

Milton of Campsie Community Council Minutes of Meeting

Monday 18/10/2021 at 7.30pm
Meeting held in the Village Hall Main Hall

1. Record of Attendance

Alex Buist (AC)– Chair, Vicky Jarvis (VJ)– Treasurer, Brian McFall (BM)– Secretary,
Agnes Raybould (AR)
1 member of the public.
Sgt Chris Murphy. (CM)
Const. Emma Davidson Community Police Officer (ED)

Apologies

Alan Gall.
Jim Crawford.
Andy MacKenzie.
Cllr Pews.
Cllr Ferretti.

Previous minutes

Proposed by Vicky Jarvis, seconded by Agnes Raybold.

2. Matters arising from previous minutes

3-ITEM 1C. - Erosion of banks of River Glazert - BM reported no further contact from factor. BM to continue dialogue. **Action – BM**

3-AGM of 6/5/2019.

Item relating to Battlefield Park was not discussed as council members were not in attendance. BM to circulate the issue to all members. **Action BM**

3-ITEM 7 A – Allotments – BM has raised additional FOI requests to EDC regarding the allotments, still no response from EDC. **Action - BM**

ITEM 4 – Speeding – Acknowledged as still being a major issue on the village. Cllr Ferretti has chased up the report compiled and issued to EDC, he received a response a few days after the meeting. Basically, the roads department are going to carry out a survey of the junction, it may not take place until late October / early November. **Action BM**

ITEM 5 – Dog Fouling – EDC replied with a no to the request for dog poo bags to be distributed in the village, Cllr Ferretti is trying to assist us with this. **Action BM**

ITEM 8 - Village Newsletter – no progress with this item yet. **Action – VJ**

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ITEM 11a – Broken bank of Burn at Alloch Dam – no further update available on this matter presently.

ITEM 10f – the increase in the fence height at the village primary school football area is progressing internally with EDC.

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.

It was suggested that we should be adding more issues of concern from the village survey into the standing agenda items as we are currently pushing on with the original issues, a separate discussion regarding this should take place and introduce another one or two items at the next meeting.

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. **Action BM**
- b) BM contacted the council about the amount of mud on the roads left by the vehicles leaving the coup. EDC responded by sending an officer out to inspect, also noted that it is an offence to deposit mud on the roads. BM to continue to chase up. **Action BM**

4. Dog Fouling

BM has requested additional bins and is waiting on feedback from the council. BM also suggested to EDC that free poo bags are made available in the village, the answer from EDC was "They are available in the Library in Kirkintilloch", a resounding no. Councillor Ferretti offered to assist with this. We continue to press for action on this. **Action BM**

5. Drugs

The issue is with the police, and nothing further can be reported at present. AB will speak to the main Officer in charge to try and obtain some feedback. The current situation in the village seems to be quiet as there are no complaints or incidents being mentioned on social media. No change from last meeting. **Action AB**

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6. Village paths.

- a) AM has successfully uploaded a lot of comment into the EDC Active Travel Consultation in relation to the village. The consultation is now closed.
- b) VJ has put together several grant applications for funding in relation to the Village Paths Working Group. We need to decide on what we can get done and what other targets we have. McNair's the local builders merchant have been contacted with regards to quotes for materials. Strathkelvin Ramblers have requested more information before committing to a grant.
- c) AB noted that the creator of the garden at the edge of the village would be happy to assist. **Action All**
- d) BM has spoken with John Thompson and he is very happy and grateful for the bridge to be repaired. We now need volunteers to carry out the work. **Action ALL**
- e) A member of the public confirmed that Lord Stirling owns all the land around the wells and that previously Charles Kennedy had obtained assistance from the Countryside Commission to install the original paths.
- f) BM will try and obtain information regarding the countryside commission and see if they can assist. **Action BM**

7. Broadband Provision

- a) BM noted that there have been numerous complaints re Openreach erecting timber telegraph poles in the village and also Lennoxton. BM has written to Openreach, EDC, Councillors and MP's objecting to this venture back in time requesting the poles be removed. Our local Westminster MP has requested a meeting with Openreach regarding these poles. The head of Planning informed BM that the Telecommunications Act gives them Permitted Development Rights and they do not need permission to erect anything BM will keep on top of the issue. **Action BM**

b) Chair's update.

Anything to report has already been discussed during the actions from previous minutes section.

c) Treasurer's update.

- a) Main update was provided as part of the AGM meeting information.
- b) VJ is awaiting a response from MOCGG regarding proposed wording for inclusion on the website.
- c) VJ noted that we require landowners permission to work on the paths on their land. BM noted that he is trying to get in touch with Bellway. **Action BM**
- d) Data protection Policy still to be actioned. **Action All**
- e) Safeguarding Policy still to be actioned. **Action All**
- f) VJ noted that we do not have an inventory of items that have been bought previously. A former CC member noted that previous purchases included a lawnmower, a strimmer, and a leaf blower but had no idea where they were. BM noted there is also a set of tennis nets. VJ will speak to two former members of the CC to ascertain if they have any knowledge of the items.
- g) VJ raised the question of a piper or pipe band for the Remembrance Day parade, the issue was discussed, and all agreed that we should seek a local piper. AB noted that he had someone in mind and would contact him shortly. **Action AB**
- h) A member of the public, formerly a member of the CC agreed to assist as a steward at the Remembrance Day parade.

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- i) VJ asked if the school would be providing a choir for the parade. AB will contact the school head. **Action AB**
- j) VJ asked if we knew when the Christmas Lights would be switched on, BM will e-mail EDC and find out the arrangements. **Action BM**
- k) VJ asked if we were keeping the prize money the same as last year for the various events, this was discussed and agreed that the Charles Kennedy cup would be £50, the winner of the Christmas Lights Competition would receive £50 and the winner of the Christmas Card competition would receive £20 and would also be switching on the lights. The Christmas card competition is open to primary age children from the village, VJ will make Christmas Card design Post Boxes for both primary schools and one for the Co-op to collect all designs.
- l) A request has come in from the St Andrews Festival for a funding donation due to a shortfall from their usual funders. The CC agreed to donate £100 to the festival.

d) Planning applications.

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

e) Police report.

- a) The community council appreciated the attendance of the police but were disappointed that the Chief Inspector did not attend as promised.
- b) ED noted that she had received the notification regarding the village concerns and priorities and would assist where possible. Dog fouling is not something she can deal with but is discussing it with local wardens.
- c) ED noted that the reports would remain in the current format with a section being inserted in relation to the village. BM noted that the CC had a few former police officers on the council and that after discussion all the CC felt that the standard repetitive format came across as patronising and condescending. It was noted that the officers present were unable to do anything about this as those higher up the chain of command had deemed it suitable.
- d) The officers were asked why no one attended a disturbance in Kirkton Crescent a few weeks back. It was acknowledged by the CC that a call of an officer being attacked in Lenzie happened about the same time. The CC understands that all officers would want to help the officer in danger but noted that once one or two cars were in attendance a report surely could be sent out to let others know it was under control. This would have freed officers to attend a large disturbance in our village. CM noted that calls to the police are prioritised through call centres and as such the operator dealing with the call obviously didn't deem it serious enough to divert officers from Lenzie.
- e) ED stated that operation safe pass has commenced which is an operation to try and stop drivers causing accidents with cyclists, a cyclist in the area was recently knocked over by a van passing too close.
- f) ED noted that the community police now have a relationship with The Fells Café and will be doing a day where residents of the village can come and see them and discuss their worries and issues. The CC offered to publicise this if we could be told when it was to happen.
- g) CM stated that the community police are anxious to get back to face to face meetings in order that they do not lose touch with the village.
- h) CM stated that going forward they have been told that what they are allowed to inform us about is minimal, they will not be allowed to come to a meeting and report X number of crimes took place or Y number of speeding stops were made.

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The CC found this incredible but unfortunately the Community police officers had no say in the matter. ED noted that if there were a spate of offences occurring, we would be informed in some manner to assist in making the village safer by prevention.

- i) A member of the public stated that historically it has always been an issue that when something happens in the village the community police officers can tell us nothing.
- j) The officers confirmed that whilst there will be a major police presence at the COP26 Conference there will still be an adequate police presence in the area.

f) **Any other business**

- a) BM confirmed to the meeting that St Ninians had no knowledge of the money allocated from the CALA Development. BM to continue to investigate. **Action BM**

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting ended at 9.15pm.