

LARBERT, STENHOUSEMUIR AND TORWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING - 28 February 2007 IN THE TRYST COMMUNITY CENTRE

1. Attendance Details:

Committee:

- Charles Ambrose
- Steven Carleschi
- Evelyn Crosbie
- William Robertson
- Denis Shovlin
- Yvonne Weir

Also present:

- Councillor Tom Coleman, Falkirk Council
- Councillor Lynda Kenna, Falkirk Council
- Chief Inspector Beaton
- Frank McChord, Falkirk Council
- Gail Johnston, Falkirk Council
- John McIntosh, Youth Representative
- David Cairns, NHS Forth Valley

Apologies for absence:

- Patrick Devlin
- David MacLeod
- Marguerite O'Rourke
- Lauralin Scott

1. Welcome & Introductions

- Charles Ambrose opened the meeting welcoming David Carins, Gail Johnston and John McIntosh who were present to discuss the Young People's Fund bid and to discuss youth issues.
- Charles advised that the discussion around the Young People's Fund bid would be taken under Matters Arising.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved subject to the following amendments:
 - Under attendance it was noted that Denis Shovlin was present at the meeting.
 - Under matters arising, it should be noted that Denis Shovlin was thanked for his contribution to the discussion around youth issues and the Young People Fund's application.
 - Under Education, it was noted that a site survey and a traffic survey were still to be undertaken

3. Matters Arising

- Evelyn Crosbie advised that she had become a member of the Public Partnership Forum (PPF).
- **Young People's Fund bid**
 - David Cairns circulated the draft bid. He advised that the Big Lottery Fund had ring fenced £339K for the Falkirk area under the Young People's Fund and that applications had to be submitted by August 2007.
 - He advised that following the issues with young people in the local area, the Community Health Group had come up with the project idea. There had been considerable discussion to get to the current draft and he had worked closely with Frank, Gail and the Community Council.
 - David provided feedback from his meeting with the Big Lottery Fund (BLF) to discuss the application. He advised that on the circulated draft the comments in the boxes with lighter print were the comments made by the BLF officer.
 - David advised that a co-ordinator would be employed with a budget to deliver activities for young people. Engagement with other youth provision is still required. The project would be based at Carrongrange School. The NHS had verbally agreed to financially manage the project although recruitment of staff would be the responsibility of the Community Council.
 - The total budget was anticipated at £44K in the first year and £37K in the second year. The total being £81K over 2 years.
 - Gail advised that there had been consultation, a survey undertaken and discussion over youth requirements. A drop-in facility was required.
 - There was then considerable discussion around the management arrangements for the project. There was concern raised about the capacity of the Community Council to recruit and manage staff. There are currently no structures in place within the Community Council to undertake this. It would require the implementation of policies, Employers Liability Insurance and Public Liability Insurance. It was suggested that the local CVS could provide support although it was argued that this would likely be from a capacity building perspective. It was agreed that a meeting would be set-up with the CVS to discuss further options.
 - It was also discussed that Larbert East Church operates a Youth Programme and may be willing to come along and discuss the

application.

- Charles Ambrose concluded the discussion by asking the views of John McIntosh and asking him what would encourage young people to participate. John advised that he would wish to go somewhere where there would not be any trouble. He advised that provision of a plasma screen would be well received.
- Chief Inspector Beaton advised that tolerance of young people congregating on the streets was poor.

Actions - Frank McChord to contact the local CVS and David Cairns to arrange a meeting to further discuss the application and its management arrangements. Evelyn Crosbie is to contact the local churches. Yvonne Weir is to provide David Cairns with comments on the draft application.

Matters Arising (Continued)

- **Correspondence Report - 06/In/106** - A response has still to be sent to Falkirk Council to advise what procedures the Community Council believes Falkirk Council to have contravened in relation to the Wetland Pond in Torwood.

Action: Councillor Coleman and Charles Ambrose to address the issues.

- **Correspondence Report - 07/In/6** - Steven Carleschi advised he had not attended the Young People's Fund event at the Park Hotel.
- **Planning Report** - Yvonne Weir advised that she had received the draft letter from David McLeod but had not issued letters about the PFI and the new Hospital.

Action: Yvonne Weir to issue letters.

- **Planning Report** - Yvonne Weir advised that David McLeod had not issued a letter to the Licensing Board about the proposed betting shop.
- **Planning Report** - It was advised that Falkirk Council had approved the amendments to the Planning Application for the Plough Hotel. There would no longer be any beer gardens. Instead some of the garden area would be retained and there would be additional parking.
- **Education Report** - Charles Ambrose advised he had received an update on matters raised at the public meeting to discuss the new school held at Stenhousemuir Primary on 15 February 2007. The update is to be circulated with the minutes. Charles pointed out that under Safe Routes to School, the footpath between Tryst Park and the school would be open by

the time the school opened. The School Board cannot be constituted until the school is open. There have been various issues about the school uniform and the potential cost to parents which may exclude some families. There are also issues around the proposed Breakfast Club which is likely to be used by more affluent parents rather than parents who have a genuine need for such a facility. There are still issues to be resolved over enhanced provision at the school. It was suggested that a representative from the Inches should perhaps be invited onto the Community Council. There is to be a further public meeting about the school on the 26th March 2007 at 7pm in Stenhousemuir Primary School.

Action - Yvonne Weir to circulate note from meeting on 15 February with the minutes. Consideration to be given to co-opting a resident from the Inches to the Community Council.

- **McLaren Park report** - Chief Inspector Beaton advised he would act as an independent referee for the Awards for All application. Frank McChord advised he would contact John Banks to ascertain progress with the options appraisal.

Action - Frank McChord to contact John Banks to ascertain progress on options appraisal.

- **Laser Group Report** - Yvonne Weir advised that she had not yet contact Ken Drummond to get a schedule of meetings.

Action: Yvonne Weir to contact Ken Drummond.

- **AOCB** - Yvonne Weir advised she had not yet issued letters inviting individuals to be co-opted onto the Community Council and to ascertain if Robert Stuart still wished to remain a member of the Community Council.

Action - Yvonne Weir to issue letters inviting new members to the Community Council and to write to Robert Stuart.

4. Police Report

- Chief Inspector Beaton provided an up-date to the Community Council.
- Operation Vanquish is underway and has involved 30 officers from across the force. This has been used locally and in Clackmannan. It is a high profile crime reduction campaign.
- There was a meeting on 20th February 2007 which involved the Police, Housing, Social Work and other agencies to look at creating an agency approach to tackle upcoming young offenders.
- Stenhousemuir Football Club have set-up a Saturday night Twilight Football session for young people. No-one turned up to the first meeting on 24 February 2007. It was noted that many young people do not wish to

participate in sporting activity. It was argued that there needs to be more drop-in centres.

- Chief Inspector Beaton advised that the new mobile phone campaign was underway.
- There is also a series of deception crimes being carried out on elderly people e.g. helping them in with messages and then robbing them. There have been around 9 incidents and it is believed that they are being carried out by the same person.
- Charles Ambrose advised that the Community Council had been invited to a meeting by Councillor Martin on 22 February 2007. The meeting consists of a senior task force (Heads of Services, Chief Inspectors etc) for the Carronshore area. It seeks to tackle youth disorder and 4 action plans have been set-up to support this for Housing, Social Work, the Police and Community Education. Chief Inspector Beaton advised he had attended the meeting.

5. Correspondence

- Yvonne Weir circulated the correspondence report and advised on the correspondence that required to be actioned.
 - 07/In/7 - Letter re 06/1066/FUL - New Acute Hospital. Letter provides statistics for potential usage of the "Blue Light" access road from Stirling Road to the new hospital. It was agreed that no response would be made to the letter and it was up to the residents of Stirling Road if they wished to comment further.
 - 07/In/9 - Detailed Planning Application - P/07/0029/FUL Change of Use from shop to Licensed betting office - 37 King Street Stenhousemuir. It was agreed that this was a re-location of the current betting shop and no response was to be made.
 - 07/In/10 - Detailed Planning Application - P/07/0031/FUL Change of Use from shop to Licensed betting office - 56 Main Street Larbert. It was agreed that this was replacing the existing betting office and no comments were to be made.
 - 07/In/12 - Falkirk Environment Trust - Questionnaire on Community Council to form part of a Database of organisations in the area & create an e-newsletter. It was agreed that Yvonne Weir would complete and return the questionnaire.
 - 07/In/13 - Invitation to Regulatory Committee meeting to visit site of planning application for Plough Hotel beer garden & restaurant extension, 507 Main Street Stenhousemuir at 10:20am on 13 February 2007. See Matters Arising.

- 07/In/15 - Letter from Councillor David Alexander in response to Community Council letter dated 31/1/2007. There are a number of issues outlined in the letter which Charles Ambrose wishes to be fully discussed at a future meeting. This item will be carried forward.
- 07/Out/5 -A letter has been issued to Falkirk Council objecting to building of 2 house in the grounds of Airlie House in Carronvale Road.

6. Treasurer's Report

- There was no Treasurer's Report due to the Treasurer being on holiday.

7. Planning

- There was no Planning Report at the meeting.

8. Reports

- **Area Forum** - Bill Robertson provided an up-date from the Area Forum. The minutes are available if anyone wishes to view them. Bill advised that there were a series of questions around the arrangements for the elections in May 2007. He advised that John Banks (Parks Manager, Falkirk Council) had provided information about the new kick around pitch at Carronshore Primary School. He also advised that energy efficiency in the house had been discussed. Denis Shovlin advised he had contacted Falkirk Council to get energy efficient light bulbs installed in outside lights as part of a replacement programme to save energy.
- **Town Centre Re-Development Meetings** - There had been 2 meetings to discuss the redevelopment of the town centre. It as argued that they had been poorly advertised with only notices in the local press. One of the areas of concern is the land set aside at Corrie Avenue Park. There has been poor consultation in terms of usage of this site. It is the replacement land for the loss of a proportion of the Lido (Crownest Park). There has also been a variation in planning consent for the retailers. It was noted that the Community Council had not been informed about this. There was also an amendment in relation to the bus lane and the installation of traffic lights. There is concern over safety.

Action: Councillor Kenna has advised she will look into the issues around the variations to the Planning consent.

- **Health-** Evelyn Crosbie's health report is to be circulated with the minutes.

9. AOCB

- Councillor Kenna advised that the construction works underway at the Lido have led to a considerable disruption to the swans. The RSPCA have advised that the swans must be left to vacate the site on their own free will. However, there have been a number of reports about the contractors

disturbing the swans and that some swans are showing signs of distress. This matter will be followed by Councillor Kenna.

- **North Larbert Primary School** - The Community Council has received a letter by e-mail from Falkirk Council's Education Department requesting that we consider the selection of potential names for the new North Larbert Primary School. It was agreed that the Community Council would propose that the school be named "Kinnaird Primary School."

Action: Charles Ambrose to contact the Education Department to report preferred name.

- Charles Ambrose asked John McIntosh if he would consider being co-opted to the Community Council as a youth member. As he is under 16 he cannot be a full co-opted member. John McIntosh indication he would be willing to consider this.

Action: Yvonne Weir to forward minutes and the agenda of the next meeting to John McIntosh.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 28 March 2007 at 7:30pm at Tryst Community Centre, Park Drive, Stenhousemuir.
- Advance apologies from Charles Ambrose were received.