

Milton of Campsie Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 15/08/2022 at 7.30pm
Meeting held in the Village Hall

1. Record of Attendance

Alex Buist (AC)– Chair, Brian McFall (BM)– Secretary, Vicky Jarvis - Treasurer

Agnes Raybould (AR) Andy Mackenzie (AM) Neil Simpson (NS), Iona Gilchrist (IC)

4 members of the public.

Apologies

Jim Crawford (JC)

No councillors present.

No police present.

Previous minutes

Proposed by Agnes Raybould, seconded by Vicky Jarvis.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

- **Erosion of banks of River Glazert** – E-mails to Springfield homes are now bouncing back as undeliverable. BM continues to enquire.

Action BM

Allotments –

- BM gave a general report that the council have now disclosed all information, questions have been asked in relation to the information provided, answers are awaited, and a public meeting will be organised to discuss the proposal.
- BM informed the meeting that the Allotments proposal has been completed and that all documents are on the CC website.
- BM noted that that the village would not stand for any of the garden created to the east of the Allotments site being destroyed or damaged and were asked to redesign that section.
- The costs and proposals were generally discussed and the consensus in the room was that the money spent already was badly spent, the costs involved **circa £500k** to finalise the project was ridiculous and that level of money could have been spent more wisely potentially on better sites which could have been purchased and developed.
- Where the funding was coming from was a question raised but the CC could not answer at this time.

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- Apparently, this Allotment project is referred to in the EDC Policy Documents as a project of Good Practice.
- BM confirmed that a public meeting is being organised for EDC to present the design and questions to be asked.

- **Speeding** – EDC have still not responded to MOCCC in any manner relating to the report and suggestions submitted months ago. We will continue to request a response from EDC on this matter. We are also requesting assistance from our community Police Officer. The matter was discussed with all members and the public present with many complaining that their cars are being damaged. BM noted anyone who has damage to their car from a pothole should photograph the depth of the pothole using an item like a pound coin which easily shows the depth, obtain a report from a mechanic with costs and lodge an insurance claim against EDC. If the public do not complain alongside the EDC repairs or re-surfacing happens very slowly. The public asked for the local councillor to get involved, the CC have asked them, but again local people need to ask them, attend their surgeries, and ask for help, the community need to let them know their performance is being watched. We have been advised that some repairs to pavements around Milton Cross heading towards the east have been assessed and scheduled for repair and that EDC are considering an additional crossing point or a controlled set of traffic lights.

Action BM

- **Dog Fouling** – we continue to press for poo bags to be delivered as they are to other areas in EDC, although as we do not have a hub, we are not getting any. AB offered to receive a delivery or to go and pick up a box which we can then distribute as required.

AR offered to research the cost of the dispensers and signs which we could erect ourselves in the village based on the photograph BM took of the public dispensers at Portpatrick which is carried out by the village.

A member of the public asked that we contact EDC regards the bin in the new CALA estate which is constantly overflowing with poo bags and is not suitable. It is beside the children's play area and is the only bin available to dog walkers who pass through the area to the walks in the woods behind. BM to contact EDC.

- **Village Newsletter** – Despite one or two comments about the tone of some articles the response has been very positive. A member of the public stated that it was a very good newsletter and suggested that space is offered to organisations in the village which was always the intention.

Action ALL

- **Broken bank of burn at Alloch Dam** – BM will try contacting SEPA to ask for assistance on the matter as the owner doesn't seem intent on fixing the problem.

Action - BM

- **Fence at football pitch at the school** – No further response to this issue yet from EDC

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- **Entrance to Baldoran site** – New proposals as already built have been submitted to EDC Planning which are not even close to the original approved design which was a safe design for the entrance. Members of the public and the committee feel that the design is contrary to government and Roads Department guidelines, is dangerous potentially to children, elderly, disabled and partially sighted or blind and agreed that submit and objection to the new proposal.

Action - BM

Standing agenda items

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

- a) The CC are still waiting on feedback from the recently conducted traffic survey and any sort of formal response to the survey carried out by the CC which was submitted to EDC. We will continue to request more safety measures in the village.
- b) The construction of the proposed gateway entrance feature to the village was raised by a member of the public. BM noted that from memory the council couldn't find any contractors willing to tender for its construction. We will ask about this again.
- c) Generally speeding is still an issue through the village and we will be speaking to our community police constable to ask when the traffic police will be back.
- d) The condition of road gullies and those being blocked was raised and discussed, there are many gullies in the village which are so tightly blocked the slightest fall of rain starts to create a flooding situation. BM requested that anyone with knowledge of blocked gullies contact the CC secretary and also the council directly, until more complaints are lodged regarding blocked gullies EDC continue to palm us off with the statement that the gullies have been cleaned and all is well. We need to be able to compile a full list of blocked gullies that we can send to the council to prove the gullies are not being attended to.

Action BM

Action BM

Action BM

Action ALL

4. Dog Fouling

Generally still an issue around the village and becoming a big issue on the new CALA estate. BM will continue to request a supply of Dog Poo Bags and additional bins for the village.

Action BM

5. Drugs

A member of the public mentioned that they or another party had seen suspicious activity at the junction of the Valleyfield path and the walkway path. It appeared to be a transaction taking place. Information and suspicions to be passed onto Police.

Action BM

6. Village paths.

- a) Mr Douglas Rushford volunteered at the last meeting to control the rebuild of the bridge and along with a few other volunteers successfully completed the rebuild allowing the path to be reopened. The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Douglas.

Action – BM

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- b) The CC now need to decide which paths or areas of concern require attention.

Action ALL

7. Broadband Provision

- a) No further action currently.

b) Chair's update.

- a) AB had nothing to add at this point that hadn't already been discussed.

c) Treasurer's update.

- a) VJ's report was the same as that given during the AGM.

The treasurer reported as follows;

- The accounts have been audited and approved.
- The accounts have been sent to EDC as required.
- We have applied for our yearly funding.
- Funding has been applied for to the Co-op.
- VJ confirmed that a refund for the booking of the chapel hall re the Birdston Regeneration Group has yet to be made.
- VJ is standing down as treasurer due to work commitments and AM is taking over the duties of treasurer, VJ was thanked for her input as treasurer.
- VJ confirmed that she will continue to update all the social media platforms for the CC.

d) Planning applications.

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

e) Police report.

- a) As JC and ED were not at the meeting none of the actions below could be discussed, carry over to the next meeting.
- b) ED was present at the meeting and noted that there have been very few problems in the village that has been reported. All present at the meeting asked about speeding and how to control it. ED understands the issue and unfortunately noted that it is very difficult to obtain a prosecution as the procurator fiscals office only deals with excessive speeding. She was asked if she would support our requests for additional traffic lights and crossing which she was in favour off but noted that even the police struggle to get EDC to do anything when they ask.
- c) ED noted that she would speak to EDC regarding speed signs and other signage on Birdston Road which are being obscured by the overgrown trees and hedges.
- d) A member of the public noted that a sign on the edge of the village had been badly damaged in an accident, it has been removed but not replaced.
- e) A member of the public noted that recently there had been an off-road motor bike on the walkway and asked if more police could patrol the

Action JC

Action ED

Action BM/ED

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walkway. ED will look into it.

Action ED

f) Birdston Coup

- BM provided a general update on recent events at the coup. PWS / Birdston Management erected a new sign which indicated that they had new licences and approvals to commence work, they also appeared on site and looked like they were starting up again. However, when a photograph of these new licences was sent to SEPA and questioned it became apparent that they were fictitious, and the company were lying. SEPA immediately shut them down. There has since been some people on the site, but work undertaken.
- It also appears that the planning department may be shifting their position as it appears they have now demanded more detailed information and indicated that permissions may need to be sought.
- Morag Campbell provided an update in relation to the Birdston Regeneration group.
- MC explained that the Birdston Regeneration Group were about to become a charitable body which would then open up significant avenues of funding. The primary target being that the charitable group buys the land for public ownership, it is properly capped and brought into community use for the villages of Birdston, Milton of Campsie and all surrounding ward 4 areas.
- Once the charitable status has been granted and all plans and proposals have been collated it is proposed to have a wider public meeting to raise greater awareness of the way forward.
- It also appears that they have tried at some point to reinstate the path along the side of the site but it is still a mess.

Any Other Business

- The lack of attendance of councillors to our meetings was brought up by a member of the public. It was suggested that they are all formally written to, to invite them to our meetings and a register of attendance is recorded. They after all are elected to represent us in relation to our requirements and problems. Whilst we also make known our next meeting at the current meeting and minutes are normally circulated to all councillors occasionally, they are missed from the issue, this is something BM will rectify and confirmed that this would be done. Another member of the public stated that it was their belief that they split the area up and attend meetings in the areas they have agreed to be more involved in, generally no one agreed with this way forward.
- BM confirmed that the Christmas lights switch on had been booked although the date was questioned. BM will ensure the date is corrected if wrong. A member of the public asked why we have so few lights compared to Lennoxton and other surrounding areas. Another member of the public explained that this goes back many years where the village bought the lights, and the situation has never been rectified. BM will ask EDC for more

Action BM

Action BM

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- NS noted that there was a proposed music festival being arranged for around the same time, a discussion about coordinating the two took place and BM / NS to discuss.
- BM proposed that a Gala Day for the village be revised, due to time constraints it was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.
- A member of the public asked if we could obtain updates in relation to the walkway path completion which BM has been asking and chasing EDC on and the Car Park at the Community Woodland. Questions to be asked.

Action BM/NS

Action BM

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was proposed to be the 19th September 2022 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting ended at 9.00pm.