

Minute of Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council held in public on Monday 19th December 2011 in the Cultural Centre, St Andrews Way, Stepps.

- Present:** Councillors Ken Maxwell (Chair), Edoardo Ceresa, Frances McAveety, Stewart Donald, Ewan Graham, Grenfell Lang and Bill Somerville.
- In Attendance:** Cllr Brian Wallace, NLC; Alastair Moodie, Auchinloch Community Council, WPC Urquart and PC McAllister, Strathclyde Police.
- Public:** 4 persons
- Apologies:** Cllrs Carol Graham, Iain MacGregor, Marvyn Mackay, Margaret Sludden-Lim, Rob Stuart, Elaine Smith MSP and Tom Clarke MP.

1.0 Remarks/Introduction and Appointment of Members

- 1.1 Ken Maxwell, Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a special welcome to Cllr Brian Wallace, WPC Urquart and PC McAllister, Strathclyde Police and Alastair Moodie, Auchinloch Community Council.

2.0 Apologies

- 2.1 Ken Maxwell advised that Cllrs Carol Graham, Iain MacGregor, Marvyn Mackay, Margaret Sludden-Lim, Rob Stuart, Elaine Smith MSP and Tom Clarke MP had tendered their apologies.
- 2.2 In the absence of the Secretary, Ken Maxwell asked for volunteers to take the minutes. Stewart Donald was proposed by Edoardo Ceresa and seconded by Grenfell Lang.

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting

- 3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 21st November 2011 were approved, proposed by Stewart Donald and seconded by Grenfell Lang.

4.0 Community Policing

- 4.1 Ken Maxwell invited WPC Urquart and PC McAllister to address the meeting.
- 4.2 WPC Urquart introduced herself and PC McAllister as two of officers who cover the Stepps area.
- 4.3 WPC Urquart reported on the incidence of crime as reported and detected since the last meeting. There had been 75 reported incidents of which 22 were animal related. Of the 10 crimes reported, 6 were housebreakings and the remainder included public disorder offences by youths. The incidents of note were in Cardowan Drive, Lednock Road, Comrie Road, Lenzie Road, and Kirkpatrick Drive. The means of entry for the housebreakings were windows, patio doors and drain barrels. At the time of the incidents some of the premises were occupied.
- 4.4 Cllr Grenfell Lang enquired about the issue of parking on cycle lanes along Cumbernauld Road in particular at Edward Place. WPC Urquart said that as far as she was aware there was no legislation in place in the last two years to prevent parking but she would e-mail other community police to advise of the issue and to monitor the situation. Cllr Brian Wallace was asked if the cycle lanes could be adopted by North Lanarkshire Council.
- 4.5 Ken Maxwell thanked the police officers for their attendance, report and responding to questions.

5.0 Matters arising from previous meeting of 21.11.11

- 5.1 Item 5.3 Local Plan Review: The Review is ongoing with the latest date for publication now understood to be end of January 2012 due to the amount of work involved and 5 Reporters working on it. Alastair Moodie reported on the meeting with Scottish Ministers by the delegation of 15 representatives from the three Community Councils of Stepps, Auchinloch and Chryston on 1st December. He went on to say that the meeting allowed the Councils to put their message across. This was that the development proposals would effectively double the population of the local communities if they were all passed. However, there were likely to be winners and losers but the communities will be standing together when the final decision is made. It was a positive meeting and the community representatives have been invited to a further meeting in the New

Year. There was some discussion regarding the next steps and a meeting with Shirley Linton, Head of Planning, NLC was proposed and agreed. Alastair Moodie said he did not agree with the contents of a letter from John Wilson MSP regarding the next steps. Ken Maxwell said we should keep planning on side. Cllr Brian Wallace said that the Reporter may come back with proposals that North Lanarkshire Council might not accept and it would have 3 months to respond to the Reporters' recommendations and produce a revised Local Plan. In taking forward the proposal to arrange a meeting with the Head of Planning, NLC, it was agreed that there should be two councillors from each Community Council, Stepps, Auchinloch and Chryston should attend and Cllr Brian Wallace said he would arrange dates and liaise with Ken Maxwell.

- 5.2 Item 5.4 Sports Facilities, St Andrews Way: No further update since Cllr Brian Wallace had left messages for the person dealing with this but this person was on sick leave.
- 5.3 Item 10.2 Mineshafts: Due to the Secretary's unexpected extended absence this matter had not yet been raised with the National Coal Board. Edoardo Ceresa said that there could be more problems if these were opened up and people went exploring.
- 5.4 Item 10.3: In regard to the upgrading and reinstatement of paths from Cumbernauld Road to St Andrews Way, and unblocking the access from St Andrews Way to Stepps Hockey Park, Cllr Brian Wallace said that he had been attending to this but he had left a map in the house. There is not an easy resolution to this matter.
- 5.5 Item 11.1: It was noted that no one appears to be taking responsibility for the eradication of Japanese Knotweed in the area. Ken Maxwell said that this matter needs sensitive handling.
- 6.0 Treasurer's Report**
- 6.1 Ken Maxwell stated that he had still to hand over the books and papers to Ewan Graham. The balance in account was £3,158p with two outstanding bills of £5.
- 7.0 Secretary's Report**
- 7.1 No report due to the Secretary's extended absence.
- 8.0 Planning Matters**
- 8.1 In Rob Stuart's absence, Ken Maxwell presented the list of outstanding planning applications to 19th November 2011.
- 8.2 Ken Maxwell reported that Planning Department had recommended approval of the residential and commercial development at Buchanan Business Park. He had submitted an objection on behalf of the Council and this included a number of suggested conditions if planning consent was granted. Cllr Brian Wallace said that a site visit was proposed and the Planning Committee had agreed to continue the application for further information to be submitted by January 2012. There had been strong objection from ASDA Stores and the Co-operative citing reductions in turnover of 20%.
- 8.3 Transfer of ownership of land designated for Frankfield Loch Nature Reserve from Taylor Wimpey to NLC – still pending. There was no report from Rob Stuart on his enquiries with NLC Planners, Greenspace Team, in regards to the legal documents setting out the conditions for establishing and maintaining the park.
- 8.4 There was no report from Rob Stuart on his enquiries with NLC regarding Taylor Wimpey erecting a large Board on Cumbernauld Road opposite Comrie Road and other developers erecting several advertising boards around Crowwood roundabout for which there appeared to be no planning applications. In addition, it was reported that large amounts of earth and rubble were being dumped on the Frankfield Loch site for which it appeared there was no planning permission. Cllr Brian Wallace said he would investigate this matter and report to the next meeting of the Council.
- 8.5 Rob Stuart and Ken Maxwell still to draft a Council response to the outline pre-planning application consultation proposal for a residential and care home development at Woodhead Farm.

8.6 A local resident raised the matter of a further planning application for 75 Cumbernauld Road. There is a long history of applications for this site and local residents were not invited to a recent site visit. Previous planning conditions in regard to parking and closing additional entrance to property have not been complied with and a neighbouring resident had had to put in a new drain at her expense. It is proposed that traffic lights be installed the junction of Cumbernauld Road, Laundry Lane and Loch Road. In regard to the current application there had only been four neighbourhood notifications and objections had been submitted. The Council agreed to put in an objection on the same grounds as previously and Ken Maxwell to do this in the next couple of days. The local resident thanked the Council for its continuing and previous support of the local residents' objections.

9.0 Report from the Northern Corridor Community Forum

9.1 Bill Somerville reported on the meeting of the Forum held on 29th November. The meeting had received complaints from two Moodiesburn residents regarding their lack of involvement in the delegation to the Scottish Parliament on the Review of the Draft Local Plan. It was explained that no slight was intended but currently Moodiesburn did not have a Community Council. The next meeting of the Forum is on Tuesday 31st January 2012 at 7.30pm in the Pivot Community Centre, Moodiesburn.

10.0 Councillors' Verbal Reports

10.1 Ken Maxwell raised the matter of the Council setting up its own website as our previous provider no longer maintained the site. Ken had approached a local resident, Mark Barclay who undertook this kind of work and had been given a cost of approximately £800 - £900 to set up the site and an ongoing cost of £15 to maintain the site. The set up would provide a relatively simple method whereby it could be updated by one or two councillors. Lenzie Community Council's website is an example of the product produced by this person. It was agreed that Ken should draw up a specification so that the Council could be sure of what it was getting for its money and protect the Council's interest if the Council did not get what it had commissioned. It may be that a second quotation should also be obtained. For further discussion at the next meeting.

11.0 Any other business

11.1 A local resident raised the matter of flooding at numerous locations around the area and what could be done about it. This matter to be raised with North Lanarkshire Council.

12.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

12.1 The date and time of the next scheduled meeting of the Council, Monday 16th January 2012 at 7.30pm in Stepps Cultural Centre, St Andrew's Way, Stepps.

13.0 The meeting closed with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.