

Milton of Campsie Community Council

Minutes of meeting held on Monday, 16 November 2020 at 7.30pm

Zoom invitation (public)

The minutes were recorded by a combination of Brian McFall and the treasurer Vicky Jarvis due to the unorthodox style of the meeting which was new to most people and was carried out in this way to try and capture the majority and essence of what was being discussed.

1. Record of members in attendance - Alex Buist (Chair - AB), Andy MacKenzie (Vice-Chair, Acting Secretary - AM), Victoria Jarvis (Treasurer - VJ), Brian McFall – BM.

Councillors in attendance: Cllr Gary Pews.

Other parties in attendance: Alan Gall - AG, Agnes Raybold - AR, Hugh Pritchard - HP.

Other Interested Groups: Milton of Campsie Green Belt Preservation represented by Alan Harris & Morag Campbell.

General attendance: 11 members of the public.

Apologies received – Jim Crawford - JC, PC Iain Leeson, PC Dan Harris, Cllr Paul Ferretti

2. AB introduced the first online meeting and explained that MoCCC had been in discussions with EDC for some time to gain permission to do so and we were pleased this was now allowed. Due to this being the first online meeting, AB explained rules of participation to ensure all had a chance to participate.
3. Since the last meeting in March 2020, 4 members of council have resigned: Tam Johnstone (Secretary), Morag Campbell, Alan Harris and Milton Martin. AB noted that EDC had been consulted about the reduction in members and confirmed that the council should proceed.
4. AB confirmed that with the Secretary post becoming vacant, he had asked AM as Vice-Chair to take up the post of Acting Secretary pending the resumption of meetings. AM had accepted. AB thanked AM and asked him if would like to formally take on the position. AM declined. AB asked BM if he would consider the position, BM confirmed he would and AB proposed, seconded by HP.
5. 3 nominations of co-opted members had been received: Agnes Raybould (proposed AB, seconded AM), Alan Gall (proposed JC, seconded AB) and Hugh Pritchard (proposed JC, seconded AM).
6. Minutes of previous meeting (March 2020) for approval. Moved by Alex Buist and seconded by AM.
7. Matters arising from previous meetings were not discussed at this time and will be included within the agenda for the next meeting.

8. Police Scotland report – AB invited the Police to join the meeting but they advised they are unable to join over Zoom.

9. Chair's update.

a. Remembrance Service 2020 - It was confirmed that no public event could be held and as such MoCCC had arranged for wreaths to be laid as in previous years, on behalf of the Community Council, Boys Brigade, Guirl Guides and Scouts. Milton of Campsie Parish Church organised an online service which MoCCC participated in.

b. Defibrillator – AB noted that previous volunteer John Doogan was no longer able to participate and that it was a matter to resolve with volunteers. VJ confirmed that phones had been purchased prior to lockdown and were set up for use. HP noted that the batteries at the church had to be replaced recently and that the MoC one was older so the battery and pads would be due for replacement. HP agreed to confirm what was required so VJ could place an order. AB suggested a separate meeting to be held for defibrillator set up. Morag Campbell noted that she had previously volunteered and would be prepared to commit to being a contact. AB thanked Morag and it was agreed that Morag would contact Deborah Cochrane (volunteer via Facebook) to set things up.

c. Flagpole – The flagpole idea was initiated by Morag Campbell with the support of the CC. A design competition was promoted via Facebook during lockdown, however no responses were received. A few comments questioned the need for a flagpole and the response was underwhelming. It was agreed that it should be pursued and AB suggested he could contact the school to design by competition that way. As the exact location was difficult to explain, Morag agreed to meet with BM in park to identify location so that BM could draw up a plan for submission to EDC for approval.

d. Charles Kennedy Cup – HP has collected cup and had it engraved. A suitable handover to be agreed. VJ suggested contacting the family and making arrangements they would be comfortable with given the circumstances. VJ noted that MoCCC had to produce a certificate and had no template on file.

10. Treasurer's report.

VJ noted that papers had been circulated around Council by email and asked if anyone wanted a copy of the Treasurer's report and accounts (declined by all present). A copy of the accounts will be attached to the minutes and posted on the village notice board. VJ confirmed that the accounts had been checked and issued to EDC, and that the annual grant of £949 had been received. Accounts to be submitted to rescheduled AGM for approval. Collections via the Coop had reduced and outgoings were catching up with previously reported payments.

Bank signatories were approved and access to the account gained March 2020. RBS issued £100 compensation to the Events Fund. Tam Johnstone is to be removed from Signatories and replaced by Brian McFall. Tam currently has no access to the account without one of the other signatories so this not an issue.

Online banking application was made in May 2020 but no further communication received. Have escalated this as the application seems to be 'lost', RBS confirmed we will need to start a fresh application.

For the defibrillator, VJ purchased 2x mobiles phones and Sim cards with £4/month ID contract for each following approval at the March meeting. Set up and ready to handover. Handover delayed due to Covid and change of volunteers to be confirmed. Paperwork to be submitted via secretary. Proposed statement for use of mobile phones to be circulated to MOCCC prior to issue of phones to volunteers. Paperwork will confirm they will not use them for any other purposes and that they are personally responsible for any content shared via these phones. MOCCC reserves the right to reclaim them for redistribution or cancel at any time if required, as they will remain the property of MOCCC. Note current expenditure is £4/month per phone and is not expected to exceed this.

Funding: Applied for Coop grant for improvement of pathways around MOC. Informed Oct 2020 that we were successful. Full paperwork to be circulated around council for information and development of proposal. Volunteer required to lead this. Coop hosted a webchat for queries on the fund: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=yeE1AbXtjqU&feature=youtu.be>. Status reporting will be required for periodic draw down of funding. Funding will be dependent on community contribution as selected charity. MOCCC to publicise to community that they can select us as their preferred charity.

Continuing to manage the Facebook page with Alex. Treasurer.moccc@outlook.com email account set up following approval. Intend to use for online receipts and correspondence such as arranging meetings or funding requests. Chair has copy of password for transparency/handover.

Approval obtained via email from MOCCC to purchase monthly Zoom Pro plan to allow online meetings for longer than 40 minutes and up to 100 participants. Rolling monthly contract which can be cancelled at any time (£11.99 + VAT). Zoom is linked to the treasurer email account.

11. Planning Applications.

ED/20/0713

Site – officially registered with planning department as Birdston Road. (regarded as Alder Road by the villagers and those who live nearby in Alder Road)

AB invited the Secretary of MOC Greenbelt Preservation, to speak regarding the recent PAN notice for Birdston Road. Alan Harris said that at this stage, no application has been submitted. Only a Pre Application Notice which a developer needs to lodge for a development of 50+ units. Proposals in the village have been rejected in recent years. The good news is that there are no sites in MoC in the LDP2. It has been adopted by EDC but not yet the Scottish Government. Ashfield Land own the land for the site and Avant Homes are the developer. Similar to Bellway at Redmoss and Kincaid field (owner unknown), Objections can be submitted to the plan. If there are 'unresolved issues' this can be referred to the Scottish Gov and then the reporter will determine the outcome.

The proposed PAN consultation would normally be a meeting but is now an 'interactive online meeting'. Alan noted the MOCGP would intend to lodge a complaint over its timing (3-7pm). By sending an email response, you are giving advance notice of your intent to disagree. With a validation date 9th Oct, this gives a potential date for an application mid January (12 weeks later), which would be before the adoption of the LDP2. At this stage, formal objections to the Planning application can be lodged. Alan noted the MOCGP gained 1000+ objections previously.

When it comes to Planning application, if site is in LDP then site would be presumed acceptable subject to constraints and conditions. If it is not included, it would be presumed against development. The Cala site had been in LDP1 but council voted against for sightlines, it was taken to appeal which Cala won. The LDP2 has no new sites in Milton of Campsie. Action should be taken to support the council. You can email or fill in the form. AH happy to receive copy or enquiry emails at the Greenbelt Preservation group.

The current status of Kincaid field is that it was previously rejected as a site, and it is understood the access to the site is in private hands, with no intent to sell.

GP noted that Dougalston had 100+ emails rejecting change in zoning and the council rejected on the basis of the LDP. One or two applications recently have referred to the LDP2 as a material consideration and it has been taken into account.

Member of public queried whether the access would be through the Cala site. BM noted that access via Cala could change to access via Alder for construction period with massive lorries over 2-3 years of work.

Member of public who lives at Birdston is concerned as the Cala traffic was appalling and the road cannot cope with more traffic or continued speeding.

Morag Campbell advised to prepare for both access routes. The traffic has not been fully tested with the sightline and elderly passing to the bus stop due to the timing of the construction works completion and the pandemic, so it should be revisited once the Care Home is running as normal.

Member of public noted concern about Alder Rd traffic and young children on the cul-de-sac being in the path of any construction traffic with potential of a serious accident.

Traffic – this has been raised an issue for the whole road. AB has complained to the council and Police before and advised the Police intend to come back to continue speed controls. AB advised that circulation of police presence is not helpful to the community in warning frequent offenders.

AH noted that there is a list of competent points on which objections can be made. This can be circulated. It includes Scottish Planning, economic benefit, needs of the area, suitable access, traffic effect, biodiversity, flood risk, infrastructure, archaeology (Kincaid House has been discussed with SNH and they are not concerned), nature conservation and listed buildings. Issues which are not competent include: personal circumstances (access / privacy / view / religious reasons / political / cost / title / health & safety etc) as covered by other legislation. Any development has to submit a construction method plan during which timing and routes are decided but it is accepted that there is a period of disruption for any development.

BM noted there should be a road safety and Traffic Impact Assessment carried out by the developer at the planning stage, we could also commission one ourselves as it would be non-biased. An Environmental Impact Assessment for the diverse woodland area and paths through would be useful, though it is no longer a public right of way.

Alan confirmed a TIA was considered previously re Bellway proposals as BM had advised that Redmoss Rd was not wide enough. It was not commissioned due to the expense involved Alan to check who was to be commissioned previously.

BM advised there was a minimum width of road for number of houses and emergency access, but this has recently changed in regulations. A second access may be required, possibly from Campsie Road?

AG proposed that to get a volume of objections, the list of suitable points could be listed on Facebook and pinned to lamp posts. A number of attendees volunteered to help with this.

Alan noted there are over 250 members on the MOCGP mailing list and he would produce an A4 page on how to object.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12. AOB –
 - a. Community Heat Network – Neill Simpson was invited to talk about a project he had raised during lockdown. NS described that there was potential for flooded mines to act as a heat reservoir which would perform as a local heat network once gas supplies had been exhausted. The Scottish Government hasn't announced a timescale. NS has sought technical advice through University of Glasgow. This led to the proposal being included in shortlisting for a research project called 'HotScot'. NS is currently waiting to hear if the proposal has been accepted. The next step would be to get a Ltd guarantee company set up and any grant money would be to fund a technical advisor. NS stated that he wished the local residents to know it had been proposed and would like to address a public meeting. He would be happy to receive emails on this directly.
 - b. Newsletter / Communication - Elizabeth Rowan raised a concern about the lapse in circulation of the printed newsletter meaning that groups of residents who did not have access to Facebook were finding it difficult to follow Council business. AB noted that the minutes are posted at the cross. It was acknowledged by all that this was a problem and that efforts would be taken to resolve it.

Post Meeting Note – Communication was discussed further amongst council members on Whatsapp and agreed that there was also difficulty hosting papers and planning information, such as those prepared for the PAN for Alder Road. VJ suggested that a website could be created from template and it was agreed she should proceed to develop. It was subsequently confirmed by email that the proposal to spend c. £80 was acceptable for hosting and suitable domain, agreed as www.miltonofcampsiecc.co.uk to echo the Facebook page (@miltonofcampsiecc).

- c. Traffic at McDonalds – AB has contacted the council to ask them to reinstate the box junction and also create a bus layby. EDC were not helpful in informing that the

bus only comes every half an hour. The junction is regularly blocked by someone waiting to turn into a full McD car park.

- d. Bus route – raised by NS (no longer in the meeting). No one had any indication that a change was proposed. A 2nd bus route was discussed, linking Bishopbriggs and Stobhill. To be followed up later.
 - e. Allotments – AM noted that the LDP2 mentions the Craigfoot Allotments in their habitat section, which indicates the council still intends to take this forward. Morag said latest discussion was that £48k had been spent on surveys but the results could not be shared as there was still work to be done to complete them. BM noted this was a result of the search from the Cala money resulting in a breakdown of expenditure of contributions from all recent house building being supplied under Freedom of Information. Which went to the play park and for surveys amongst other things. EDC Freedom of Information officer supplied BM with a breakdown of the investigation costs under freedom of information by e-mail on the 7/2/20 (See previous minutes 3a) BM has asked to see these surveys but has to date been refused access. BM noted that there should be another Section 75 payment for the end of the Cala development which is supposed to be ringfenced for the village and surrounding area. Morag to see if she can establish contact with any of the people on the waiting list for allotments.
 - f. Tree felling – Councillor Gary Pews raised an issue with trees that had been felled in Cannerton Park and confirmed that they are under a Tree Preservation Order and the council was making investigations.
 - g. A few other issues were raised for future discussion: core paths, broken bridge on the walking route, community woodland ownership.
 - h. Site adjacent Gas Governor complex off Birdston Rd – HP queried the recent works / dumping / parking on the site. AB confirmed this had been queried with the council. It was noted the nursery had been denied access after a change of ownership. BM advised that the Duty Planning Officer should be called and multiple complaints made. Appears to be used as a storage yard, with no permission for change of use. Queries should be raised on the community woodland plans and a previous grant for planting trees.
13. The Meeting concluded at approximately 9.30pm. The Date of next meeting proposed for mid December, being Monday 14th December, same time and method, 7:30pm via Zoom invite. Procedures as before, please email treasurer.moccc@outlook.com