**AIRTH PARISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Minutes of the general meeting held on the 16th of March 2016 in the Letham Community Hub

**Members Present**

Aileen Amos Domini Grant Jon Anslow Ginny Sutherland

Willie Watson

**Also Present**

Ann Ramsey Councillor Bird Tracey Campbell James Todd

Louisa Smith Margaret Keir Kathleen Fotheringham George Russell

Police Constable Alex Clarke

**Apologies**

Robert Smith

**Approval of Minutes of 17th February 2016**

Jon approved the minutes and Domini Seconded

**Police Report**

Attached is the Police Report. Ginny reported that there was an issue with unsafe parking at the entrance to Dunmore Home Farm, and was advised to send a picture of the cars to the police. There is also a problem with professional dog walkers using the land. Robert asked Aileen to inform the police of an uncontrolled dog worrying sheep. He also advised that there were occurrences of fly tipping at the Pow Bridge at Higgins Neuk. Margaret Keir also reported that there had been an issue with people throwing eggs at houses.

**Matters Arising**

Aileen attended a meeting at INEOS. Robert and Aileen attended the Funder’s Fayre in regard to the skate park, and was notified that the cost of a skate park was between £100k to £150k. Aileen commented that this is possible, as there are various grants available, but they are hard to acquire, and would require a lot of time and effort. Domini will make further inquiries.

**A905 Road**

Robert has written to approximately 16 companies requesting that the drivers observe a voluntary 20mph speed limit when travelling through the village. Margaret Keir raised concerns about the possibility that the vibrations from the HGVs was damaging the roughcasting on her house. Vibration monitoring has been carried out on houses in the village, and M Keir stated that, while the standard reading for vibration was 5, she had received readings of up to 19. This high reading may have also been due to the fact that the monitor was placed upstairs in the house, and not on the ground floor, as per the standard. The residents also stated that they want to see the road resurfaced to reduce the problems with vibrations, and are holding a meeting with Councillor Martin to discuss this.

**Community Resilience**

Aileen spoke about holding the launch event on the 22nd of May from 1pm to 3pm, at Airth Community Centre. Emergency Services will be in attendance also. Elected councillor members and our local MP and MSP will be invited. Leaflets will be distributed round the village the week before the event.

**Correspondence**

1. Letter received from McLean & Stewart solicitors regarding the removal of a comment made in the last minutes.
2. Brian Pirie advised the above mentioned comment be removed.
3. Email from Robert Smith regarding a litter pick, and advised that more people should be involved.
4. Email from CIS ltd saying that they would advise the drivers to lower their speed when possible, but they must not become a safety hazard.
5. Copies of correspondence between Mr. Sloper and Falkirk Council, and there will be a meeting held on the 20th of April at Letham Hub between the four land owners to discuss the way forward.
6. Robert received an email from the Leader Fund regarding our application for funding. At present this has been rejected.
7. Aileen contacted Donald Campbell and Councillor Martin to arrange a meeting as requested by Mr. Sloper.
8. Email from Airth Primary School advising that the council’s let would be cancelled for the meeting on the 16th of March 2016.
9. Email from Ginny regarding dangerous parking at Dunmore Estate.
10. Draft copy of Robert’s letter to Transport Scotland regarding a 20mph speed limit through the village.
11. Email from Brian Pirie advising that all community councils will receive a commemorative medal from the Tower Heritage Centre to celebrate the Queen’s 90th birthday.
12. Email advising the council that there is a Community Council workshop on the 22nd of March in Glasgow
13. Email from Robert regarding advice on quorum needed for meetings
14. Formal complaint from Robert to Falkirk Council regarding the latest incident of uncontrolled dogs worrying sheep

**Round the Parish Report**

**South Alloa**

Jon is still to contact Mandy Brown regarding a notice board

**Airth**

Domini reported noise from the parsonage at the weekend

**Letham**

George Russell made a statement saying that he was hoping that the work at Waterslap will be completed by the end of June, and that he is happy to meet with anyone that has any questions or concerns. He also stated that none of the lorries working on the site are travelling through Airth or past Letham Cottages.

**Dunmore**

Work on the community garden has started, and the contractor has agreed that he will maintain the garden for the next 2 years.

**Treasurer’s Report**

The admin account has £770, and the Christmas lights account £3004.38

Aileen received a letter from Falkirk council regarding the renewal of the Community Council’s insurance policy, as Falkirk Council are no longer able to provide this service.

**Planning Issues**

Planning application for Dunmore regarding the installation of a Culvert Trash Screen, Headwall, Steps, Railings, gate, Gabion Baskets and Access path.

Jon has expressed concern over a phone mast that is close gas tanks

The building that used to be the Crown Hotel is putting in a planning application as a single use dwelling.

Expression of Interest for the local plan have been received from:

Eastfield 1 Ogilvie Homes

Eastfield 2 Ogilvie Homes

Airth Mains George Russell

Airth Glebe Church of Scotland

East of Letham Cottages Robert Young

**South Green Drive Park**

Ann reported that the garden and paths are in a poor state, and need maintained. A committee needs to be formed to address these issues. Councillor Bird said that he will make enquiries about this.

**Airth Community Centre**

At present, Falkirk Council pays for heating, lighting, cleaning and maintenance to the building. This is now no longer available due to budget cuts. The community centre was given to the village of Airth as planning gain. Jon mentioned that he believes that the hall would always be funded by Falkirk Council, and Councillor Bird will make enquiries regarding this.

**A.O.C.B.**

James Todd spoke about an issue with fly tipping at the road at the bottom of the Manse.

Garden refuse will now only be collected once a month.

Aileen mentioned that the Welfare Hall is available to villagers for let.

**The next meeting will be held on the 20th of April 2016.**

**Attached below is the Police Report:**

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| Name of  Community Council: | Airth Community Council Meeting  Wednesday 16th March 2016    Force Production  Register No: |

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| Foreword: | From PC Alex Clarke;  Figures from the two previous months;  16 crimes/incidents recorded.  5 of these were for road traffic offences including speeding, defective vehicles and anti-social use of a vehicle.  4 crimes of violence were noted, none with any serious injury.  3 thefts were noted.  12 of the 16 have been concluded with enquiries ongoing in relation to the remaining.  Recent youth disorder has been highlighted with four males warned.  An issue with fire setting has been highlighted recently on the path between Airth and Letham below Airth Castle. If walking from Airth, you would come to the edge of the fence bordering the path, where there is a newish path to the left that takes you round in a loop through the recently planted area. Opposite this, immediately as the fence ends on the right, there is a well-known area below the castle where youths go to sit etc. It is in this clearing where the fire was located. We will patrol when able along with CST.  Speeding in the main street remains a priority with hand held radar being carried out when able. |
| Ward Priorities | Operation Bullring commenced in January and is a targeted ASB operation specifically for the ward area. High visibility patrols have been and will continue to be deployed in and around the area in order to deter and detect all instances of ASB.  Numerous staff have been on duty in the area and the feedback thus far has been very positive. The operation will continue to run over the coming months and feedback will be given as required.  Our priorities remain;  1) Tackling anti-social behaviour, youth drinking and violence.  2) Targeting those whose supply drugs in the community  3) Improving road safety and in particular those driving in excess of the speed limit and in vehicles in dangerous conditions, |

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|  | **Community Engagement and Reassurance**  Members of the community are invited to contact local officers on the following details.  PC Alexander Clarke can be contacted by email at  Alexander.Clarke@scotland.pnn.police.uk. |