

AIRTH PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting 24th October 2007.

Councillors Present

J. Tibbles	R. Smith	J. Anslow
B. Elliot	W. Douglas	G. Kerr
D. Gilmour	A. Amos	

Also Present

I. Phillips	I. Cameron	D. Stubbs
M. Gilfillan	I. Sibbald	A. Dettlaff
J. McTaggart	Councillor Martin	Constable McLaren
Constable Marshall		

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th Sept. 2007 were approved by B. Elliot and seconded by J. Tibbles.

Resignations

The secretary read out two resignations he had received, one from G. Paterson and one from I. Cameron. The Convener thanked them for the contribution they made to the Community Council at instructed the Secretary to write letters of thanks.

Police

The police reported since our last meeting there have been 42 calls this includes,

- 15 road traffic offences,
- 2 drug offences, 2 vandalism,
- 1 theft of a J.C.B.

It was noted that there is now a major a problem with a small percentage of young people causing problems in the Parish, and while most Parishes have similar problems it was felt that we require to take some positive action to overcome these difficulties.

J. Tibbles reported on a Council initiative which provides an alternative curriculum in schools for children with problems it provides an opportunity for young people to learn a trade.

The youth club leaders have asked for help with the youth club from the parents, but to date no parents have volunteered.

There have now been 2 reports of shops selling alcohol to underage children, the police took note of the details and will investigate.

It was agreed that if the bottle banks were moved to the lay by at Burgoynes this would alleviate some of the problem, the secretary will again contact Falkirk Council regarding this matter. It was alleged that one of the problems in the Parish is no one reports incidents to the police, it is hoped once the occupancy agreement is reached for the Clinic, and the police hold a weekly or fortnightly surgery there, more people will make complaints. The facts and figures for Fireworks will be available next week; the notices will be given to the shops and a copy to the Community Council.

Members have been given letters to distribute to all villagers, this is our campaign to try to have a Community Police Constable returned on a full time basis.

Letters of thanks written to both

Letter written to PTA seeking a nomination and an open invitation to attend meetings. Ian Penman believes there could be a new nomination from Letham
E-mail received fro Mr Paul Nash as nominee from PTA.

It is hoped to have a 50% return on form letters

The Street Talk initiative has been unsuccessful in the village. It was agreed a special meeting of the Community Council should be held to discuss the problems with Youth & adult disorder in the village, perhaps involving more Community Councils through our new web site, lobbying our M.P.s and MSPs, and involving the P.T.A.

Matters Arising

Primary Care has placed the old Clinic on their list of premises for sale. The secretary will contact Allan Rodger to see if Falkirk Council will purchase the premises for us to use it as a one stop shop and library.

The secretary will attend a meeting at Abbotsford House on Oct. 25th 2007, to get an update on the Enhancement Plan

The secretary has spoken to Arthur Berg regarding the shrubs at the Wilderness, he will reconsider the options.

The secretary will attend a meeting in Edinburgh on 1st November, this will provide more details of the proposed changes to Community Councils.

There is a possibility Manor Kingdoms planning application will be called in by the Scottish Executive.

After a survey done on the Bar189 it was decided the premises are not suitable for converting to a centre for a Youth Club.

A date has been arranged for our Christmas Dinner at Powfoulis Hotel for 1st December 2007, the cost will be £27.50 per person plus transport costs.

Correspondence

Copy of E-Mail from Councillor Martin to Brian McMillan regarding the waste and broken glass in North Greens Park.

Copy of E-Mail from Colin Cunningham of Falkirk Council stating this area is cleaned on a twice per week basis.

E-Mail from Frank McCord inviting a member of the Community Council to attend a meeting in Edinburgh for "New Powers for Community Councils". He has also invited the secretary to become a member of the Forth Valley Leader Programme which distributes grants to local groups.

E-Mail from Lesley Middlemass informing us our Community Council web site is now available from Falkirk Online at www.falkirkonline.net any information we wish to publicise on our website should be sent to webteam@falkirk.gov.uk

Copy of E-Mail from Councillor Martin to David Henry of Falkirk Council regarding the fireworks in the bottle bank making it rise 3 foot in the air, and the problems residents are having with youth disorder.

Spoken to Fiona Campbell who has promised to help

Not about new powers
Rehash of empowering communities

These minutes will be placed on the web also date of Xmas light up

Copy of E-Mail received by I. Phillips from I. & E. Menzies thanking everyone concerned with the publishing and distribution of the Mercat Crier and the Airth Parish Church Newsletter. The secretary will pass the E-mail on to the Church.

B. Elliot stated he had a contact who will deliver the Mercat Crier etc. to North Greens and Shierlaw Gardens.

£10-0
passed to
committee

Letter from Airth & District Senior Citizens Committee asking for a donation for their bottle bingo's on the 26th Oct. and 16th Nov. R. Smith donated £8-00 the Community Council will add to that figure

Thank you
letter sent

A cheque for £250 was received from Morgan Vinci for the Christmas Lights Fund.

E-Mail from Inspector Beaton advising us the Police Constable at Larbert High School will also be involved with the Primary Schools.

Copy of a letter from Findlay Brown to Councillor Martin regarding the complaint he had received from Mr. Alexander Fraser about speed problems and road safety at the South approach to the village the secretary distributed the copies of the figures for traffic and speed, the average speed through the village is 30.8mph.

Permission has now been attained to have the tree which is obscuring the 30mph. sign trimmed.

Community Progress Noted

Copy of E-Mail from Inspector Beaton to Councillor Martin regarding traffic offences. Since 1st August, 157 motorists have been reported for a variety of offences, including using mobile phones, failing to obey traffic signs and speeding, 88 motorists have been reported for speeding, the vast majority near to the Pine'n' Oak. Other offenders have been caught at Letham Cottages, Waterslap Road, Main Street and at various locations on the A905 either side of the village. These figures obviously indicate a strong police presence by local officers and from the Road Policing Unit.

Letter from Dale Robb, Business and Members' Services Manager regarding a review of Polling Stations, we are happy with the polling station in the Community Centre.

Statement from Visit Scotland for the £90 we received from them in relation to the History Book.

Invitation from the ASCC to a meeting on 13th October 2007.

Letter from Planning Dept. asking for our comments on Composite Energy, it also enclosed a DVD from Composite Energy, which the secretary used to show the sites they require.

From
information
received
Scottish
Power have
trimmed
the tree

Booklet from Scottish Landscape Forum Noted

Friends of the Earth are running courses on Planning, Media, and Project Development these courses are in Edinburgh on Thursday evenings.

Letter from Gillian McIntyre, Customer & Development Manager informing us of the removal of the disabled parking space at 30 South Green Drive

Scottish Commissioner Noted

NHS Community News, included is a photograph of the opening of our new Clinic on 18th Sept. 2007.

Letter from Scotia Homes Ltd. thanking us for attending the meeting in Sept.2007

Invitation to Larbert/Stenhousemuir –Community Health Group on 2nd October 2007, and to their meeting on 6th November, 2007.

Letter from Airth Parish Church informing us the Remembrance Service will take place on the 11th November at 10.30.a.m.J. Anslow and A. Amos will lay the wreath on behalf of the Community Council.

Finance

As at the 28th Sept. we have £6,400 in the bank, this includes £5011.23 of the Christmas Lights Fund.

Planning Issues

Mrs. C. McLay, 25 Letham Cottages, Erection of Fence (Noted)

Mr. R. Murray, Murray Caravans, Falkirk Extension to Dwelling house. (Noted)

S. Honeyman 34 River Street, Falkirk, Erection of Dwellinghouse Land South Of Alloa Inch, Ferry Road, South Alloa. (The community Council will make no objection although it was noted that this house was well within the flood oplane)

Whitbread Group PLC, PO Box 777, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, Change of Use of External Play Area to External Seating Area, Brewers Fayre, Bowtrees Roundabout, Falkirk. (Noted)

Composite Energy Development of Land for Coalbed Methane Exploration and Production, Site at Airth 1-7 Well South West of Letham Farm, Falkirk& Site at Proposed Well North West of Linksfield Farm, Falkirk. (Agreement has already been reached not to offer objections to this development)

TRS Ltd., Queenshaugh Farm, Riverside, Stirling, Erection of Dwellinghouse Land to the North East of 4 Graham Terrace , Graham Terrace, Airth Granted Outline Planning Permission

Paterson Garden Buildings Ltd., Kersie Bank, Kersie Terrace South Alloa, Extension to Existing Building to Provide Additional Covered Storage, Kersie Bank, Kersie Terrace, South Alloa. J. Anslow reported this extension is already built; the secretary will contact the planning dept. to ask if this is a retrospective planning application.
H&J Burgoyne, Halls of Airth Farm, Falkirk, Change of Use of Former Agricultural Land to Form Extension to Yard, E. Burgoyne & Sons, Halls of Airth Farm, Falkirk. (No objection)

J. A. Davidson, Cross Cottage, High Street, Airth, Alterations and Extensions to Dwellinghouse, Regrading of Garden, Installation of Soil Retention Baskets, and Erection of Detached Domestic Garage. (No objections)

Roads Issues

Mrs Amos attended. Cllr Martin also placed a wreath for F.C.

Convener Investigated the building has not been started

The Deer warning signs have been erected at the Moss Road. To date none of the other work has been done.

Christmas Lights

Primary School children will start the proceedings. They will switch on lights and sing 6 carols. Mince pies and drinks will be served in Community Centre.

The Christmas Lights have been ordered, Falkirk Council will pay for them and they will then invoice us, we will then avoid paying VAT. The cost of 14 lights, brackets, sockets, and installation will cost £5,700. No agreement has been reached regarding storage. The lamppost lights will be lit at the beginning of December; the tree lights will be lit on Monday 3rd of December. The secretary will speak to Pete Reid to ensure an electrician from the Council is available on the night. A pupil from the school will switch on the lights and it is hoped the school choir and pupils will sing carols, and mince pies will be served. Blachere will cover the cover the public liability.

Windfarm

B. Elliot, R. Smith and J. Anslow will investigate other manufacturers of wind turbines.

Suggested will take place end of March 2008

Centenary

The Community Council will be organising a former pupil's night next year in the centenary year of the school.

Meetings

It was agreed in the New Year we should continue having some of meetings in the villages of Dunmore, Letham and South Alloa.

Bottle Bingo

The Community Council will be holding a Bottle Bingo in the Bar 189 on the 29th Nov. 2007, for the Christmas Lights Fund a special meeting will be held to arrange this. All donations of bottles will be gratefully accepted.

A.O.C.B.

B. Elliot reported the lighting at the castle car park has now been moved.

Airth Castle has now cut the grass at the bottom of the drive, and he will add it to the workload of the gardeners.

No resolution has been reached about the Bund.

D. Stubbs reported approx. 12 coping stones have been pushed of the wall between the new roundabout and the castle gates, if left the wall will rapidly deteriorate. The landowner may be Mr. Sutherland, Councillor Martin will make enquires.

A. Amos asked if Councillor Martin had discovered who owned the piece of ground in front of the boundary wall at Moraig Cottage, the owners of Moraig Cottage have recently laid turf, he stated it is not in the public domain i.e. the Council do not maintain it, he will make further inquires as to ownership.

A. Amos stated at a recent meeting of Dunmore Village Committee, a committee member stated Mrs. Munnoch had asked her to convey to the Committee she was willing to sell the land the bowling hut sits on for £4,000. Councillor Martin stated the land is vastly over priced and that he would like to have a meeting with 2 members of the bowling club and 2 members of the Dunmore Village committee, with the idea of making it a joint venture.

I Cameron stated 7 Post Offices were closing in Central Region; Airth Post Office will remain open.

D. Gilmour suggested there should be a 30minute parking restriction at the lay by at the paper shop this may help to alleviate the congestion in the morning, it is not meant to be used for all day parking. Councillor Martin will speak to the wardens and remind them they should be issuing parking tickets to all illegally parked cars.

Mrs. Gillfillan asked how safe Airth was from the danger of flooding; the chairman assured her it was highly unlikely.

Meeting

There being no other competent business the chair thanked everyone for attending. The next meeting will be held in Airth Primary School on Wednesday 21st Nov. 2007 at 7.00p.m.