

AIRTH PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the general meeting held on 20th January 2016

As there was no janitor present to open up the school, we agreed to convene the meeting at 100 South Green Drive and the Community wardens who had arrived to join the meeting said that they would not come but attend another meeting. They were told that our meetings are normally held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Jon Anslow waited to see if anyone else arrived to attend the meeting.

Members present. Robert Smith, Aileen Amos, Ginny Sutherland, Willie Watson and Jon Anslow.

Also present. P.C. Chris Morrison, Police Scotland, John Angel head of F.C. planning and transport, Danny Thallon F.C. planning and environment and Jessica Paterson F.C. estates.

Minute Secretary. As there has still been no response to our advertisement for a minute secretary, Robert Smith agreed to take notes and compile minutes for this meeting. We will continue to try and recruit a minute secretary through the press and notice board.

1. Election of Convenor.

As Domini had stepped down from her position as convenor, Jon Anslow, currently vice convenor was nominated for the vacant position of convenor and he accepted. Jon will ask Domini if she wishes to take the position of vice convenor.

2. Apologies Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. Craig Martin.

3. Approval of December 16th minutes

The minutes were approved, proposed by Aileen Amos and seconded by Willie Watson.

4. Matters arising.

At or December meeting, Jon Anslow had asked Cllr. Martin to check the safety aspects of the new LPG tanks at the Bowtrees Premier inn being in close proximity to the new mobile telephone mast as he considered it dangerous.

Other matters arising from the last meeting will be dealt with under the agenda items.

5. Police report.

P.C. Morrison delivered the following verbal report which covered the period from the 20th December to 20th January.

41 calls had been made to police by residents of the parish and from these 3 crimes were reported and 3 minor road traffic offences. 2 of the crimes were detected, one for assault and one for a breach of the peace. The undetected case relates to a domestic incident.

Also, police were called to Airth when 2 loose dogs had attacked a cat, resulting in the cat having to be destroyed because of its injuries. The dogs were traced to a temporary travellers site at Higginsneuk and the owners spoken to by the police and Falkirk Council. No criminal enquiry will be made. The police visited Airth Primary school in December and spoken to children about theft and dishonesty.

The contact e mail address for P.C. Morrison is
Christopher.morrison2@scotland.pnn.police.uk

6 Open Space Strategy.

Danny Thallon, John Angel and Jessica Paterson of Falkirk Council gave a presentation on the new open space strategy for the council area and specifically how it would affect Airth Parish.

Following a lengthy and intense investigation and audit of all open space areas within the council area, the council are looking at which areas are surplus to requirements and could be sold off and which areas need improvement and where there is a shortage of open space facilities, how they can be created. Danny stated that any proceeds from the sales would be ring fenced for improvements to other areas where a need has been identified.

There is also a proposal for charging where our parks and open spaces are being used for commercial activities.

They went through all the open space and recreational facilities in the parish and identified where there was adequate provision and where there was a shortfall which would need to be addressed.

The South Green Drive Park was used as a good example of community involvement in creating and maintaining a park.

Various anomalies in the audit were pointed out by members, e.g. the woodland walk between Airth and Letham, the multitude of walks and paths in the Dunmore area and the woodyard site and

open space at the entrance to Dunmore.

The audit had noted the need for paths in the grassed area adjacent to the cemetery but we pointed out that we understood that this area was destined for extending the existing Airth cemetery which is almost full.

There is a consultation document which is to be returned by the 29th February and we will hold a separate meeting on 27th January to discuss this and respond to it.

The convenor thanked the officials for their presentation and apologised for the late change of venue.

7. Correspondence. As listed below.

1. Invitation and acceptance from Danny Thallon to attend our January meeting.
2. E mail from Terry Walker stating that the developer of the escarpment Lochay homes would build the amenity homes on the completion of the 70th unit on the site under a section 75 agreement.
3. Invitation to attend the Funders Fayre in Grangemouth on the 8th March.
4. Invitation from David East of Ineos to attend the Community Liaison Group meeting on 29th February.
5. Confirmation of the dates for the let of Airth primary School for our meetings.
6. Various e mails regarding the vibrations experienced by some householders who live adjacent to the A905.
7. Report from Robert Smith on the December access Forum meeting.

8. Round the parish report.

South Alloa.

No progress on a notice board for South Alloa.

Jon Anslow stated that he was awaiting a reply from Cllr. Martin regarding the recent flooding under the houses at Kersie Terrace.

Letham.

Nothing to report.

Dunmore

Willie Watson stated that his wife Lilian has secured a grant of £44,600 for the D.V.A. to allow them to complete the sensory garden at the former woodyard site. The D.V.A. have already raised £5100 for this project. The final plan will be chosen by the D.V.A. committee and it is hoped that work will start in the

spring.

The sign post to the R.O.W. to the foreshore has been erected and Aileen has requested from Angus Duncan that a sign be erected at the foreshore.

Airth.

On going issues with vibration problems on the A905.

9. Treasurer`s Report

Aileen informed us that we had £140.54 in our administration account and £4459.42 in our Christmas lights fund. The bill for £1443.04 for the Christmas Lights has been received from Falkirk Council and when this is paid it will leave £3016.38 in the Christmas lights fund.

We were awarded a grant of £100 to help with the garden competition and the Christmas lights event and this was paid directly into our administration account. It was agreed that this sum should be left in the administration account and transferred when required.

10. Roads A905.

Vibration monitoring of houses at Castle Avenue is still going on and as more and more residents are asking to have their property monitored it may take some time to draw conclusions although the early reports would appear to indicate that vibration experienced is within acceptable limits according to the reports we have seen.

To show that the community council is trying to do something on this issue, it was proposed that we contact the hauliers who we know regularly use the A905 through Airth and ask them to invoke a voluntary 20 MPH speed limit for HGV`s until this issue is resolved. Robert will try and compile a list of users. Ginny pointed out that SugarRich is no longer using Airth Mains Farm for storage.

11. Planning.

As time was short, it was agreed to defer the discussion and response to the escarpment planning application until we have a separate meeting on 27th January when it will be discussed.

12. Welfare hall.

An extraordinary general meeting was held on 19th January and a new Welfare hall committee was formed. Robert and Aileen are both on this committee, Robert as treasurer and Aileen as secretary. Two new trustees are required,

and a meeting with their lawyer will be held soon to find out the responsibilities and duties of trustees before new appointments are made.

13. Community resilience.

The project appears to have stalled and the lack of response from residents has been disappointing. Given the extreme weather we have had this winter, the need for this project is more evident. Robert will try and progress this as we have leaflets ready for distribution throughout the parish.

14. A.O.C.B.

There being no further business the convenor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Our next meeting will be on the 17th February 2016.