

Cumbernauld village Community Council Minutes June 9th 2011

Present

Michael Bremer, J. Sill, J.S. Tenant, Adam Irvine, G. Connors, S. Lyons, Gillian Connolly (Treasurer), Philip Morgan-Klein, Catherine Millar, Margaret Hunter, Robert Border, Alan Russell, Jim MacLean, Jack Wilson, Neil McCallum (Chair), Paula McCrae, Alison Young, Jim Craig, Gloria Lennox, Mariene Miller, Catherine Miller, Veronica Tseu, Marian Robertson, Elizabeth Sneddon, Nancy McEwan, Brenda Morgan-Klein (treasurer) Councillor Tom Johnston, Gillian Cowell (University of Stirling), Sgt Joe Black (Strathclyde Police), PC Paul McWhinnie (Strathclyde Police), PC Natalie Reid (Strathclyde Police), Laurence Kelly (Scottish Water), Mark MacLaren (Scottish Water)

Apologies

Oliver Allen, Pat Churches

The Chair welcomed representatives of Scottish Water to the meeting.

1. Presentation from Scottish Water on response to pollution in the Red Burn

Laurence Kelly and Mark MacLaren explained that the presence of pollution in the Red Burn such as heavy metals means that the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency requires Scottish water to take remedial action. This involves digging ponds which will be sited in the Ward Park area as a first stage in addressing the problem. A map was presented showing the siting of these ponds. The ponds work by slowing down flows allowing sedimentation of pollutants and biological treatment which breaks down pollutants (mainly sunlight). A planning application will be submitted by SW to NLC in late summer. The ponds will be two metres deep. In discussion Scottish Water's attention was drawn to the ongoing problems of flooding associated with the Red Burn. No objections were raised in respect of the proposed planning application.

2. Police Report

Sergeant Black briefed the Council.

135 calls had been received in the period from May 1st to June 9th. 39 complaints had been made including a range of issues which includes disturbances mostly in Main Street, Springfield and the Auld Road and several incidences of vandalism. In summary:

- 29 recorded crimes
- 8 calls were related to youths drinking mostly in the Main Street but also in Springfield Rd.
- 3 assaults (2 serious),
- 7 disturbances (spread over a number of streets)
- 1 suspicious person

- 2 fires including an attempt to set fire to a derelict house in Baronhill

It was noted that the statistical reports available to the Police approximate to an area that includes elements of Kildrum and A80. It is not possible to present data relating to the Village area only without a lengthy manual process. Sergeant Black reported that the ward is now classed as a priority Ward. Additional resources are being made available particularly at weekends and a weekend action plan is being drawn up for the main Street.

The discussion focused on the ongoing concern of the Council on anti social behaviour in Springfield Rd and the concerns about disturbances at Public Houses particularly the Black Bull. Sergeant Black reported that several meetings had taken place on the problems in Springfield and stringent measures have been put in place to protect individuals. The details are confidential. This had alleviated some of the problems but some felt that bad behaviour may now be being directed elsewhere. There is a continued Police focus on these problems and it was agreed that the Council would keep a continuing eye on developments. The Council have written to NLC Chief Executive raising concerns about these matters and a copy of the letter was passed to relevant individuals. There was some discussion of concerns about continuing bad behaviour outside of the Black Bull, particularly as a further Public House will open across the Street. Sergeant Black outlined Police powers and assured that they would be keeping an eye on developments.

Death of Penny Munn

Prior to the discussion of VCC business the Chair announced the sad and untimely death of Penny Munn. Penny had been extremely active campaigner for the environment such as the Langriggs and the Glen over a number of years. She was a member of CVAC and a very community spirited villager.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes were accepted, there were no matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

4. Treasurer's report

Bank £2,398.69

Cash £7.32

Total £2,406.01

5. Secretary's report

Correspondence and circulars were tabled including: notice of car parking charges, information on the Living Well Event, letter from John Kirkhope. The letter from JK had been delivered personally to the meeting and is headed: 'An intimation of forthcoming consultations for the former Villager P.H. (whole building) and also the Black Bull P.H....' This outlined various proposals including plans for a rear garden at the

Black Bull/Puccinis. It was agreed that more details were required and noted that these had been promised by John Kirkhope at the VCC July meeting. Concerns were expressed about the fencing off of land behind the Black Bull of NLC land without permission.

6. AGM Nominations and elections

New regulations for Community Councils from NLC mean moving to a new system for elections which will take place every four years. The first of these will take place on October 4th. It was therefore proposed that the current councillors and officers remain in post until then as this is only a few months away. Details of the conduct of these elections should be forthcoming from NLC in due course. Neil McCallum announced that he would be standing down as Chair in October.

7. CARS public realm proposals

Brenda MK reported that Richard Cartwright was interested in pursuing screening of the gap sites. There was then a discussion of the developments the Council would like to see, some of which were put to a vote. These include, mending of the cemetery gates, bins in the Langriggs, possibility of some trees in the Main Street and benches. **Richard Cartwright will attend the July meeting.**

8. CVAC report

Philip Morgan-Klein reported on developments and activities:

- Leasing the Thomson allotment had been approved on principle and CVAC awaits this being processed.
- The environmental group have planted 40 plants in the cemetery and plan to plant more. Mondays are planting evenings and all are welcome (phone Philip on 729086).
- The Village is registered for Beautiful Scotland, leaflets are being prepared for businesses.
- The postponed planting day for the Weavers' Beds on the Langriggs is Sunday 26th June 1pm-4pm when 487 plants will be planted. Philip appealed for help.
- Philip reported that Cumbernauld House Trust were looking for another project to develop a cultural / community centre following the selling of Cumbernauld House. They will meet with CVAC to discuss the possibility of the Village School.

9. AOB

Adam reminded the Council that we had agreed that we would need to plan for the possibility of a severe winter following last year's 'snow chaos'. It will be important to note when the gritting plan comes before NLC and the possibility of making further representations on this was discussed briefly. It was agreed to place this on the agenda of the August meeting.

Date of next meeting

July 14th 7.30 pm Village Hall