

Minutes of
Avonbridge and Standburn Community Council Meeting

Held on Thursday 14th January 2010 at 7pm
In
Drumbowie Primary School

Meeting chaired by Jo Hirst

1. **Present**

Jo Hirst, Alan Wallace, Doreen Goldie, James Anthony, Alistair Dow, Alan Roy, John McLuckie, David Donaldson, Sheena McManus, Peter Brown, May Bennie, Sue Millin, Barbara Hunter, Alan Hunter, Gordon Addison and other members of the local community

2. **Apologies**

Left early: Peter Brown, David Donaldson and Sheena McManus

3. **Foggermountain, Avonbridge**

Jo Hirst opened the meeting by introducing Bryan Wallace from Hargest and Wallace Planning Ltd and Alistair McCaig representing Mr Hugh McCaig (the land owner of the former opencast at Foggermountain).

They presented to the group with some of their ideas regarding their plans for the former opencast site and invited questions from the group throughout. They had also produced and displayed large posters showing the potential development site and possible entry points to it and these were available to view on the night. In summary the group felt that Mr Wallace and Mr McCaig did not offer any specific proposal for the site only that it would be infill going into the former opencast and eventually create some form of revenue creating end product such as, amongst other suggestions, a caravan site. Generically it appeared that their proposal was to fill the existing hole from the opencast with inert infill however there were concerns made as to the source of this infill and the potential for illegal dumping of other products such as contaminants or hazardous waste on the site.

In conclusion it was agreed that the committee would discuss the presentation and send written correspondence to Mr Wallace requesting a more detailed proposal and copies of the posters that were on display in order that the community council can put together a mail shot with the salient information relating to

Foggermountain and distribute this to the community groups and local residents within the area. The feedback from this will then be collated and Mr Wallace and Mr McCaig will be invited back at a future date to answer any additional questions or concerns. Additionally information also to be requested is photos (before and after) of any similar developments undertaken in the past by Mr McCaigs company.

4. Approval of previous minutes of meeting held on 12th November 2009

May Bennie proposed. Seconded by Doreen Goldie

5. Chair's report

JH reported that she had now received a copy of the draft constitution from Brian Pirie. This will be e mailed to everyone and will be discussed at the next meeting. She also confirmed that the sixth elected member of the Community Council is Alistair Dow.

JH referred to correspondence received early January inviting 3 members of the Community Council to attend a meeting regarding the community strategic plan. Due to delays in post / weather etc it was agreed that we would have been unable to attend this at such short notice. It was agreed therefore that JH would write to sender explaining that this was not enough notice given the time of year and road conditions etc and ask for a further invitation with at least six weeks notice.

Correspondence was also received from Falkirk Community Health Partnership. This was an invitation to the Public Partnership Forum (The Falkirk Helix Project) on Tuesday 26th Jan should anyone wish to attend.

6. Secretary's report

Future meetings – confirmed that all dates sent out in previous e-mail were acceptable to committee members and also confirmed that the next two meetings will be held at Drumbowie Primary School. This will then be reviewed and considerations given to Avonbridge for alternate meetings.

AR reported that minutes of meetings can be posted of Falkirk Council website. It was agreed that this would be an idea to ensure the community council activities reach a wider audience.

AR also reported that he had been in touch with Ian Dryden form Falkirk Council Planning department and that weekly planning lists would be sent by e-mail each week. AR will then highlight any

proposals affecting the community council area and request further details if required for production at future meetings.

7. Treasurer's report

DG confirmed that she had contacted BOS and redirected any future correspondence to herself and that new counter signatories were being organised. She has also confirmed that we are entitled to annual funding of £250 per year plus £57 for admin fees etc. Additional funding / grants may be available if required for specific purposes.

8. Village Notice boards

JH and DG have viewed the notice board in Westfield. They are going to investigate the cost of similar and contact Brian Pirie to see what funding is available. Agreed that these are to be for community issues, community groups etc and no business use.

9. Information circulation and community groups within the area

Local groups / organisations identified within the area for information circulation were:

- Avonbridge Hall Committee – Contact, Alistair Dow will e mail AR with relevant details
- DEAG – Contact David Donaldson
- Church Of Scotland Avonbridge
- United Reform Church
- Fishing Club
- Pigeon Club
- Regeneration Club
- Doctors practices
- Shops in Avonbridge
- Post Office in Avonbridge

Over the next couple of weeks JH and AD will try and identify who the missing contacts are from the above list and we will discuss this at the next meeting.

10. AOCB

Grit bins

Concerns were raised at the lack of a grit bin in Standburn and that additional grit bins would be helpful in Avonbridge. JH will officially e-mail John McLuckie regarding the number of and location of additional grit bins required in both villages.

Date and time of next meeting:

Thursday February 11th 2010 at 7pm
in Drumbowie Primary School.