

Minute of Online Meeting of Steps & District Community Council Thursday

13th January 2022, 7.30pm-9.30pm

Present: Councillors Alice Morton (Chair), Sameeha Rehman (Secretary), Campbell Provan (Treasurer), Craig Cowan, Eddie Ceresa, Tom Forrester, Ken Maxwell, Paul Noble and Sheila Stuart

Apologies: Cllr McLaren
Lorraine Kerr
Annemarie Kirkland
Maureen McCallum

Public: 12 persons

1.0 Opening Remarks/Introductions

1.1 Chair Alice Morton welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above.

3.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

3.1 Proposed by Paul Noble. Seconded by Eddie Ceresa.

4.0 Executive Report

4.1 No questions raised.

Treasurer's Report

I went to the bank on Wednesday 5 January and obtained a statement. Two cheques written in October in the amount of £374 for advertising in Steps on the Level for one year and £36.20 for the purchase of a poppy wreath have not been presented to the bank. The North Lanarkshire grant of £791 was paid into the account on 8 December 2021. Interest of 75 pence has been added to the account. £8 was paid into the account from sales of the mining memorial booklet.

The account is at £3661.54 of which £996 is mining memorial money.

5.0 Community Police

5.1 Apologies from PC John Fleming who had no access to Zoom. No crime report has been submitted.

6.0 Actions/Matters arising from previous minutes

6.1 Environmental Issues

Cllr Tom Forrester reported that no date has been given for the cyclical drain cleaning.

Residents have submitted complaints of persistent dog fouling around First, Second, Third and

Fourth Avenue, and Mount Harriet Drive. NLC state that it believes the issue of dog fouling is beyond its statutory duties. The CC dog fouling post on the community Council Facebook has reach 3370 people, so it is clearly an issue of concern.

Following the further reporting to NLC of concerns around the speeding of vehicles at Lenzie Brae, a traffic survey is due to be completed by early February by the NLC Transportation Engineering team. A detailed response will be given in the middle of February with the findings. This was welcomed by the public present.

Concerns were raised regarding the erection of a Telecommunications Mast on the pavement in front of the Co-op on the Cumbernauld Road.

ACTION: Paul Noble will look at the pavement space occupied by the installation and report to Alice with any comment on his findings.

6.1 Gateside Site

Mr Andy McEwan, the Contract Manager from Barratt Homes, has reported the following:

- o All contractors and suppliers have been notified that there is no right turn when leaving the development and all must adhere to this.
- o With regards to contractor parking, there is contractor parking available on site and all must adhere to this.
- o Discovered that certain service cables and ducts were at a shallow height and now need to be deepened hence this has prolonged this part of the works and until all of the existing services have been located, they cannot give a definitive completion timescale.
- o Also checked the street lighting and at time of writing it is fully operational.
- o Apology that the community council was never previously notified at the commencement of works however going forward the consortium will keep the community council fully informed as work progresses.

Ken Maxwell suggested that drone footage of Gateside is requested. Paul Noble raised issues surrounding the trees on the site and tree protections.

ACTION: Alice to follow-up.

6.2 Stepps PS and Community Campus Report

The Community Council had no update for the meeting.

The secretary of Stepps Parent Council provided the following report on the wider ongoing issues impacting the school alongside the issue of the lack of library and access to community space.

These issues related to staffing issues (short staffed) which were having a significant impact on the improvement plan and specific supports for children. There were particular concerns from the Parent Council about inadequate staffing to meet disabled children's needs and those with additional support needs. There are also issues ongoing regarding the state of the playground (unusable after heavy rain) and the outdoor space being insufficient given the number of pupils in the school.

We, the Parent Council, have raised these issues for two years with no confirmed response or action from the Council. We also discussed the ongoing road safety/ inappropriate parking issues. Also raised was the point that there is no consistent political representation with these issues.

We don't have a Councillor standing with parents (and the wider community) regarding these school/education issues that are having such a huge (negative) impact.

It was this discussion that led to the Community Council meeting separately with the Parent Council to decide on a future combined action plan.

Hockey Pitch

A meeting took place with Mark McBride on 10th December to discuss the CC's preferred arrangements for the reinstatement of the hockey pitch and access lane on the completion of the remedial drainage works at the school.

- o The hard standing and compound area will be removed, and the hockey field will be returned to grass. Fencing may be included around the area to protect the grass until it has established.
- o The hardcore forming the car park within the compound area will be reused to extend the existing car park area, adjacent to the pavilion, to the boundary fence located on the west side of the pavilion.
- o The existing school boundary fence and beech hedging will be reinstated.
- o The access road, from Mount Harriet Drive, will be surfaced with macadam, and either finished against existing edge kerbing, or new kerbing, if none exists.
- o Considering the inconvenience that the works has caused, you agreed to approach the P.F.I management company to establish if they would agree to resurface the pavilion car park in asphalt macadam.
- o Councillor McLaren noted that he would progress arrangements for installing a full gate, with a side space for Pedestrians, at the entrance of the access road on Mount Harriet Drive.

There is still no update from Andrew McPherson regarding the meeting of the 29th September 2021 about reinstatement of community facilities at Stepps Cultural Centre.

6.3 Millennium Beacon Project

Eddie Ceresa provided an update on the Beacon project. He is awaiting confirmation of the price of the works before a funding application can be made. Moving forward, it is important to begin to think about how the project will be publicised across the community (possibly SOTL and CC FB) and to engage with Stepps Primary for the involvement of children. An enquiry has been made to Lorna Bowden regarding planning permission for the project but no response has been received.

ACTION: Alice to pursue this with Lorna Bowden

7.0 Planning Matters

- 7.1 There is still no update on the Roadside Services Application at the Hornshill Junction. Case officer reports, 'At this point there are still matters to be resolved with the application and it

is not yet ready to be presented to the planning committee. As such, will not be put to the 27th January committee. Depending on how long matters take to resolve it may go to the February committee but we will see how matters progress over the next couple of weeks.' The S&DCC response to this application is available to view on the website.

8.0 Northern Corridor Community Board

8.1 Next meeting is Wednesday 22nd February 2022, 6.30pm – 8.30pm

9.0 Northern Corridor Community Forum

9.1 Next meeting is Wednesday 12th January 2022 at 7.00pm on Zoom.

10.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing

10.1 No Councillor in attendance.

11.0 AOCB

11.1 S&DCC agreed that the Zoom account subscription should be renewed for another year.

11.2 The new interlinked fire alarm guidance must be implemented by February 2022.

Older and disabled homeowners on low incomes may get help with costs. The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service can install alarms in the homes of people assessed to be at high risk from fire as part of a home fire safety visit.

11.3 The crossing patrol has been removed at Bannatyne's as the quota for the number of pupils has not been met.

11.4 A resident raised concerns regarding placing requests from the Dunlop Streets at Crowwood Grange Estate and the inability of residents to gain access to the local primary schools in Stepps.

ACTION: Alice to follow up with resident for more information.

12.0 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

Thursday 3rd February at 7.30pm on Zoom.