

BUCHANAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
DRAFT Minutes - Ordinary Meeting June 26th, 2017

ATTENDEES

Members present A Peebles (AP), A Lee (AL), D Morris (DM), D Lee (DL) and K Lilburn (KL)
W Nisbet (WN) –National Park
R Davies – Stirling Council Elected Member
W Huckerby – Forrestry Commission

Chair welcomed R Davies to his first meeting with BCC since being elected as a Stirling Councillor and also W Huckerby of the Forrestry Commission.

1) Apologies

L McKinley, I Denvir, L Holl, L Buchanan

In Attendance 7 Members of the Community

2) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

3) APPROVAL OF MAY 2017 DRAFT MINUTES

Minutes adopted without amendment

Proposed by AL **Seconded by** DL

4) MATTERS ARISING

Response from RSHA

Response had been received from T Teasdale (TT) of Rural Stirling Housing Association (RSHA) regarding our question on whether a worker living in the Balmaha Affordable Housing business accommodation would become homeless should they lose their job. The RSHA response is “ no: it is not intended that someone living in the key worker homes will have to vacate their home if they lose their job. They will benefit from the security of tenure arrangements contained within the new Private Residential Tenancy that will be in force once the new homes are built.”

There was considerable discussion around this issue as it was felt that it could lead to an undesirable loss of worker accommodation. It was agreed to seek clarity from RSHA regarding how this would work in practice.

Action AP

DM reported that TT had verbally advised that the planning application still under consideration. The main issue was around waste disposal (Scottish Water/ SEPA).

Alcohol Signage Action Stirling Council are providing the signage. WN advised that he still had not had a timescale commitment from Stirling Council. Similarly, L McKinley of Stirling Council has advised that she has had no response from her colleagues, but if the issue is still outstanding, she will chase. KL expressed strong concerns on the continuing lack of signage. This needed to be resolved as a matter of urgency, particularly with the imminent start of the principal holiday period. AP to ask L McKinley to chase.

Action AP

Changing bin collection day. SC Waste Services Manager has previously advised that no changes will happen until the revised service is up and running fully. BCC will continue to lobby for change in line with action from the BCC May meeting.

R Davies advised that a review was planned for later in the year.

Traffic management in Milton of Buchanan There was much discussion on the effectiveness & concerns expressed over safety of the new road markings from both Councillors & the local community. Key points raised were –

- The absence of a centre line mark on the road seemed to confuse drivers. Several “near misses” were reported, particularly near bends. It was felt that foreign drivers would be particularly confused. It was thought that a centre line was essential.
- The most recent police report had highlighted that the road was simply not wide enough to accommodate the design.
- Confusion existed on whether vehicles could/could not enter the cycle lanes.
- One pedestrian crossing point terminates in a wall. It was agreed that this was not well sited and that a request should be made to re-site it. **Action AP**

It was agreed that we should ask Stirling Council to look at the implementation again since it was felt that the present design does not work and is potentially dangerous. To be raised through complaints procedure. **Action AP**

Our communication should be copied to the community police officers, National Park police officer and Drymen Community Council. **Action AP**

R Davies indicated that he will request a site meeting with the roads department. **Action RD**
WN indicated that he believed that SUSTRAN was the driver for this initiative.

Trustees Liability Insurance – Confirmation had been received from Stirling Council that this insurance cover had now been arranged for all Community Councils. The cost will be deducted from our administration grant.

Local police attendance at BCC Meetings Our 2 local police constables, based at Balfron, are unable to attend due to rota issues. It was agreed that though it is not necessary to have a police representative at every meeting there will be occasions when we would like to have the police attend. Secretary to contact Police Scotland to ascertain who we should invite. **Action AP**

Hall Committee Communication Strategy. This has not yet been received so it was agreed to invite a representative to our September meeting. **Action AP**

Planning 2016/0024/DET – Secretary raised a concern that this planning application which S Mearns NP Planning Department had informed the Chairman and Secretary was due to be completed within a couple of weeks of their meeting on 19.4.17 was still on the Extant List. It was agreed that the Planning Correspondent would write to S Mearns asking for an update on the status of this application. **Action AP**

5) Congestion in Balmaha

The recent introduction of double yellow lines was perceived as helping to address the congestion issue. It is however recognised that it is too early to say that this has solved the problem. It was reported that some vehicles, thought to belong to fishermen, were now parking on verges inside the yellow lines.

Illegal Parking. Now that Stirling Council has taken this over we do not have information about enforcement. Secretary to write to SC to find out to whom illegal parking should be reported and how and when enforcement officers are to be deployed. A request for the minutes of a recent meeting held at the Visitor Centre on this subject is also to be made. **Action AP**

It was suggested that we invite representatives from the relevant organisations to clarify the responsibilities for traffic and litter management once the car park lease is operational. It was agreed that a letter would be sent, but not in the first instance.

6) Improving Parking in Scotland – Consultation

The Chair indicated that this Scottish Government consultation focused on improving accessibility and addressed issues such as pavement parking. There are 25 questions. It was thought that these were best answered by individuals submitting a response. This can be done on line at “Citizen Space”. There are also Youtube & Facebook input options. Deadline 30th June
It was agreed that the BCC would not submit a response.

7) National Park Partnership Plan – Consultation

The Chair gave an overview of this initiative and highlighted that the NP cannot deliver its aspirations alone. Partnership working was essential.

It was recognised that there were many conflicting aspirations that require to be balanced. It was felt that, while the BCC cannot reasonably form a consolidated view, the initiative should be supported. Members of the public can submit their own responses. Deadline 3rd July.

It was agreed that the BCC would not submit a response to the specific consultation questions. Instead, our response would take the form of a letter that would confirm that we would work with the NP on specific initiatives that were important to the Buchanan area.

Chair & Secretary to prepare our response.

Action AP & DM

8) Waste bins Balmaha car park

Stirling Council has agreed to continue to provide recycling facilities (excluding glass) as per the community’s wishes. The servicing of the two 1100 litre bins provided will change from PAM, the current contractor, to Stirling Council. This is to address the poor servicing issues raised by the community to the Waste Manager in the past.

Litter bins will be serviced by the National Park Authority in accordance with the lease.

Both parties are working towards an operational start date of 1st July 2017.

9) Forestry Commission – Blue path

W Huckerby (WH) attended on behalf of the Forestry Commission (FC) and clarified the situation with regard to the ‘Blue’ Path. Reinstatement of the full loop would be very expensive with some sections costing £70 per metre. Due to pressures on the FC budget, the focus is on other work and there is no plan to take this forward. There is a limited section of the walk which could be promoted and the National Park is considering the placement of a wild life information and interpretation; however this would have management costs. The “Blue” path is of great interest to the community. Councillors thanked WH for his openness on this issue. There was some discussion on whether grant funding through the Lottery or similar might help.

With regard to other work, WH reported that there was still some work outstanding in the vicinity of Rowardennan. This was likely to take 2 months starting in August. A new Land Management Plan is near the consultation stage.

A member of the public raised concerns as to whether recent work done to the Ben Lomond lower path had been overly expensive and unnecessary. WH replied that some lessons had been learned and that funding had been supplied via Outdoor Access.

Sue Morris will be the contact in due course for regular communications.

10) Stirling Councillors' update

R Davies advised that Stirling Council now had a coalition administration following the recent local elections.

11) Treasurer's Report

In the absence of our treasurer, AP read out an update on behalf of our treasurer. Key points -

- Current Account balance £ 939.22
- Deposit Account balance £650.65

One cheque for £103.93 for the Communicator has not yet been presented.

AP asked, on behalf of the treasurer, approval to renew the BCC website hosting service & domain name registration. The renewals were due shortly. The exact cost was not yet known but we could expect some cost increase from last year's figure of £58.98.

It was proposed & agreed that we should renew.

Action LB

Proposed by D L

Seconded: K L

Treasurer to advise councillors of actual cost once known.

Action LB

12) Correspondence

An email request has been sent to Stirling Council requesting details of how they will be enforcing parking restrictions in Balmaha following the introduction of the double yellow lines.

J Carnegie of National Park has informed the Chair that the transfer date for the car park lease was initially intended to be 1 May 2017 however "we agreed a 1 month postponement to enable a handover of responsibilities. The lease, albeit not yet signed, was anticipated to be effective from 1 June 2017 and Stirling Council have kindly offered to continue to assume responsibility for litter management in the car park until 1 July 2017". Email 15.6.17

Ms Paterson of Stirling Council, in her email dated 23.6.17 states that both parties are working towards an operational start date of 1.7.17.

13) Questions from the public - None

14) AOCB

KL advised that the Buchanan Community Partnership (BCP) board had decided to start a process that aimed to wind up the BCP. This had implications for the "community" share of the revenue that might result from the proposed introduction of parking charges at the Balmaha car park. He understood that the recently formed East Loch Lomond Community Trust might now have an involvement.

It was proposed & agreed that the Chair should write to the NP expressing our deep concern at the situation.

Proposed by A P

Seconded by D L

Chair indicated that he would circulate a draft for comment before issuing.

Action DM

There was some discussion around the possibility of sharing our concerns with Stirling Council.

15) Date of next meeting – 4th September, 2017

Chair closed meeting