

# Denny & District Community Council

## Meeting Minutes

7<sup>th</sup> January 2008

Meeting held in Denny Business Centre - Carronbank 7p.m - 9p.m.

### PRESENT:

Community Councillors: John Rintoul Jennifer Steel  
Roy Robertson David Dow  
Colin Belbin Ray Richards  
Christine Bell  
John Cooper  
Local Councillors: Councillor McNally

### APOLOGIES:

Mick McIntosh  
Chrissie Docherty  
  
Councillor Waddell  
Councillor Blackwood

### Regular attendees:

Jim Marshall – Falkirk Council

### Guests:

Minute Secretary: Christine Bell

	John Rintoul welcomed everyone present and all wished each other the very best for 2008.	<b>Action</b>
1.	<b>Persimmon Homes Proposed Housing Development</b>  Christine, David and John Cooper had all been aware of original proposals to build on this site. John C. identified original objections which were due to all the same problems as identified recently, i.e. transport access, flooding issues, affecting green field sites and memorial trees which were planted. A lengthy discussion took place during this meeting which was concluded by the C.C. agreeing that a letter should be sent to the authorities concerned ( including the Director of Development Services at Falkirk Council), requesting an explanation for the sequence of events which have led to this continuing saga and how we can prevent this sort of scenario in future.	R.R.
2.	<b>Minutes of the December meeting</b> - were agreed as an accurate account. Apologies will only be noted on future minutes if apologies have been received.	
3.	<b>Denny High School Prize Donation.</b> Nothing concluded yet but will continue to be pursued. It was agreed that we continue to involve the pupils in the decision making for this. All agree with the notion of one shield which is annually engraved and a token type gift awarded to individuals.	

4. **Town Centre Regeneration.**

Christine attended the last meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 07 in place of Mick who was unable to attend. The following report was compiled by Christine and read out.

**Meeting Details: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec – Falkirk Stadium**

Present: Colin Frame	Development Surveyor, Falkirk Council
Robert Lumme	Architect, Keppie Design
Claire Thorpe	Community Education, Falkirk Council
Frank McChord	Community officer
Councillor McNally	Denny Councillor
Anna Herron	Principal Librarian
Shona Hill	Librarian for Denny
Christine Bell -	Denny & District Community Council

Purpose of meeting – To advise on Falkirk Council proposals since addressing the request for community space at the last DRG meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

To explore and discuss other possibilities which could achieve the desired community space requirements.

Colin provided a thorough update of the development plans. These were the same as the updates discussed at the last meeting with the exception of the community space allocation within the library.

It is proposed that a room can be located in the library but with independent access for the purpose of hiring it out of library hours. The room will be in the form of a large meeting room size approx 8m by 5m i.e. 40sq m, with a small tea/coffee making facility. This room will be accessible from both within the library but also from a lockable door on the external wall to allow access at other times. The library will have the use of the room as will the public on a book able basis. It was expressed that it should have modern technological presenting facilities to meet with contemporary demands such as p.c. projection equipment.

It was agreed that this room would have positive benefits for both the library staff and the public but would still not meet the main requirements of the Denny community for a large multi functional, multi purpose centre capable of holding both large and small groups which could operate as a fully functioning community centre.

Councillor McNally suggested that the existing council owned Broompark centre should be explored in terms of its potential to meet such needs as it is in a prime location for such a venue. A lengthy discussion followed on this subject with much potential being discussed, such as:

- 1) Opening up the existing division between the bowling club and the Broompark centre.
- 2) The exploration of enhancing the facilities which the bowling club currently provides.
- 3) The possibilities of extending and refurbishing the Broompark centre and maximising the use of this prime site which could further enhance the whole of the new town centre as this building will be one of high profile within the town when the traffic is diverted along Davis Row.

It was agreed by all present that this site is a prime location for a Town Hall type facility and that any improvements to it would most definitely enhance the aesthetic appearance of

	<p>the new development within the town. Mr McNally agreed to arrange to meet the Broompark management team early in Jan to discuss current use and potential future use to get their views on it. I suggested that someone from the C.C. should also attend this meeting and Colin Frame volunteered to be involved. Frank McChord was also keen on this as a potential initiative and wishes to be included in any discussions. Other groups which may have an important view on such possibilities are –Denny for Youth group, Bowling Club, the local scouts, the heritage society and leisure services based at Falkirk Town Hall. All interested parties should be consulted on the possibilities.</p> <p>It was expressed that all options should be exhausted which should look at all current community space within the district to see if extensions/ upgrades would serve the needs of the community. All councillors were requested at the last DRG meeting to look at possibilities and feedback any ideas. These will be considered in each case.</p> <p><b>Forthcoming meeting dates:</b></p> <p><b>17<sup>th</sup> Jan 08</b>                      Denny Library _____ Exhibition of proposals to date with question and answer opportunities. 2 – 8 p.m. Colin Frame will be present at this.</p> <p><b>21<sup>st</sup> Jan 08</b>                      Broompark Hall _____ Meeting Broompark Management team to discuss possibilities.</p> <p><b>22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 08</b>                      Public Meeting _____ Denny High School 7p.m. <i>A request is being made by the C.C. to change this venue. Any changes will be confirmed asap.</i></p> <p><b>23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 08</b>                      Next DRG Group Meeting. Denny Business Centre 6p.m.</p> <p>Much speculation followed regarding the funding for such proposals but it was confirmed by C. Bell that the funding discussed at the meeting surrounded the possibilities arising from taking an integrated approach to all the local developments going on in Denny and pooling funding into larger more ambitious and useful facilities for the whole community.</p> <p><b>5. Safer Routes To Schools.</b> No changes other than a walk about is due to take place in Jan with Forestry Commission.</p> <p><b>6. Charges for use of Community Space.</b> J.S. conveyed her concerns over recent changes in charges for use of community space in certain places. She urged that we as a group support objection to excessive charges. All agreed.</p> <p><b>7. Licensing Group Forum</b> First meeting due 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. John Rintoul will attend.</p> <p><b>8. Meeting of Community Councils</b> J.R. attended Dec meeting in Town Hall which was most interesting.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>C.Bell.</p> <p>ALL R.R.</p> <p>D.D. M.Mc</p> <p>C.Bell</p> <p>J.R.</p>
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9.	<p><b>Correspondence.</b></p> <p><b>Letter from Falkirk council.</b> Confirming that we have received £200 extra funding in line with recent agreements.</p>	
10.	<p><b>Letter from Douglas Duff re- Time Frame for Denny Regeneration.</b> Letter outlining that proposed time frame is:- official planning application- Spring 08 and build should take 18/24months from commencement.</p>	
11.	<p><b>Letter from Archie Stirling re Post Office Closures.</b> This letter was read out in full. He is requesting support for an active civil disobedience campaign against post office closures.</p>	
12.	<p><b>COSLA Community Voices Network</b> A conference is due to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> Sep 2008. If anyone wishes to attend, Roy has booking forms etc.</p>	ALL
13	<p><b>Friends of the Earth.</b> Roy has been having continuing conversations with Clare Simmons regarding advice for community consultation and green mapping. Clare is due to leave FOE soon so Roy strongly suggests we arrange a separate meeting (out with our normal) to talk and learn what we can from her about such issues.</p>	RR
14	<p>Christine suggests we do this following our visit from Kate Kane in the Feb meeting when we will have a better idea of the current strategy being used for consultation with the public as this is Kate's remit. All agreed and Roy will advise date time and place. Possible date 11<sup>th</sup> Feb tbc.</p>	RR
15	<p>Roy met with John Murning and it was suggested that a meeting is held with youth groups, churches, traders and community council representation. John Murning had heard that sports centre was due to close but J. McNally has heard nothing to this effect.</p>	RR
16	<p>Roy had a call from Falkirk Council Economic Development Dept in F.C. It is agreed that the C.C. should talk to them and set up a meeting to discuss how communications can be improved between us and the associated depts.</p>	RR
17	<p>It was requested that we get a copy of FC organisation structure. J.McNally agreed to get one and for us.</p>	JMc.
18	<p>Christine mentioned an email received from Mick McIntosh regarding a £30 fee to be paid by C.C. for 'Information handling'. All others knew nothing of this. Email will be copied to all for information and appropriate action will be taken to make necessary payment.</p>	CBell RR DD
19	<p><b>Treasurers Business</b> Poppy appeal receipt received. £1910.48.</p>	
19	<p><b>Wind Farm Update from Colin and Jennifer</b> 1<sup>st</sup> meeting due 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2008 in Cambusbarron. Grants to be distributed in April.</p>	Colin JS

<p>20</p> <p>21</p>	<p><b>Business Cards for C.C. members</b></p> <p>Colin had investigated the supply of business cards for C.C. members for use at meetings etc. It was agreed by all that his would be a more professional means of contact exchange.</p> <p>Colin is helping to organise these, but individuals have to decide what needs put on each individuals card.</p> <p>Colin will communicate with us by email to assess what each individual wants.</p> <p><b>Councillor McNally addressed the meeting with a few issues:</b></p> <p>Ancient Lintel at Hillhouse Farm</p> <p>There has been a discovery of an ancient lintel possibly dating back to 1518 at Hillhouse Farm. The Heritage society has asked for it to be moved and stored meantime with the view to using it in the New Town centre as an information piece and involving local schools to present design ideas for a memorial/historical feature. All agreed this was an excellent idea.</p> <p>The Vennell has new monoblock and it is proposed that the centre piece should have a mural or plaque. It is suggested that this is in line with the theme of the New Town Centre and Heritage of the town.</p> <p>In general Councillor McNally was suggesting that the local people and Community council have an input into the themes and ideas for these projects and that they are integrated. Another suggestion for the Vennel plaque was the Angel over the Bridge coat of Arms.</p> <p>All ideas at the moment, but need some consideration and agreement. Will be discussed at future meetings.</p> <p>Post office in Nethermains. Reply was received and decision will be made soon and all informed.</p> <p>Meeting was closed and John Rintoul thanked everyone for their contribution.</p> <p><b>Next Meeting Feb 4<sup>th</sup> 2008.</b></p>	<p>Colin</p> <p>ALL</p>
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