

AIRTH PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting

Held on Wednesday 22 October 2014 at 7pm in Airth Primary School

Present :- Domini Grant Robert (Bob) Smith Aileen Amos Iain Penman
 Ginny Sutherland Willie Watson Jim Flynn

Also Present :- Pauline Rodger Ann Ramsay PC Gohrisch George Russell
 Joe Kennedy Alistair Bell

Apologies :- Jon Anslow Stephen Bird

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

These were approved as a correct record, moved by Aileen and seconded by Ian.

Matters Arising from Last Meeting

Constitution has now been finalised and need to get to Falkirk Council asap.
 Mares Tail has been removed.

Sign to go up in Dunmore to say No Through Road. Wardens have been out re dog fouling to Dunmore and Westfield Farm.

The Council responded to Maria on the sewage sludge enquiry saying we are happy to have our signature added to their petition.

Funding application is in for the cenotaph. Falkirk Council going to cut grass and provide two benches and flagpole.

Aileen will go to the Community Council Forum.

Card and flowers have been sent to Ann.

Letter has been done for Letham Farm application and Ian will check over. It's now just one application. See later.

Domini and Bob met Malcolm and Margaret. They will do a flyer for the Resilience Plan and circulate it to all involved for approval.

Police Report

PC Armin Gohrisch attended and provided the Report. He reported that between 14th September and 14th October 2014 there were 14 reported crimes/offences resulting in 10 detections and 4 un-detected crimes at this time. The detected incidents are in relation to crime types of violence, disorder, theft and road traffic offences.

Airth and Carronshore – Ward Priorities

Antisocial behaviour

Between 14th September and 14th October there was 1 incident of disorder resulting in a crime report being created. This was detected and the circumstances were reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Road Safety

6 Road Traffic Offences were detected between 14th September and 14th October 2014. These included the offences of speeding and driving with no insurance.

Acquisitive crime

Between 14th September and 14th October 2014 there were 4 reported thefts. One of these has been detected, the other 4 are currently undetected.

Community Engagement and Reassurance

Local community officers will be carrying out high visibility patrols in the area. The community officer for Airth and Carronshore is PC Maria Crawford.

PC Crawford's e-mail address is maria.crawford@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Maria back this Friday.

Ian asked about new tax discs. Police can only find out if car taxed if do a vehicle check.

Bob raised Letham Moss theft from 2 tractors. About £4000 of loss. Oily fingerprints and CCTV but felt police not that quick. Police only came out a few days after reported. PC Gohrisch said that if there are concerns these should be reported to Police Scotland.

He also noted about speeders at Airth Castle hill. If an event and speeding then we should phone it in so it's logged as continual problem. Falkirk Herald approached Jim but he didn't want to comment. Domini said she will raise it when she and Aileen meet with Stephen McLeod in the next couple of weeks.

Around the Parish Report

School report from Jim. School is introducing Spanish across the school. Focus on Literacy Group are creating a library and small orchard and trees in playground. The school got a small grant for this. HMRI are impressed by the playground. Mrs McKenna still wants to create a Community Ground.

The one way system is still on the agenda.

Lay by in front of Gail's shop has been painted and designated as 2 separate spaces.

George Crawford still saying trees near his house at South Green Drive Park are dangerous - children climbing etc. Landowner is David Dick. Bob will speak to Mr Dick to try and reach a conclusion.

James Toal in Dunmore is complaining about speed of internet connection. This was previously raised by Lesley Baird in March. Domini said we are targetted for 2017 for superfast internet. Domini emailed Stephen Bird, Stephen Carleschi and Craig Martin. Stephen Bird said Angus McDonald would contact her. He will take it up with Digital Scotland. DS said it's a rolling programme and funding is available from Community Broadband Scotland. They can provide support if we want to pursue. We need to get together and apply for funding and contact businesses in the area to support the application for funding.

With regard to the Sensory Garden in Dunmore -Willie said 3 drawings put forward and one selected. Willie will see it's put on noticeboard. So they are now going for funding to get proper drawings etc.

Letham's wreath will be laid on 9th November at 2pm. All welcome.

Jim Flynn emailed Domini about the removal of the mini roundabout coming into the village – is this going to be removed? It was agreed that it is good for slowing down traffic. Everyone used to it so leave it. It was agreed that we don't need to do anything about it.

Jim is to contact the Dog Warden about the dog fouling.

Correspondence

Developing Tourism in Falkirk Area – meeting at 5-8pm Falkirk Stadium next Thursday 27 October. Sending email on to Bob/Aileen.

DART Report going to Scottish Ministers. There should be decision within 3 months. Domini declined to get involved with BBC interview.

Letter from First Group Bus – 4 Nov at 10am – launch meeting at Kelpies re new buses and routes. Iain will go.

Council acknowledged our letter re planning application for 3 houses in Airth.

Various emails re sewage sludge.

"Village from Hell" posters in bus stops saying film to be made. We don't know much more about it.

Fire Service – want us to agree 6 priorities for the area. CC need to discuss. 30 pages long. A meeting will need to be held to discuss.

Cenotaph Maintenance and Upgrade/Remembrance Service 9 November at 10.30am at Airth

Onerous conditions re cenotaph renovations but Bob has signed and returned it. Ann says grant has been issued. It's going straight to the supplier.

Aileen and John will lay wreath at Airth and then Domini and Aileen will attend at 2pm in Letham. South Alloa is 11am. Agreed we will email and ask John if could be 12.30pm at South Alloa so people could go to all.

Church will keep flags.

Flood Defences Update

Nothing is happening. We should try to get a meeting with Frank McChord. Aileen or Bob will phone him.

Fundraising for Christmas Lights

It was agreed that raffle tickets will be printed. We will have to source. It was agreed that we need a sub group to sort out tickets. Will get 1000 printed. Next Tuesday mooted for meeting at 7pm at Bob's.

It cost £1159.19 to get lights up and down. £153.48 each for 2 new columns so £1466.15 total.

The cost for the lights this year will be £506.48 for the 2 new lights and £1281.69 for erection and storage, total £1788.17

Poppy wreaths x 3 cost £94.20,

Aileen is going to write to all businesses in the District for light donations.

Treasurer's Report

Aileen reported that we have £1564 transferred to Xmas Lights account. General account has £330.55. Aileen has applied for licence to sell raffle tickets (£20), for secretarial services monies (£300) and for community council grant.

Aileen to write cheque to Pauline for £90 for secretarial services.

Planning Issues

Nothing worth noting.

Planning application for Letham Farm. There is only one application left. Increase in traffic was a concern. Visual impact was also a concern and no it was thought that the proposals were of no benefit to residents. Caravan storage most objected to but now withdrawn. Chalets still going ahead so we have put in our concerns and conditions we should like to see. Ian happy with the letter. It was agreed it should be posted on the Notice Board at Letham.

Presentation by George Russell of Revised Proposals for Airth Mains

George Russell and Alistair Bell last spoke to us about a year ago. Previously school was a problem. Extending school not really an option. Had a meeting with head teacher. Proposing – downsized site. Still 42 acres but now 80 homes (280 homes before). They are proposing a much greener area and path for more accessibility to walk through. It will be low density housing. Most homes are facing inwards. Still build a Pineapple Visitors Centre and coffee shop. Creating a new road up behind the manse. Sheltered housing no longer included. They will be quality family homes. 7 to 10 homes built a year probably thereby spreading amount of children out so school might not be so overcrowded. They are willing to make a payment to a community fund. There will be a roundabout at foot of Moss Road.

Already 5/6 sites earmarked for houses (about 115 houses) although construction not started. Joe Kennedy raised this and impact on schools. He is worried about cumulative effect.

There will need to be a consultation with the residents of the village.

Local Development Plan doesn't allocate this site. Alistair Bell says there is a gap between what is proposed and what will actually get developed. It will balance out.

George just wants to know what we think or if we have any vehement objections.

We agreed we preferred the low density and plans looked better but had to remember that with regard to the Local Plan – proposal is not in the current allocations and are other allocations in the system. We can't ignore this. There are still also concerns that primary school and high school are already at capacity.

This site doesn't affect Black Avenue at all. Black Avenue is owned by Ginny.

We wondered if there is any way that we could find out if the other applications can be declared terminated or if the Council can rescind them. Nobody knew.

Sewage works and water supply would need to be looked at – water pressure can be accommodated as a builder. Not sure if that would however affect/diminish existing supplies which are already bad. George agreed his water pressure was bad.

A.O.C.B.

Youth Club would like a stall again. Agreed.

Bob concerned he has a lot going on just now and under a bit of stress - so many issues/health etc so needs to back off. He would like to stand down as Secretary but keep involved in certain issues. He will stay on as a member of the Council but not as secretary. Opened it up to ask everyone to help in secretarial role. There will be support. Is anyone interested? Email Domini if you are able to help. Aileen will help out meantime and be secretary/treasurer in short term. There was a show of hands to approve this.

Date of Next Meeting 19 November 2014