

**Minute of Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council held in public on
Monday 17th December 2012 in the Cultural Centre, St Andrews Way, Stepps.**

Present: Councillors Ken Maxwell (Chair), Rob Stuart, Marvyn Mackay, Edoardo Ceresa, Stewart Donald, Grenfell Lang, Iain MacGregor and Bill Somerville.

Public: 3 persons

Apologies: Cllrs Alec Gibson, Carol Graham, Ewan Graham, Frances McAveety and Margaret Sludden-Lim, Cllrs Frances McGlinchey and Brian Wallace, NLC, Elaine Smith and John Wilson, MSP's and Tom Clarke MP

1.0 Remarks/Introduction

1.1 Ken Maxwell, Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Marvyn Mackay advised that he had received apologies from Cllrs Alec Gibson, Carol Graham, Ewan Graham and Margaret Sludden-Lim, Cllr Frances McGlinchey and Brian Wallace, NLC, Elaine Smith and John Wilson, MSP's and Tom Clarke MP

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting

3.1 Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19th November 2012 were approved, proposed by Edoardo Ceresa and seconded by Grenfell Lang.

4.0 Community Policing

4.1 There was no representative of Strathclyde Police in attendance and no report had been received.

4.2 Secretary was asked to contact police regarding items raised at last meeting and this meeting. He was also asked to invite them to the January meeting.

5.0 Matters arising from previous meeting of 19.11.12

5.1 Item 5.1 Sports Facilities, St Andrews Way: A local resident from Blenheim Avenue reported that someone from the Public Services Ombudsman's Office was coming to see her to discuss her complaint against North Lanarkshire Council. She felt less optimistic than ever about a satisfactory resolution but thanked the Community Council for its support.

5.2 Item 5.2 Mineshafts: Nothing to report from the Coal Board regarding location of mineshafts in the area. Secretary still to pursue.

5.3 Item 5.3: Footpaths to and from Stepps Cultural Centre. Another site visit with a NLC Education Officer had taken place and he agreed to arrange for the installation of a further gate on the west side of the path to allow access from St Andrews Way when the school gates were closed. Marvyn suggested that once this was done, the Council should ask the NLC's Community Payback Team to complete the upgrade of the path to the Hockey Park and to Cumbernauld Road from the Hockey Park. Agreed.

5.4 Item 5.4: Flooding A number of locations at the last meeting had been reported to NLC but some had not been attended to and further locations were identified as causing a problem viz. Whitehill Avenue/Victoria Road junction; Cardowan Road at junction with Cardowan Drive and beside flats at Lowland Court; pavement between 161-163 Cumbernauld Road, Hornshill Farm Road at Junction with Cumbernauld Road. Secretary was asked to raise these again with the Roads Department. In addition, any other problem locations should be reported to the Council via the Northline Contact Centre directly by Councillors and members of the public.

- 5.5 Item 5.5: Beautiful North Lanarkshire. Bill Somerville said his Report was not yet ready and he would bring it to a future meeting of the Council. However, he understood the officer from NLC whom he had been trying to get to a meeting over the last year had now left the council and he was waiting to hear the name of his replacement.
- 5.6 Item 5.7: Japanese Knotweed. Nothing further reported at this time due to the season.
- 5.7 Item 10.1: Marvyn Mackay said that he had still to write again to Caledonian Estates and Savills for Garnkirk Estates regarding the fence on the north side of Mount Harriet Drive.
- 5.8 Item 10.3: Marvyn Mackay said that he had still to write to North Lanarkshire Council regarding the resurfacing of the cycle lanes on the south side of Cumbernauld Road. Secretary asked to report parking on the cycle lanes to the police for action similar to that taken earlier in the year which seemed to have had an impact for a time.
- 5.9 Item 10.4: Marvyn Mackay referred to the item above on the fence along the footpath from the school to Cumbernauld Road and said he would refer the other paths to Community Payback once the further gate was installed.
- 5.10 Item 10.1: Marvyn Mackay reported that he had a phone call from Cllr Brian Wallace regarding the Brown Bin collection in which he said that he had consulted with Council Officers who had advised that residents should just continue to fill the brown bin and it would be collected again in March. Alternatively, garden waste could be bagged and collected in the Spring or by requesting a Special Uplift. A number of Councillors and members of the public commented on the safety aspects of the new Food Waste bins for blind and partially sighted persons who might not see them on the pavement.
- 6.0 Treasurer's Report**
- 6.1 Marvyn Mackay reported that Ewan Graham had advised that the balance in account was £2514.73 as of 4th December 2012. The grant for 2012/13 from North Lanarkshire Council had not been received.
- 7.0 Secretary's Report**
- 7.1 Marvyn Mackay reported on correspondence received since the last meeting.
- 7.2 Letter from Scottish Government enclosing leaflets on Coping with Emergencies – Building Community Resilience. Basically these were about how we cope as a community with severe weather, flooding or power failures with guidance on how to help those at risk. Noted.
- 7.3 Christmas Card with festive greetings from Elaine Smith, MSP and family.
- 7.4 Christmas Card from John Wilson, MSP.
- 7.5 Letter from John Wilson, MSP enclosing copy of his Surgeries' Poster for January to March 2013. Noted as nowhere to post such items for public viewing.
- 7.6 Letter from Ann Jones on behalf of the North Locality Consortium for Reshaping Care for Older People advising of dates for Drop-in Days to be held in January. The local one would be on Wednesday 16th January from 10.am to 12.00noon in Chryston Cultural Centre. Marvyn explained the RCOP programme and that funding was available for local groups for older people to claim to undertake new and extended work with their groups. These meetings were to raise awareness of RCOP and to explain the availability and how to apply for this funding.
- 7.7 Letter from North Lanarkshire Council enclosing copy of Minutes of Meetings of the Council, Committees and Sub-Committees to be submitted to the meeting of the Council on Thursday 20th December 2012. Noted.

8.0 Planning Matters

- 8.1 Rob Stuart presented the List of Planning Applications to 10th December 2012. There was only one new application from Taylor Wimpey for an amended layout to the Frankfield Loch development near the junction of Loch Road with Cumbernauld Road. This was to change the size and number of homes on this small area of the site, creating a greater density of terraced and semi-detached homes in a self-contained cul-de-sac on what was originally the line of the main artery road to a larger development behind Steppshill Terrace. Councillors were concerned that such a development would close access to the larger development from Loch Road and it might lead to a further application to open an access to the larger site from Cumbernauld Road opposite Comrie Road. Rob Stuart was asked to investigate further and to make an objection if this was the case and it appeared to conflict with previous conditions of the original planning application approval.
- 8.2 Still no response from NLC regarding the zoning for a Motorway Services Area at Hornshill Farm.
- 8.4 Rob Stuart reported that the application by Taylor Wimpey for advertising boards at Loch Road and opposite Comrie Road had been approved subject to relocation of the Loch Road signs due to sight lines being obscured at current locations.
- 8.5 No plans had been submitted by Taylor Wimpey to NLC for changes to the Frankfield Loch development which sought permission for a second entrance opposite Comrie Road and the construction of a roundabout at this junction. There had been discussion with a home owner at this location about re-siting his main entrance but this person did not take this any further as it would mean access on to a road from Cumbernauld Road opposite Comrie Road. Since the last meeting a screening fence has been erected at this location at the request of North Lanarkshire Council.
- 8.7 The application for a Care Home and residential development at Woodhead Road, Muirhead was rejected unanimously at the Planning Committee of NLC on the grounds that it was contrary to the Local Plan. Such a development would bring about a convergence of two distinct communities of Muirhead and Stepps on what was designated as greenbelt land separating the two communities.

9.0 Report from the Northern Corridor Community Forum

- 9.1 Marvyn Mackay reported on the meeting of the Forum held on Tuesday 27th November 2012 in the Auchinloch Community Centre.
- 9.2 The main items discussed were Re-shaping Care for Older People as above; the Paths and Rights of Way Project; the 'Seeme' Campaign which seeks to reduce the stigma of mental ill-health and in which the Forum will becoming involved in 2013 by signing the Pledge and promoting awareness of the campaign; the Local Area Partnership and the Community Forum Network Meeting discussion on representation at the LAP from the voluntary sector.
- 9.3 Since the meeting, information had come to light about proposals from North Lanarkshire Leisure to close the Iain Nicolson Recreation Centre in Muirhead. Marvyn had been asked to chair a Public Meeting being held in Chryston Cultural Centre on Thursday 20th December at 7.30pm. He urged everyone who was concerned about the future of the Centre to attend this meeting. He said that he felt this was not an acceptable proposal from NLL as it was another example of services being cut and removed from the local area.

10.0 Councillors' Verbal Reports and Any other business

- 10.1 A member of the public raised the issue of a pedestrian crossing being installed on Dewar Road at Crowwood Roundabout due to busy traffic on this road and it being the

main pedestrian link between Stepps and Muirhead. Traffic would increase at this location once the Scottish Water complex opened.

10.2 Cllr Stewart Donald asked about use and value of the website. Ken Maxwell agreed to collate a report on usage and visits from the log maintained by the site but only accessible to site administrators.

12.0 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

12.1 Monday 21st January 2013 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.