

Milton of Campsie Community Council

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 21/02/2022 at 7.30pm
Meeting held over ZOOM

1. Record of Attendance

Alex Buist (AC)– Chair, Vicky Jarvis (VJ)– Treasurer, Brian McFall (BM)– Secretary,
Agnes Raybould (AR) Jim Crawford (JM) Andy Mackenzie (AM) Cllr Gary Pews. Cllr Ferretti
8 members of the public.

Apologies

Alan Gall. (Resigned for personal reasons)
Cllr Gary Pews
Strathclyde Police

Previous minutes

Proposed by Vicky Jarvis, seconded by Jim Crawford.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

3-ITEM 1C. - Erosion of banks of River Glazert - BM reported we now know the land is still owned by Springfield Homes. BM has not contacted them yet and further erosion has been reported. It has also been reported that warning signs have been erected. **Action – BM**

3-AGM of 6/5/2019.

Item relating to Battlefield Park was not discussed at this meeting due to urgency of other matters. Item will be raised at next meeting **Action BM**

3-ITEM 7 A – Allotments – BM has raised additional FOI requests to EDC regarding the allotments, still no response from EDC. BM to try and obtain information again and will send another FOI request. **Action BM**

ITEM 4 – Speeding – The roads department have finally commenced a survey in the village. When we will see any output from that survey is anyone's guess. **Action BM**

ITEM 5 – Dog Fouling – Cllr Pews and Ferretti have been trying to progress this matter, EDC responded to Cllr Ferretti that bags are available in all hubs and it is too difficult to supply other villages. Cllr Ferretti was asked to go back to EDC and request more forcefully that deliveries to a single address in villages who are willing to hand out the bags is not a difficult task and EDC should reconsider. This request has also been copied to the Deputy Chief Executive. **Action BM**

ITEM 8 - Village Newsletter – Vicky has been unable to provide the necessary time to progress this item, it was discussed further and a non-committee member, Neil Simpson, offered to progress the newsletter. There were no objection to this offer

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of assistance. Neil and Vicky will collaborate to allow Neil to get the newsletter off the ground. Neil was thanked for his willingness to participate. A member of the public noted that she had a copy of one of the old newsletters from times past to give Neil an idea of content etc. one of the first articles for the newsletter should be the need for volunteers to work on the paths around the village, in particular the bridge over the burn at Kincaid House Hotel.

Action – VJ & NS

ITEM 11a – Broken bank of Burn at Alloch Dam – no further information was available re this burn. A member of the public offered to send her husband up for a look which was duly accepted with thanks.

Action All

ITEM 10f – the increase in the fence height at the village primary school football area is progressing internally with EDC. No further information at this time.

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

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

- a) BM is still waiting for information from EDC about cutting back and cleaning the spoil from the pavement between Birdston and the nursing home EDC have contacted the landowner and there is a dispute over who owns the land. BM will chase this up again and hopefully have the area tidied up before spring / summer. The landowner is disputing who owns the vegetation that needs to be cut back. BM will continue chasing EDC on this matter.

Action BM

4. Dog Fouling

Discussed earlier.

Action BM

5. Drugs

Nothing to report currently.

6. Village paths.

- a) Volunteer work parties to assist Mr Skeddeski from are now required. A request shall be made on social media and in the forthcoming newsletter. BM has spoken with John Thompson and he is very happy and grateful for the bridge to be repaired. This should be the first project.
- b) BM will try and obtain information regarding the countryside commission and see if they can assist.

Action ALL

Action BM

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7. Broadband Provision

- a) Open Reach were discussed again and noted that they attended Lennoxton CC meeting but gave the same non comital answers to all questions. Cllr Ferretti had passed an email to BM which cleared up in some way the question of notification re the poles. MOCCC had issue with both EDC Planning and Openreach that neither of them had notified the public. Openreach stated they had submitted a notification form for every pole erected and EDC said they had received no notifications. Now that the work is pretty much complete Open reach have stated that they sent the Notifications to the wrong address which is why EDC knew nothing about the poles. It does seem a very convenient time for Opereach to ask for a check on contact information, when the work is completed.
- b) AM sated that he has witnessed cables being buried in Bishopbriggs. Cllr Ferretti noted that the company installing those cables was City Fibre and not Openreach.
- c) Cllr Ferretti noted that the Scottish government money being put into the broadband installations is top up money and not primary funding.

d) Chair's update.

- a) AB acknowledged the work currently being done by Morag campbell, Jenny Reeve and Brian McFall in relation to Birdston Coup and the working group attempting to get it under control and closed down.
- b) AB mentioned the recent flooding issue on Birdston Road noting that villagers were telling people to drive through on Facebook even though the post said the road was closed. Part of the problem being that there were no signs erected at the Bellway junctions which meant people leaving did not know the road was closed until they came to a Council van parked across the road before Birdston. AB asked why there were no signs to be told it must have blown over, which was a lie as there were no signs. It was suggested that a formal complaint is raised about this and the unprofessional attitude of the workforce. A member of the public noted that at 9pm people were still having to turn around. AM also spoke to the worker at the van and received a very impolite response. There appears to be no consistency of where signs are placed.

Action AB & BM

e) Treasurer's update.

- a) VJ noted that financially there was not much happening and reported on the standard outgoings.
- b) VJ stated that she will revisit the quotes for printing for the newsletter. **Action VJ**
- c) Data protection Policy still to be actioned. It was suggested that EDC may have Data Protection Policies and Safeguarding Policies that could be provided to the CC, question to be asked of EDC. A member of the public stated that the charity she works for may have policies that could be used and would look into it.
- d) VJ is trying to compile an inventory of items that have been bought previously. She has found the tennis nets there is also a set of tennis nets, Keith Gilbert has them in storage. She will continue to try and find other equipment. This could be part of the newsletter.
- e) VJ is looking into setting up and account for donations towards professional fees in relation to the coup closure working group. It was proposed in the short term that the events account could be used until another account is set up. **Action VJ**

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- f) VJ noted that the Charles Kennedy Cup needs to be picked up. JC knows the family and will arrange this. **Action JC**

f) Planning applications.

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

g) Police report.

- a) Police report was circulated to all members, nothing of issue within it.

h) Birdston Coup

- Jenny Reeve of the working group provided a report on the situation and where the process is at present.
 - Currently various representations have been made to EDC departments, HSE, Inland Revenue and Customs and SEPA.
 - Movement is starting to take place with SEPA initially visiting the site saying it was fine and nothing of issue but further contact and evidence provided has led to SEPA returning to site and taking samples.
 - EDC officers also visited site and reported that there were no issues of concern for them to do anything.
 - The stench coming from the site is growing stronger and is now having health effects upon local residents. This has been reported to both SEPA and the EDC Environmental Health Department who say its nothing to do with them.
 - EDC have been asked for all information relating to the coup through the Freedom of Information Act.
 - The working group continues to research and progress the complaints
- AM noted that he has also been performing a similar task of requestion information of the council under the Freedom of Information Act to obtain everything about how this has come about and will report when he receives it.
- BM noted that it is likely we will need Environmental Lawyers and Professional Planning advice which could be costly.
- Morag Campbell of the working group noted some recent changes in the Birdston area.
 - Since the coup reopened the adjacent watercourse have changed their direction of flow which is likely to add to flooding issues.
 - The flooding issues could be part of the problem as the area recently flooded was connected to the woodland this time which is unusual, this is the first time the road has flooded from the woodland direction and not the flood plain of the fields.
 - MC believes the council are being remiss in their duties and possibly even negligent, our elected councillors need to be more forceful in representing us.
- AM noted that there is a gas main running through the site and this could be an issue, BM noted that Scottish Gas have already visited the site. The passing of dirt from the site to the main road is an EDC issue and they should be dealing with it. AM also feels that the odour issue should also be dealt with by SEPA. BM has previously complained to the council about this offence. AM also noted that some of the soil

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coming to the site could be from the Waterside housing project and could be Colliery Spoil which is contaminated.

- JC raised the issue that the taking of samples by us might have a legality problem in that they may not be usable in evidence if they were taken without permission.

Any Other Business

- AB has contacted a solicitor friend to ask for assistance with the coup. **Action AB**
- A member of the public contacted BM with regards to the entrance at the Baldorran housing site and noted that the entrance has not been formed as approved. There is no footpath access to the site and it is extremely difficult for pedestrians to see any cars coming out of the estate. The CC was asked to assist in questioning this and why it has been allowed. The planner agreed to meet on site then called off. It was noted that the CC had previously made representations to EDC about this entrance, BM will check and ask EDC for an explanation. **Action BM**
- JC noted that Redmoss Road has flooded again. BM noted that he has complained many times about this and EDC just do not seem interested.
- JC asked that we request a full explanation from Police Scotland as to why they do not provide details of crimes being committed as in other areas full information is provided to the local communities.
- A member of the public asked if the police were still attending the Fells Café, it was unknown as the owners have changed hands and are not known to anyone yet.
- AB noted that recruitment for the Community Council was required and soon as our numbers are low.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was proposed to be the 21st March 2022 at 7.30pm in the village hall.
The meeting ended at 9.30pm.