future use of the site of the former Stepps Primary School since he had seen a report of developments by NLC for older people being proposed in a number of communities and NLC had stated they were not building any more sheltered housing during the discussion about the Stepps Primary Schools site.

10.2 Carol Graham sought permission to submit a Freedom of Information Act request to NLC regarding the Stepps Primary School site. This was agreed.

10.3 Marvyn Mackay suggested that in the next year the Council should invite officers from the various services provided by NLC and from other agencies such as transport and health providers to attend meetings of the Council so that we could use this as a theme for the meetings. He was concerned that many of the issues we raise never elicit a response or satisfactory action from these bodies and face to face meetings might help achieve better understanding and accountability. This proposal was agreed and the secretary to make the arrangements.

10.4 Ken Maxwell offered to seek advice from colleagues in SPT with regard to action the Council might take to have the public transport services improved in the area.

10.5 Frances McAveety expressed concern about the state of the fencing along the railway at the rear of house in Crowwood Grange. It was agreed that this should be reported to Network Rail for urgent action.

10.6 Frances McAveety noted that North Lanarkshire Council had now adopted Kirkpatrick Drive and she hoped that bus companies might now consider to routing services through Crowwood Grange.

11.0 Any other business

11.1 There was no other business.

12.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting

13.1 The next meeting of Stepps and District Community Council will be held on Monday 16th June 2008 at 7.30pm in the Stepps Cultural Centre, Blenheim Avenue, Stepps.

Marvyn Mackay
Secretary