

# Milton of Campsie Community Council Minutes of Meeting

Monday 20/02/2023 at 7.30pm  
Meeting held in the Village Hall

## 1. Record of Attendance

Alex Buist (AC)– Chair, Brian McFall (BM)– Secretary,

Andy MacKenzie (AM) - Treasurer

Neill Simpson (NS), Elizabeth Rowan (ER)

Iona Gilchrist (IC), Agnes Raybould (AR)

Jim Crawford (JC)

## Apologies

Neill Simpson is on Holiday

Vicky Jarvis is unwell.

Cllr Ferretti was unable to attend.

## Previous minutes

Proposed by Agnes Raybould, seconded by Jim Crawford.

Before the meeting commenced AB introduced our new Community Constable PC Jenna Paull (JP), AB also introduced members from Lennoxton Community Council in attendance.

## **Standing agenda items**

### 2. Roads (speeding, conditions, crossing points, pavements)

- a) Gateway Feature – BM was sent an e-mail with the gateway feature information which was distributed to the CC members, BM noted that it was not a feature in the terms that anyone would recognise, rather it was more a case of the roads being given new surface coatings and a new basic sign with Milton of Campsie on it. BM asked the Lennoxton CC members about the stone feature they have, they noted that the CC and a grant award paid for it, not EDC. It was agreed that if we wish to have something more substantial, we will need to raise the funds ourselves.
- b) Speeding was again discussed, and JP noted that she can come to the village at random times with a speed gun and carry out random checks which is likely to slow the traffic in the short term.  
A member of the public asked why speeders are pulled in rather than just taking a photograph and issuing fines. JP noted that this isn't possible without the full camera system.

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A resident of Birdston noted that it is more a case of who is not speeding than who is speeding. She noted that a neighbour's dog had been hit and a neighbour had also fallen onto the road, fortunately no traffic at the time but could have been extremely serious.

A resident of Milton noted that she has two daughter both of school age, she is very concerned for their safety as one crosses Birdston road and the other has to walk to the local primary school. She is worried that the draw created by articulated lorries passing through the village often well above the speed limit will pull a child under the vehicle or that a speeder will hit one of them crossing the road.

AB noted that in addition to full traffic lights at the cross the CC requested two crossing points within the village. At present we have not heard anything from EDC on these requests.

BM asked for people's thoughts on the introduction of chicanes in the village. JC noted that the residents of Strathblane think they are great and have really controlled the speeding through their village. Those present at the meeting were in favour of introducing chicanes. BM will write to EDC and suggest this.

Action BM

BM noted that the CC will introduce a poll on Facebook or the CC noticeboard to obtain the resident's view.

BM has tried to contact other Community councils where village speeds have been reduced to 20mph, he has had no replies yet.

- c) It was mentioned that there have been several reports of possible drink driving or drug driving in the village recently which we will pass on to the police.
- d) Gullies which have been blocked for some time, have been cleaned and now operate however some on Campsie Road are still blocked.
- e) We are arguing our case for the hedges at Birdston to be properly trimmed back. We will keep pressing for this to be carried out.

Action BM

Action BM

### 3. Dog Fouling

The issue of dog owners not picking up their dogs poo is still an issue in the village and a resident of Vallyfield recently contacted the CC about the area behind the houses being heavily used but the dog poo not being picked up. This issue was raised on the CC facebook page and was met with some abusive comments. The area in question appears to be owned by the residents of Vallyfield. A member of the public noted that as the land is privately owned people only have the right to roam over it, they do not have the right to let their dogs run about freely unless they live in Valleyfield.

### 4. Drugs

JP noted that there been 2 drug related calls in the last few months in the area. JP asked that if anyone has suspicions or has seen drug related activity to call 101 and pass on the information to allow the police to investigate and build up the intelligence data base to assist in catching those active in the area. A member of the public stated that drugs are being dealt on the railway path, apparently payment is made elsewhere and collection is on the line. Underage drinking is also increasing at various points on the railway path.

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JP was asked why the police do not come on trail bikes and randomly patrol the walkway where the drugs and drinking are taking place. She noted that the police in our wider area do not have any trail bikes. She noted she can make a request but also noted that we should write to the Chief Inspector.

**Action BM**

### 5. Village paths.

**Action ALL**

- a) It was recently reported to BM that the path from Valleyfield estate down to the river had a recent fall by a user who slipped on the muddy surface and fell. Someone of the residents of Valleyfield who it seems own the land behind the houses have volunteered to assist in upgrading the path. The CC will investigate how this can be done and fund the materials required. It was agreed that a letter should be written and distributed to the residents of Valleyfield in regard to this.

**Action BM**

### 6. General Items

- a) **Erosion of banks of River Glazert** – BM continues to enquire.
- b) **Allotments** – BM reported that EDC have told him that a new head of the section has been appointed and is due to start in the next month or so. BM will look to open dialogue once this person is in place..
- c) **Broken bank of burn at Alloch Dam** – SEPA have not responded to BM. BM will continue to chase this matter.
- d) **Entrance to Baldoran site** – the matter is awaiting the reporters finding and judgement.

**Action BM**

**Action BM**

**Action – BM**

### 7. Chair's update.

- a) AB thanked the CC for the condolences from its members on the passing of his brother.

### 8. Treasurer's update.

- a) AM provided verbal report with the written version attached to the end of these minutes.

### 9. Planning applications.

- a) No planning applications have been made that affect the village in any manner.

### 10. Police report.

- a) Our new community officer was welcomed at the meeting and noted that we looked forward to seeing her presence more often.
- b) No formal report from police was submitted but an informal one was provided by PC Jenna Paull. The PC noted that there has been a rise in the theft of expensive cars across the area. It seems that an electronic piece of equipment can be bought from Amazon which allows the car key to be cloned from outside your house, taking about 30 seconds. This can be defeated by keeping your car key fob well away from front doors and windows and better still keeping it in a metal box or a protective box which again can be bought online. There have been a couple of calls on general nuisance and noise complaints, the calls are attended when required but the first call for noise complaints should be the EDC team which deals with this matter. Excerpt from EDC web site – "You can call us to report

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antisocial night noise from Friday to Sunday 8pm to 4am on **0300 1234510** or you can contact Police Scotland on 101. For each complaint received, we will: Assess whether a visit is required and discuss your complaint with you”

- c) With regards to shooting events around the village it was agreed that the CC would write to all landowners and ask them if they could advise the CC in advance of shoots taking place to allow us to warn the residents

**Action BM**

### 11. Birdston Coup

- a) Jenny from the Birdston Regeneration Group gave a short run down on the current situation.
- b) The group is now a registered charity which opens doors to funding.
- c) The ultimate aim being to bring the land into community ownership.
- d) Being a charity the process leading to a Community Right to Buy process is now available to strive for. Initially the BRG must carry out a process of negotiation in terms of buying the land from the current owner.
- e) Our MP Stuart Macdonald has met with a Mr Shearer of PWS /Birdston Land Management and Mr Shearer indicate that they have been in consultation with planning consultants and environmental consultants and are looking to be back on site in March and complete the works within a year. This is what they told SEPA 2 years before they were shut down for not adhering to the granted exemptions.
- f) We will all need to keep an eye open for activity on the site and contact with EDC Planning should be made to discover if they have made contact with them yet.
- g) On a similar vein, a member of the public noted that it appears Campsie Glen has been bought by a public body, that was all she knew at that time.

### Any Other Business

- The village pollination shrub beds were discussed, and the position was put to Cllr Ferretti that they are an excuse not to cut grass and make our village look extremely untidy. We requested that this be taken up with EDC on our behalf. It was also noted that the Queen’s jubilee garden at the bus stop is in a terrible condition, it is obvious that EDC have done nothing in MOC regarding shrubs beds for a few years now.
- The walkway was discussed and it was noted that there are areas which now flood badly as it appears drainage has not been installed. BM will ask about this.
- A member of the public asked if CCTV could be brought into use to stop illegal use of the recycling area in the village. This will be raised with EDC.
- We recently asked the question on social media, as we have done in the past, for the residents to tell us your worries and concerns and needs. The following issues were raised.
  - 1. Dog fouling and like of people picking up.
  - 2. Make Redmoss Road a mandatory 20MPH limit.
  - 3. The condition of pavements.
  - 4. Speeding through the village.

**Action BM**

**Action BM**

**Action BM**

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- 5. The Bellway estate on the west side of Birdston Road requires a playpark based on the danger to children crossing roads in the village to reach existing play areas.
- 6. General littering.
- 7. Signs delineating the villages to let road user know they are entering a village.
- 8. A Pub.
- 9. Use of the Astroturf area at Craighead school. When open and unsupervised this area was constantly abused and trashed. For a period, it was opened and closed with supervision by one of the CC members. This is a big request to ask anyone one to do. Perhaps those with children or teenagers who want it open can put forward their name and form a rota of supervision to ensure the area is available to all without being vandalised constantly.
- 10. Croissing the road at Redmoss – avoid the speeders.
- 11. Illegal parking at Scotmid. This is not only just lazy but extremely dangerous.
- 12. Potholes in general and re-surfacing. We have manged over the last two year to have virtually the whole of Birdston Road re surfaced and continue to fight for the remainder to be done. We have been advised that the pavements down near the cross are in line to be resurfaced. We will chase this on.
- 13. The stairs leading for the Barratt estate to the Scholle are in dangerous condition.
- 14. More events should be organised in the village.
- 15. Dog fouling in particular around the school area. This si concerning as dog dirt si extremely dangerous to children and can suae serious health conditions. We will post more on this problem in the coming months.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting was proposed to be the 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.

### **Treasurers Addendum**

Treasures Report

#### **Community Grants**

As indicated at our last meeting a further round of Community Grants was open with a closing date of 10 Feb 2023. While it was proposed that we should apply for three projects (Footpath Upgrade/repair – Area behind Valleyfield, Community Gym/Exercise equipment for installation in Battlefield Park, and Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch – 2023) on further investigation it was determined that only the Christmas Lunch proposal would meet the Criteria. Further work in connection with obtaining the landowners permission/maintenance agreements would be required to progress the other two options and may be possible for the next round later in the year.

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### Christmas Garden Lights

A gift card to the value of £50 has been purchased however to date we have been unable to contact the winner to make the presentation, it is hoped to do this within the next week.

### Newsletter

These are now with the printer (cost of £459.51) and should be ready for collection by the end of this week. Once collected I will arrange to have them made up in “street Bundles” and distributed for delivery at the start of next week.

### Village Hall Invoices

I have now received the outstanding invoice for our hall lets for the later part of last year and this year up to June (total £150) and will now arrange for a these to be paid along with our donation for the use of the hall for the Christmas lunch last year.

### Bank Balance – Ordinary Account

Balance as at 1 Feb 3023	£6124.29
Less committed expenditure outlined above	<u>£774.51</u>
Funds available	<u>£5349.78</u>

Andrew MacKenzie

Treasurer