

LARBERT, STENHOUSEMUIR AND TORWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 29 November 2006 IN THE AGE CONCERN HALL

1. Attendance Details:

Committee:

- Charles Ambrose
- Steven Carleschi
- Evelyn Crosbie
- Lauralin Scott
- Yvonne Weir

Also present:

- Councillor Tom Coleman, Falkirk Council
- Chief Inspector Beaton
- Frank McChord, Falkirk Council
- Lyndsay McGibbon - J Laing O'Rourke
- Maureen Goggins - NHS
- 8 members of the development team for the new hospital
- Members of the public
- Mr O'Rourke, Torwood

Apologies for absence:

- Patrick Devlin
- David MacLeod
- William Robertson
- Robert Stuart
- Marguerite O'Rourke
-

1. J.Laing O'Rourke & NHS - Presentation for new hospital at RSNH site.

- Charles Ambrose opened the meeting welcoming the speakers - Lyndsay McGibbon (J Laing O'Rourke) and Maureen Goggins (NHS). He also welcomed the members of the public present. As the speakers had to leave early, the agenda was altered to allow their presentation to be the first item of business.
- Lyndsay McGibbon advised that following the approval of the development framework an outline planning application for the former RSNH site was approved on 20 August 2006. The full planning application has now been submitted and tonight's presentation forms part of the community consultation for the application.
- The key points from the presentation were as follows:
 - Development site 3 - due to constraints on the site, this area is now to be used for staff parking. Development site 2 will also be utilised as

- part of the main development.
 - There will be SUDS on-site with rainwater being diverted to the River Carron.
 - Surplus waste material during the construction phase will be maintained on site on the Eastern Pasture.
 - In relation to park management, following years of neglect, there will be work done to improve the quality of the landscaping. This will involve some tree removal but there will be compensatory planting.
 - In relation to the proposed ambulance road to A&E, this is required because there could not be single access to the site and there was an emergency need to have separate access and egress to the site.
 - From an architectural perspective, the new building has been designed like a small town with a civic presence and feel.
 - Larbert House and the walled garden will remain separate developments. The intention is to restore Larbert House to a good condition.
 - There will be a green travel plan for the site and a travel plan coordinator is about to be appointed to develop this further. This forms part of the Section 75 agreement for the site.
 - In terms of water supply to the site, there is a development appraisal with Scottish Water and it is likely that investment works will be required.,
- Lyndsay concluded his presentation by going through the Community Council issues submitted with the outline planning application.
- The questions/comments raised were as follows:
 1. Will there be access from the motorway network to the hospital? It was advised that proposals are with the Scottish Executive for the Glenbervie slip road and that the hospital plans were based in the current infrastructure.
 2. Residents North of Stirling - there was concern about emergency situations and length of time to reach the hospital.
 3. Access Roads - there are 4 access roads to the hospital therefore it was argued a further access from Stirling Road was not required. It was advised that the development framework prevented access from the alternative roads. It was also advised that the Old Denny Road would be used for fire access only.
 4. There was concern over the potential number of ambulances using the proposed ambulance road. It was advised that it is anticipated that there will be 60 ambulances per day using the road of which 40% will be "blue light".
 5. There was concern raised over the number of fatalities on Stirling Road already particularly near the proposed ambulance road.
 6. There were comments made over what would stop cars using the ambulance road to access the hospital. It was advised that they would be on camera, that there was nowhere to go if the road was used (i.e. it was difficult to access the car parks) and that there would be no parking allowed on that road.
 7. It was argued that the ambulance road intersects the service road and

that cameras would be passive in policing use by cars. Therefore could bollards be used. It was advised that this was not acceptable to the Ambulance Service.

8. It was discussed that there were no conclusive discussions over the other development areas at the present time.
 9. The proposed football pitch was discussed as there was concern that there was no access, parking or facilities for the pitch. It was advised that it was there because Falkirk Council had insisted on a football pitch being provided to replace the one being lost and that SportsScotland were being consulted. It was argued that there is already sufficient provision in the area.
 10. The provision for car parking at the site was discussed as there was concern voiced that 1500 places would not be sufficient and there may be overspill to surrounding residential areas. The Community Council had previously advocated that 1750 places would be required. It was advised that there are only 1250 places at the current hospitals. In addition a large number of patients will be treated in the community hospitals. Also, the car parks will be managed. It was advised that there was no intention for charges to be levied for parking. For staff there would be incentives to car share. The proposed travel coordinator will be responsible for promoting increased use of public transport. There are plans for bus turning circles at Larbert station and the hospital. There is also potential for the car parks to have a second level added.
- The developer advised that there would be further community consultation by way of a staffed portakabin at the site for a period of one week. This would allow local residents to view the plans and comment on them.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

- The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. Matters Arising

- Alternative venues for future meetings. Yvonne Weir advised she had contacted the Tryst Community Centre and Carronvale House. It was agreed that the Community Council would approach the Tryst Community Centre to host the January meeting.
- Wetland Pond - Torwood - Charles Ambrose advised that a letter to Falkirk Council had been drafted for David McLeod to check before it was submitted outlining the Community Council's concern over the approval of the planning application.

4. Police Report

- There was no Police Report at the meeting

5. Correspondence

- Yvonne Weir verbally outlined the correspondence that required to be actioned.
- 06/In/94 - Letter from Councillor Martin re facilities for young people. Charles Ambrose will consider the response.
- 06/In/95 - Invitation to Planning Aid Conference 7-9 December 2006 - No-one to attend.
- 06/In/97 - Planning Application for new acute hospital - Response to be issued.
- 06/In/98 - Planning Application for fishery pond etc in Torwood - Response to be issued.
- 06/In/99 - Consultative Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance notes - Response to be sent.
- 06/Out/24 - 2 sets of plans for McLaren Park issued to Falkirk Council - Awaiting a response on which proposal they advise the Community Council to adopt.

6. Treasurer's Report

- There was no Treasurer's Report.

7. Integrated Planning

- **Planning Application - 06/1116/FUL Formation of fishery pond, erection of plant & machinery shed, temporary chalet accommodation and formation of access road & car park - land at Whinnie Muir Wood, West of Torwood Head Cottage** - Mr O'Rourke from Glen Road in Torwood attended the meeting and advised that there were concerns over the proposed fishing pond, car park, flooding and the temporary bungs. He advised that Torwood Community Group were opposing any further development at the site. Charles Ambrose advised that the Community Council would object to the new application but that it was important that individuals in Torwood also objected to the application.

Action - Letter of objection to the new proposals to be sent to Falkirk Council.

- Charles Ambrose advised that there was an application submitted to build 15 house in Antonshill.

Action - Charles Ambrose and David MacLeod to visit the proposed site.

8. Reports

- **Community Health** - Evelyn Crosbie advised that a bid to the Young Peoples Fund would be made in early December. It was advised that Forth Valley Health would recruit the associated staff. It was advised that the involvement of young people was important in the bid which could delay its submission. It was agreed that a young person could be co-opted on to the Community Council as required. Yvonne Weir advised that she would be happy to comment on the draft application.

Action - Young People's Fund bid to be developed.

- **Education** - It was advised that the proposed RC Primary School may not be located in Antonshill as anticipated.

9. AOCB

- It was agreed that additional members may need to be co-opted and that this would be discussed at the next meeting.

10. Date of Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 31 January 2007 at 7:30pm at Tryst Community Centre, Park Drive, Stenhousemuir (Venue to be confirmed.)