

Milton of Campsie Community Council Minutes of Meeting

Monday 15/02/2021 at 7.30pm
Online via ZOOM

1. Record of Attendance

Alex Buist (AC)– Chair, Vicky Jarvis (VJ)– Treasurer, Brian McFall (BM)– Secretary, Jim Crawford (JC),
Andy Mackenzie (AM), Alan Gall (AG), Agnes Raybould
Morag Campbell – Chair of MOC Greenbelt Protection
Cllr Gary Pews.

5 members of the public with others joining and leaving.

Apologies

Cllr Paul Ferretti. – unable to attend as unwell.

S. MacDonald MP – unable to attend due to other commitments.

Police Scotland – unable to attend using Zoom software, submitted a report by e-mail which is attached to the minutes.

2. Previous minutes

The previous minutes were agreed as a record of the previous meeting and were proposed by Vicky Jarvis and seconded by Jim Crawford. Minutes approved.

3. Matters arising from previous minutes

3-ITEM 1C. - Erosion of banks of River Glazert - BM reported that the factor had assessed the river banks and was speaking to the house builder, to date he has not yet come back with any update. **Action – BM to report.**

3-ITEM 2C. - Recycling facility - fly tipping appears to be under control at present. Some villagers have asked for it to be removed. AM noted from experience that this has the opposite effect and should not be considered, all members agreed that recycling centre should remain.

3-AGM of 6/5/2019.

To be dealt with at next AGM.

3-ITEM 4A. – Roads - BM note that EDC provided a resurfacing map with the problem areas identified and noted that they were to be done once Covid restrictions were lifted. AM noted dissatisfaction with EDC as CALA were able to resurface a section of road recently. Cllr Pews noted that EDC had to work in tandem with unions in relation to Covid and as such EDC had strict policies in place. BM noted that the questions would be asked in relation to this issue again.

Action – BM

3-ITEM 4F. BM has contacted the council regarding the overgrowing of the hedges on the pavements and noted that there was a hedge trimmer working its way from Kirkintilloch towards Milton. The point was made that the low level soil deposits

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under the trees have taken away about 25% to 30% of the pavement width. BM will contact council to see what can be done about this. **Action - BM**

3-ITEM 5A. – Defibrillator – Morag campbell noted that she has been in touch with all volunteers to explain the situation. The regional organiser for our area has been in contact with Morag and a registration pack is being issued for completion and submission. Training unfortunately cannot commence until the Covid restrictions are fully lifted. Morag noted that a guarantor for the Defibrillator is required, all agreed that this should be MOCCC. Morag will provide updates when required.

3-ITEM 5B – Defibrillator batteries - Checking the batteries of the defibrillator has not been done yet. **Action – Morag Campbell**

3-ITEM 6 B – Core paths and bridge at Kincaid House Hotel drive - BM noted that he is trying to progress the search for information and that the access officer and others asked have not yet responded. POST MEETING NOTE. – access officer e-mailed BM, states that neither the council nor the landowners are responsible for core paths which are not fully formed such as the old railway path however they are willing to help if they can with issues. E-mailed issued to CC members.

Action - BM

3-ITEM 7 A – Allotments - BM issued the list of invoices showing money spent to Cllr pews. BM is still chasing up the reports and documents relating to the allotments project. EDC refuse to release the reports under a Freedom of Information request as they state they are not complete. BM asked the CC members if they all agreed to post the figures spent to date on the community notice board and the CC electronic information pages, all members of CC agreed.

Action – BM

3-ITEM 8 C – Communication within the village – BM asked for a progress report on this item. VJ, AG & AR noted that in the current Covid climate with every group and school suspended it is almost impossible to contact anyone. It was agreed that once schools return contact should be made with head teachers and the leaders of e.g. the scouts, girl guides and football teams etc. it was discussed to try and make initial contacts currently through Instagram and the web site. **Action – VJ, AG, AR**

3-ITEM 10 C – MOC Village Trust – AR reported that she has been in touch with OSCAR and the organisation confirmed that there has been no movement for 10 years and no annual returns carried out since 28/2/11, at that time the association had £1342.00 in its account. The current constitution associated with the village association is 17 years out of date. A discuss took place regarding banking and the conclusion was that all local banks need to be contacted to try and find the account BM & VJ to contact all local banks. BM confirmed that Alan Harris is willing to volunteer to be one of the trustees. **Action – AR, BM, VJ**

3-ITEM 10 D – COOP Funding – standing point for all members to encourage villagers to become coop members and nominate the village as their preferred association for funding. **Action – ALL**

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3-ITEM 10 E – Other village groups – AG noted that he would try and find out all groups that exist within the village, with this information we can then ask what they need and what help we can offer. **Action – AG**

3-ITEM 12 B – Proposal to form a Campsie Development Trust – Mr Neil Simpson confirmed that he is still looking into this and possibly got a bit ahead of himself previously as there are many things which need to be done before it could be formed. The current focus is to get the Campsie Festival secured and the CFA will hopefully be online by May as it now has a bank account and funding secured.

ITEM 4 - Community Police Officer – AB confirmed that he has had a conversation with the local community sergeant with the main discussion focusing on speeding throughout the village. He was informed that they were due back into the village in the next few days and are actively trying to get on top of the situation. AB will actively keep in touch with the community officers. The officers are Sergeant McCooey and constable Emma Davidson.

ITEM 5 C – Content for Instagram account – VJ noted that some pictures were being received but more would be appreciated. Anything to do with daily life and walks around the village is welcomed.

ITEM 7 B – ICENI and the Birdston / Alder Road site. BM note that no response had been forthcoming from ICENI and would contact them again. **POST MEETING NOTE** – ICENI contact BM to state that no planning application would be progressing on this site in the near future, it is a good victory for all involved and concerned but they will be back in the future to try again.

ITEM 7 D – Historic Environment Designations Review. VJ noted that all related content is available on the CC website and Facebook page. The basic principle from EDC is that they are removing extraneous designations which will strengthen the protection of the greenspace. Morag Campbell noted that the person who wrote the report obviously did not walk along the right of way at Mount Dam as the report has errors within it. Morag noted that she will be objecting to the proposal and asked that others including the CC do likewise. AM noted that he will also be personally objecting as did VJ. Cllr Pews stated that the consultation has been extended to the end of May. Morag noted that there are many ways to challenge this report with a minimum element being that it would create a boundary change. It was agreed that the CC would lodge their objection. **ACTION BM on behalf of CC, all other personally.**

Standing agenda items

General Comment - The request to the public regarding their primary concerns for and within the village were collated by AG and a report was put onto Facebook. There were 75 comments with a large variety of points raised with the top three clearly being 1. Speeding and condition of roads, 2 Dog fouling and 3. Drugs. These three items will now become standing agenda items until hopefully we have dealt with them and the next on the list of concerns will move onto the standing items. This is not to say that we will not try and deal with the other issues mentioned when possible. It was agreed to publicise these 3 main issues in all electronic forms available to us. We now require the villagers to provide evidence,

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photographs, videos, sightings relating to any of the issues to be sent to the Community Council.

4. Roads (speeding, conditions, crossing points, pavements)

- a) Speeding – everyone is in agreement that this is a major issue in the village which is creating a real issue for people trying to cross roads. As everyone knows the main roads in the village have a few hills which make it difficult to see oncoming traffic at the best of times but when a vehicle is travelling with excessive speed it is easy to get caught in the missile of the road. Particularly bad areas are at Birdston where the walkways cross the road, Birdston Bus stop, Birdston Care Homes bus stops, the new CALA junction, the bus stops at Redmoss road, the cross area and the bus stops at the Mount Crescent. Cllr Pews noted that he has made enquiries about these areas. All areas with poor visibility and fast stretches of road. There is also the issue of parking outside Scotmid on double yellow lines when there are carparks within a hundred yards
- b) A member of the public complained that there are either road signs missing or hidden behind bushes, trees and branches, it's bad enough they are missing but more signs are required.
- c) The condition of the roads has already been discussed and will continue to be pursued.
- d) AM noted that just as the roads are breaking up so likewise are the pavements with many cracks which allow water penetration which creates frost heave when the temperature drops below zero and freezing occurs. Once these pavements have broken and lifted, they do not return back to level. This creates serious trip hazards for the whole of the village.
- e) AB noted that in reality there are no dangerous vehicles just drivers who cannot control them or will not restrain themselves to the speed limits, which whilst rue is no solace to anyone involved in an accident.
- f) It was agreed that we need to now put out an appeal for support, reports on speeding, photographs and videos if possible. We need to compile a report and produce a feasible plan which we can take to the police and EDC to pressurise them into action. Fortunately, we have not had anyone knocked down or killed in the village but we do not want to wait for that to have action taken as happened on Hillhead Road in Kirkintilloch some years back when a speeding car killed a child.

Action ALL

5. Dog Fouling

Everyone in attendance at the meeting agreed that the issue of dog fouling has drastically increased during the lockdown periods. It is possible that this is on account of many people walking their dogs who do not normally walk their dog and forget to take poo bags with them. It is not an excuse and we must publicise this issue as much as possible. People need to understand that whilst stepping on a dog's mess is not nice it is extremely dangerous to young children and can cause serious illness, it can also create serious illness in other pets. Cllr Pews noted that it is not just Milton who have an issue, virtually every village in the district has complained about the problem and EDC are putting out wardens to try and deal with the situation, it was also noted that there are signs which could be put up.

Action ALL

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6. Drugs.

JM noted that he personally has not heard of a drugs issue nor seen anything within the village and asked where this was happening. A few people all mentioned the same area which was around the Scotmid and coop with a reliable source informing a CC member that there appeared to be drugs been traded from a residential address near the Coop. AG noted that we need to start compiling a dossier of complaints , reports and sightings of drug taking or selling, this will give us some evidence to take to the authorities and EDC to have something done about it. **Action All**

7. Chairs update.

- a) All matter previously discussed and reported upon.

8. Treasurers update.

- a) VJ noted that all outgoings were as previously noted in the last meeting.
- b) Funding – VJ has completed a questionnaire for Cop funding, there is an EDC community grant available for up to £3000 and she has received quotes for printing a community newsletter. **Action VJ**
- c) VJ has added a walking page to the web site and the survey form which can be filled in online.
- d) VJ has also generated a draft fundraising page which would allow donations directly.
- e) VJ requested assistance in content generation for the Instagram account and asked that even when out walking to provide photographs of what is happening and views around the village. The has been set up to allow members of the CC to post as Community Council. **Action - ALL**
- f) VJ has checked the web site to ensure it is accessible to all and also noted that EDC has a page which has a list of numbers and contacts which are very useful which could be put on the web site, everyone agreed to this.
- g) VJ has produced a draft privacy policy which will be sent to all for comment.
- h) VJ has quotes for the proposed news letter but has no idea of the number of copies which would be required, old minutes can be looked into and it was suggested to speak to the local churches as they will have records of numbers. **Action All**

9. Planning applications.

- a) BM noted that there are no current applications in the area of any concern to the village.

10. Police report.

- a) BM noted that no report was made available from Police Scotland.

11. Any other business

- a) Morag Campbell noted that the burn leading into the Alloch Dam has a collapsed side which means the water reaching the dam is considerably less and as such likewise for the Mount Dam. This will create issues of stagnant water in the summer if not dealt with. BM was asked to report this to David Stirling.
- b) A member of the public asked if the coup has an active licence and suggested the soil is coming from Muirkirk. EDC enforcement officers are currently looking into this matter.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was proposed to be the 15th March 2021 at 7.30pm. the meeting ended at 9.16pm.