

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

REPORT

To: COATBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE		Subject: COATBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM	
From: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES			
Date: 29 MARCH 2005	Ref: BP/MF		

1. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to submit the minute of the Coatbridge Community Forum meeting to the Area Committee. The minute of 2 December 2004 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Area Committee is requested to note the minute of the meeting held by the Coatbridge Community Forum.

Paul Ginties

COATBRIDGE COMMUNITY FORUM

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD 2/12/04

PRESENT: M Barbi, H McLaughlan, A Forrest, S Martin, P Winnie, J McGlinchey, M Donovan, A Stewart (Lochview Care Home) T Mullen, D Martin and B Jeffrey (Friends of Dunbeth).

APOLOGIES: M McWilliams, J McKillion

Minutes of previous meeting: Approved A Forrest. Seconded S Martin

Matters arising:-

Disabled Parking – A letter has been received from Strathclyde Police regarding this matter (passed round table for reading).

Questionnaire – When asked about the possibility of a questionnaire being given to people using the facilities at Shop Mobility, Jim from shop mobility stated that he could not make any decision on this.

Taxis – Harry spoke to the traffic warden regarding the taxis outside Woolworth's who advised that if a problem with taxis or other vehicles that the police should be contacted and they will hold the culprits. The committee feel that it would be better if an official rank was set up of the main thoroughfare perhaps on Church St. This will be discussed at a later date with a view to put proposals of possible sites to NLC.

West End Park – There is a rumour that the bowling club at this park is to be turned into a café. A committee has been set up and a survey is to be carried out as to what the public want. No report available at present.

Illegal Tipping – There is no further details regarding this matter. Peter will find out if any progress has been made.

Closure of Lochview Care Home: Mr A Stewart whose mother is a resident in Lochview gave the meeting an outline on what has been happening with regard to the closure of Lochview. This includes staff being advised that they will not have a job at the home and that admittance to the home has ceased and a phone call at 4.15 stating that a meeting would be taking place at 5.30 that same day. The Forum was advised that the general outcome of that meeting was that NLC didn't care about the residents' wishes to remain in the home that they simply wanted them out of Lochview and into other accommodation. All of the residents' except for 2 have chosen to go to either Canal Street or the new facility at the site of the old Coatbridge hotel. NLC state that it is not feasible and would cost too much to bring the heating and windows up to standard at Lochview. Mr Joe Ashwood is facing the same situation in Meadowside Care Home in Airdrie.

Forum suggested that Mr Stewart write to MSP and Councillor regarding this matter. Mr Stewart indicated that both Councillor Tony Clarke and Elaine Smith MSP had been approached but neither was interested.

A petition to try and prevent the cessation of admittances to both homes will take place in Coatbridge and Airdrie on Saturday 4/12/04. Mr Stewart asked if anyone could come along and assist in giving out leaflets and help with the signing of the petition. It was agreed that anyone who could would go along and help.

Dunbeth Park: T Mullen is a member of a recently set up group called Friends of Dunbeth. Miss Mullen advised that this group has been formed as a result of the lack of consultation by NLC regarding the plans for the park. The proposal of the all weather park would see the erection of 52ft high flood lights and there would be an admittance fee charged for use of the park although this would not be manned by NLC staff. A meeting took place in September 2004 without anyone in the surrounding neighbourhood being advised. Only notification given was to the College who submitted an object to the proposals. The group have asked that the Forum support them.

After a very lengthy discussion the Forum advised that as stated at previous meeting they could not support objections to any type of Health & Leisure facility but agreed to issue a letter to Miss Mullen stating that the Coatbridge Community Forum support all consultation with NLC.

AOB: No other business.

DONM: Due to the holidays the next meeting will take place in Kildonan Street on Thursday 3/2/05 at 7pm.