

## **Cumbernauld Village Community Council**

### **Minutes 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011**

#### **Present**

Neil McCallum (Chair), Gillian Connelly (treasurer), Brenda Morgan-Klein (secretary), Philip Morgan-Klein, Adam Irvine, Alan Russell, Nancy McEwan, Margaret Hunter, Jim MacLean, Richard Cartwright (NLC), Michael Bremer, Elizabeth Sneddon, Peter McGuire, Scott Barton (Strathclyde Police), S. Zilliken (Strathclyde Police)

#### **Apologies.**

Oliver Allen, Robert Border, Pat Churches

#### **1. CARS**

Richard Cartwright reported on progress in the areas of the:

- grant scheme
- buildings of interest
- public realm improvements

##### **1.1 Buildings**

###### **1.1.1 School**

Discussions on potential uses had taken place and it is hoped to have a brief for a feasibility study available in May.

###### **1.1.2 The Villager**

This is now being renovated by the new owner. A grant may be made available in response to proposals from the owner.

###### **1.1.3 Ardenlea**

RC reported that he had managed to meet with the employees of the current owner to advise of repairs required. If the response is not positive, a report will be prepared with a view to serving an urgent works notice.

###### **1.1.4 Spur**

A CARS grant will be made available for some work on this building.

##### **1.2 Grant schemes**

There had been a good level of interest in these schemes:

###### **1.2.1 Shop front Improvement Grants**

19 applications received, for 22 business premises (approximately 60% of those eligible- a high % & therefore an opportunity to make a significant overall difference to the Village).

NLC have gone out to tender to Conservation Architects to draw up detailed proposals, appointment around end of May expected.

Hopefully, most works should be done Oct/ Nov, after agreements on grants and tendering for contractors.

### **1.2.2 Householder Grant applications**

24 applications received. Individuals are now getting their 3 required quotations for the works applied for- requested by 16 May but not many in yet.

15 apps involve roof repairs

15 window repair or replacement

7 to replace PVC or inappropriate windows

6 to replace inappropriate doors

Hopefully most works should be done late summer/ Autumn

### **1.3 Public Realm**

The notice board is in place and RC handed over the keys to the Community Council. Meetings had been held with some owners of gap sites, though not all. Some gaps have more than one owner. So far there are no developments on these sites. Issues of seating, litter bins on the Langriggs, trees in the Main Street, repairs to cemetery gates were raised. In reply to a query about monies available, RC reported that spending on the public realm would have to be bid for and it would be important to set out clearly what the community would want. It was agreed that we would discuss this at our May meeting and subsequently write formally to RC.

The Chair thanked Richard for such a full report and his work thus far on this important project for the Village.

### **2. Police Report.**

Scott Barton reported that in the period 14<sup>th</sup> March-14<sup>th</sup> April there had been 91 calls and 12 crimes. This compared favourably with other areas (e.g. Abronhill, 203 calls and 51 crimes and Kildrum, 145 calls and 37 crimes).

There was discussion of assaults which the Police reported were related to pubs. The police were asked how publicans can be prevented from selling alcohol to intoxicated customers. Police reported that they do visit the pubs regularly and that 2 witnesses are required for them to be able to act on this. Police Officers attention was drawn to the fact that vandals had lit fires on the Langriggs and right next to refurbished walls. Police reported that they do patrol the Langriggs. Michael Bremer reported that he had been waiting for some time for police to view CCTV pictures that he has of individuals vandalising (graffiti) his house but had yet to receive a visit. Police Officers did not know of this and said that they would follow this up. Police Officers were also unaware of the fight outside of the Black Bull and of the ongoing anti social behaviour in Springfield Rd and surrounding areas. There had been a meeting on the anti social behaviour with residents and Ken Brownlea of NLC. The problems are focused on one family including two boys recently moved into the area and a range of incidents were discussed. A full list of reported problems was made available to the VCC secretary by Jim MacLean who had attended the meeting with NLC on the matter:

Verbal Abuse to neighbours

Verbal Abuse to a Polish Family - this may be intended as racial abuse but I cannot confirm this.

Banging of the metal rubbish chute from 9:30 to 10:30 pm

Walls being battered with a hammer

Attempted house breaking

Noisy parties

Washing lines being cut

Intimidating behaviour

Objects being thrown at windows

Standing on garage roofs and throwing stones

Attempts to break into delivery vans

Fluorescent lighting tubes being broken and the glass left on the floor outside front doors

Graffiti on pavements

Dog Faeces being thrown at windows

The boys have also been witnessed walking down Main Street obstructing traffic and shouting abuse at drivers.

One Community Councillor has also experienced the boys climbing onto the roof of her house, and she does not reside in Springfield Road.

The relentlessness of this behaviour had taken its toll on residents and some neighbours were described as near the end of their tether. It was stressed by the Police and those who had attended the meeting with NLC on the problem that it is vital that all incidents are reported to the Police so that a profile of the full extent of the problem can be built up and then acted upon by the appropriate authorities.

### **3. Minutes of last meeting**

A correction was made to the Minutes under 'Minutes and matters arising' where the Auld Road should read Roadside.

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Bank £2,398.38

Cash £77.39

Total £2,475.77

Gillian reported that the Bank will cease to pay credit interest as of the 6<sup>th</sup> June.

### **5. Notice board, communication and publicity (secretary will report)**

It was agreed that Brenda and Margaret would hold copies of the keys for the notice board. Brenda proposed a publicity drive for the work of the Council and the web site in the form of a postcard to Village households. It was agreed that this could be progressed and Brenda agreed to get costs.

### **6. NLC scheme for Community Councils (secretary will introduce, papers previously circulated)**

The secretary highlighted key issues arising from the NLC scheme for Community Councils and the new Code of Conduct for Community Councils. These included the new arrangements for elections and the move to quadrennial elections, the number of councillors to be allocated to the Village Community council, the electoral register requirement, the inclusion of 16-17 year olds as eligible to stand as councillors, conduct of the Council and equality duties. It was noted that the VCC is due to have an AGM prior to the proposed first quadrennial elections but that this should go ahead. Therefore there will be the usual annual elections for councillors at the AGM on June 9<sup>th</sup> with a likely replacement set of elections when the new arrangements come into force in October. A notice will be placed in the Cumbernauld News and on the notice board advertising the AGM in June .

### **7. CCTV update (update on progress from Oliver Allen)**

Neil reported on progress made by Oliver and tabled a photograph showing the proposed siting of cameras. One camera will be set up by NLC who will monitor it for 6 months. It will be redeployed if it is assessed that it is not needed. The second camera would require funding from the community. Michael Bremer offered to donate a camera (part of his business). He was thanked for his generous offer. It was noted that the proposed siting of camera 2 would not cover the full Main street and would be better on the opposite side of the street. In the case of camera one it may be necessary to cut down trees and require listed building consent if the camera is to be sited on the Spur.

### **8. CVAC report (CVAC Chair will report on progress)**

#### **8.1 Allotments**

Philip MK reported that Jean Thompson felt happy for CVAC to pursue the lease of rig 2 for community use. The allotment issue has been with NLC Property since last November but with no positive response as yet. Brian Thompson has agreed to provide a team to help clear the mess on the site caused by the recent fire.

#### **8.2 Langriggs**

Plants for the weavers' beds have been ordered by Brian Thompson and should be available for planting in mid May. Bulbs planted by the school children are coming through.

#### **8.3 Beautiful Scotland**

An application is being made and a portfolio is being put together.

#### **8.4 Village Hall**

There is a need to expand use of the Hall and Philip asked anyone who would like to help do this to contact him

There was discussion of the bog planting, ponds and puddles at the bottom of the riggs and agreed that the safety aspects of this would be monitored.

### **9. AOB**

Philip reported that he is attending the Cumbernauld Environmental Society and will report on this.

Jim reported that the Jubilee Park group have been considering equipment, planning consultation and having a site survey.

A variety of traffic concerns were raised including parking and matters arising from works on the A80.

**Date of next meeting**

**May 12<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Village Community Hall**