

**Minute of the Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council held in public on  
Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009 in the Cultural Centre, Blenheim Avenue, Stepps.**

**Councillors Present:** Rob Stuart (Chair), Harry Erentz, Ken Maxwell, Marvyn Mackay and Carol Graham.

**Public:** 3 persons

**Apologies:** Jennifer Cloggie, Frances McAveety, Louise Lamond, PC Caroline McGladdery, Cllrs Frances McGlinchey and Brian Wallace NLC and Tom Clarke, MP.

**1.0 Remarks / Introduction**

1.1 Rob Stuart welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2.0 Apologies**

2.1 Apologies received from Jennifer Cloggie, Alex Gibson, Frances McAveety, Louise Lamond, PC Caroline McGladdery, Strathclyde Police, Cllrs Frances McGlinchey and Brian Wallace, NLC and Tom Clarke, MP. Marvyn Mackay reported that he had met Jennifer Cloggie recently and she had asked him to submit her resignation from the Council as she was living in Dorset. She still retained an interest in Stepps and had some outstanding business but was no longer eligible to be a councillor. She thanked everyone for their support and assistance during her difficult times at Whitehill Farm. Rob Stuart reciprocated and gratefully acknowledged Jennifer's contribution work of the council.

**3.0 Minutes of the previous meeting – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 approved, proposed by Rob Stuart and seconded by Harry Erentz.

**4.0 Community Policing**

4.1 In the absence of a representative from Strathclyde Police, there was no crime report for the past month.

4.2 Similarly there was no update on the parking issues in Blenheim Avenue which was still a cause for concern.

4.5 A problem was highlighted in regard to footballs from the pitches at Blenheim Avenue being kicked into the rear gardens of houses on Blenheim Avenue. In addition, young people who came to retrieve the balls showed little or no respect for the householders or their property. There was also the possibility of injury to residents who were sitting out in their back garden and could not see the balls coming or were unable to avoid being struck by them. This matter had been referred to the police who said they could not really assist as no crime was being committed and that it was a matter for North Lanarkshire Council. Rob Stuart agreed to raise the matter with NLC Leisure Services and suggest a higher fence be installed.

4.6 Marvyn Mackay raised the matter of young people congregating in the lane behind Stepps Parish Church and consuming alcohol. This was causing a disturbance to local residents and some anxiety to people attending meetings in the church halls and having to avoid the lane when coming to or going from the church. This matter had already been referred to the police but whenever they visited the young people had disappeared.

**5.0 Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

5.1 Item 5.1 In Louise's absence there was no update on her proposal for a Gala Day.

5.2 Item 5.2 One or two councillors had signed up to Facebook and accessed the council's page but were uncertain how to make best use of it. Louise to advise at next meeting.

5.3 Item 5.3 Secretary still to e-mail the editors of Steps on the Level to ask for a cost for half a page per edition to publicise the work of the council.

5.4 Item 10.1 Secretary had not heard from Cllr Wallace in regard to contact with the Area Roads engineer regarding the maintenance of the cycle lanes along the A80 through Millerston and Steps.

5.5 Item 11.1 Ken Maxwell reported that repair work had been done in School Road and the water seepage had been eradicated. Work had now commenced on the new housing development so would need to watch the works do not cause further problems in School Road.

## **6.0 Outstanding Issues**

6.1 The list of outstanding issues considered item by item, updated and additions and amendments made. A copy of the updated version attached to these minutes.

## **7.0 Planning Matters**

7.1 Rob Stuart distributed a list of planning applications updated to 14<sup>th</sup> June 2009. There were two new applications for the area – both for rear extensions to dwelling houses in Blenheim Avenue and Jackson Drive neither of which were contentious.

7.2 The Planning Reporter's findings and recommendation were now with Scottish Ministers to make a decision in respect of the appeal against refusal of planning consent for the Motorway Services at Hornhill Farm.

7.3 The Planning Committee of NLC would be meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2009 to consider the further application in respect of 75 Cumbernauld Road for a change of use to a religious education centre. Rob Stuart would be attending on behalf of the Council and local residents would also be represented. 110 objections had been submitted.

7.4 The consultation period for the revised Local Plan had now ended but there were no issues to which the council objected so only a letter of agreement had been sent. There could still be a public enquiry if there were significant objections from other parties.

## **8.0 Treasurer's Report**

8.1 Ken Maxwell reported that the Council's statement of accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 had been audited, approved and notification sent to North Lanarkshire Council. This means the Council would be eligible for a further grant from NLC for the year 2009/10. The balance in account was £2506.90. There were funds available for administrative expenditure.

## **9.0 Secretary's Report**

9.1 Marvyn Mackay reported on items of correspondence received since the last meeting.

9.2 Letter from Hugh O'Donnell, Regional MSP enclosing copy of his recent newsletter. Noted.

9.3 Letter from North Lanarkshire Council enclosing copy of minutes of meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council to be submitted to meeting of the Council on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2009. Noted.

9.4 Letter from Scottish Natural Heritage enclosing copy of their Summer 2009 magazine. Noted.

## **10.0 Councillors' Verbal Reports**

10.1 Carol reminded councillors and local residents of the website 'FixMyStreet.com' for reporting faults to the North Lanarkshire Council as it was very efficient and gave updates on responses from the council until the matter was resolved or withdrawn.

10.2 Carol Graham was concerned about the amount of dog excrement which was lying about the pavements and public areas in the community and suggested that more dog dirt bins should be provided.

10.3 Ken Maxwell raised the matter of the former hockey park being leased for dog shows as he felt this was an inappropriate use of playing fields frequented by children and young people. What assurances were there that the dog fouling was properly cleaned up after such events.

10.4 Marvyn Mackay reported that whilst most bus stops along Cumbernauld Road had recently had raised kerbs installed, one or two appeared to have been missed out such as the stop at Cardowan Drive on the south side. To be raised with Area Roads Engineer.

**11.0 Any Other Business**

11.1 There was no other business.

**12.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

12.1 The next meeting of Stepps & District Community Council will be on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2009 at 7.30pm in the Cultural Centre, Blenheim Avenue, Stepps.