

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Meeting, Monday 9 December 2013, 7.30pm

Venue: Ochil Leisure Centre, Park Street, Alva

Community Councillors Present:

Lynn Cameron - Chairperson	Philip Ward - Vice Chairperson Convener - Data Protection inc IT & Website
Margaret McArthur - Secretary	Anne Spruce - Treasurer
Sandra Rees - Minute Secretary	Kirsty Wilson Convener - Health inc Alva Health Centre Patient Group
Gemma Waghorn Convener - Education inc School Council & PTA	Mary Dalrymple
Ian Cameron	Lisa Williams
Jim Lyle	

In Attendance:

Cllr Donald Balsillie

Cllr Robert McGill

Members of Public (MOP) x 6.

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions	
2	Apologies Linda Greig Russ Fenton	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting 11/11/13 Mary Dalrymple queried why at 6.1 an issue was raised regarding Russ Fenton. It was agreed to discuss this at item 4. Minutes proposed by Anne Spruce. Seconded by Mary Dalrymple.	
4	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes Christmas Fayre 30/11/13: See 6.1 Alva Community Event and Late Night Shopping 05/12/13 See 6.1 Russ Fenton: An email from Russ was read out giving reasons for absence at this and previous 3 meetings. Two Community Councillors advised that his attendance was not good at the 'old' ACC meetings either. Under the provisions of the Scheme of Establishment and the Constitution a vote was taken. 7 members voted that Russ should leave ACC. 0 voted that he should continue and there were 4 abstentions. Russ will be advised of the outcome and will be made welcome as a MOP at meetings. POST MEETING NOTE: Secretary, Margaret McArthur has written to Russ thanking him for his contribution to ACC. Co-opting of another Councillor: Clackmannanshire Council have confirmed that we can, after all, co-opt a 14 th member. Also, as Russ is no longer a member we have an additional vacancy. ACC will make it known we have two vacancies.	
5	OFFICE BEARERS REPORTS	
5.1	Chairperson Report	

	<p>Christmas Fayre 30/11/13: £311.00 was raised for ACC at this joint event with Alva Primary School PTA. ACC would like to thank all who contributed and helped in any way.</p> <p>Alva Community Event and Late Night Shopping 05/12/13. The 9 Christmas lights on lamp posts are set on go on/off with street lights and have been in operation since 29 November and are looking great. ACC would like to thank Alva Primary School Carol Singers, Katie Arthur School of Dance and of course Santa who managed to come along for an hour. A MOP said it had been a very good night enjoyed by all who attended.</p> <p>However, Lynn explained the lighting company put the lights on the wrong tree and she will be contacting them to discuss this. Lynn will also investigate why only 25% of the tree lights were working on the night but considers it could be due to the very high winds on the morning of the event. We were unable to have the countdown to switch-on of the tree lights that had been planned.</p>	LC
5.2	<p>Secretary Report - Margaret McArthur</p> <p>Local Development Plan (LDP) Margaret advised that ACC's next meeting on 13 January will be held in a different venue as the LDP is going to be discussed and more than usual members of public (MOP) are expected to attend. Neil Urquhart, Planning Department, Clackmannanshire Council will give a presentation. Following discussion it was agreed that the venue will be Alva Baptist Church and Phil agreed to advertise this on the website. We have until 24 January to give community observations to Clackmannanshire Council. There have been drop-in public consultation sessions at Alloa Town Hall on 27 Nov and on 30 Nov at Devonvale Hall, Tillicoultry. Those living near areas with proposed development plans were sent letters advising of the sessions. A MOP expressed concern that his letter arrived after the sessions. Cllr Donald Balsillie agreed it was an unfortunate error, however, those people may still engage with the consultation process. See item 8 for more on LDP.</p> <p>Road Narrowing Sign at Glentana Mill Margaret confirmed that a road sign alerting motorists of road narrowing has been requested.</p> <p>Helpful Staff at Alva Community Access Point (CAP) Margaret has found staff at Alva CAP very helpful e.g. with access to the community notice board outside the library. They have passed on positive comments from members of the public who have expressed appreciation of the Christmas lights, etc. Margaret asked other members of ACC to thank CAP staff for their assistance when visiting.</p> <p>Expenses Pro-forma There doesn't appear to be a pro-forma for members of ACC to claim expenses or any guidelines. Clackmannashire Council don't have one specifically for Community Councils. Margaret is going to pursue this so that members are clear about authority to incur expenditure and the procedure for reimbursement.</p> <p>Vermin at Alva Glen Hotel - a MOP contacted Margaret by email to express concern at numerous sightings of rats around the hotel. Margaret contacted Environmental Health Officer (EHO) who confirmed that they have been baiting the hotel with poison.</p> <p>A Community Councillor expressed concern about cats, rabbits, etc entering the hotel and become affected by the poison. However, the consensus was that the vermin problem could not go unchecked and there is currently no other method of dealing with it.</p> <p>POST MEETING NOTE: Jim received copy of an email string from a MOP regarding Alva Glen Hotel Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) and the</p>	MMcA

	<p>vermin problem. In summary:</p> <p><i>Keith Brown MSP received copy of correspondence from Gordon Banks MP Ochil & South Perthshire to Derek McKay MSP, Minister for Local Government & Planning ask that he consider at an early date and find in favour of the CPO in respect of the hotel as it is now both an eyesore, probably unsound and is known to be the source of vermin.</i></p> <p><i>In the email string Clacks Council Regulatory Services Manager confirmed they are serving notice on the owners under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949. Clacks Council EHO confirmed that they have been baiting at the hotel with poison wax blocks by pushing them into the premises through possible access points. 3.5kg of bait had been taken by rats by 25/11/13 and it was starting to have an effect.</i></p>	
5.3	<p>Minute Secretary Report - Sandra Rees</p> <p>Minutes Protocol - Sandra reiterated the agreement at the May meeting that she will email draft minutes to all members of ACC with a cut-off date for amendments. Final minutes will then be emailed prior to the next meeting so that they can be approved with little or no amendments and posted timeously on website and put into the file in public library. This was agreed.</p> <p>ACC File in Alva CAP - In September Sandra replaced the file with a new 'presentation file' with transparent front cover and spine for inserts rather than having to tape a front cover on. Following objection from one Community Councillor Sandra asked for and was given retrospective agreement for this, it was agreed that she may in future change the file without discussing with other members. Sandra proposed that the file is renamed 'Alva Community Council Public File' and that only ACC Office Bearers should add or remove items from the file. Following discussion the name change was agreed and also that Sandra should have overall responsibility for the file and other members should ask her prior to adding / removing items or altering it. The file contains minutes of the 12 most recent meetings as well as various other documents. It's available for anyone to read during Alva CAP opening hours.</p>	
5.4	<p>Treasurer Report - Anne Spruce</p> <p>Last years' accounts 2012/13 were verified by Maureen Hill at Clackmannanshire Third Sector Interface (CTSI). Current members of ACC accepted them as verified although only 2 of those present were members at the time of the accounts.</p> <p>Copies of the verified balance sheets for period to 31/07/13 have been given to all members of ACC and copy will be placed in the Alva Community Council Public File at Alva CAP (library).</p> <p>Currently there is £472.60 in the business account.</p> <p>Currently there is £5,263.11 in the Special Events Account.</p>	
6	CONVENER REPORTS	
6.1	<p>Convener Reports - Environment (incorporating Parks & Alva Glen)</p> <p>Linda wasn't present but she asked Margaret to read the following report:</p> <p><i>Having being approached by a member of the public concerned about rats I have contacted the environmental health department at Clacks Council. Rats have been seen in daylight on Stirling street and what appeared to be rats droppings on the closed lids of wheelie bins in the vicinity of the Alva</i></p>	

	<i>Glen hotel. I have been informed that the pest control team cannot at the time of correspondence enter the said building and therefore are limited to the actions they can take. I have been assured that everything that can be done is being done by the Council about this regularly reported problem and I have passed on this info to concerned member of the public.</i>	
6.2	<p>Convener Report - Planning (incorporating Licencing Applications)</p> <p>Linda wasn't present but by email proposed that a sub-committee is formed to discuss the Local Development Plan (LDP) and any future planning. This was agreed. Jim and Margaret will join Linda on this sub-committee.</p>	
6.3	<p>Conveners Report - Health - Public Partnership Health Forum and Alva Health Centre Patient Group</p> <p>Public Partnership Health Forum - Kirsty Wilson explained advice was given on easy menus for healthy eating. Menu cards are available, it was agreed that Kirsty would try to obtain some for putting in the library and perhaps to be copied onto ACC website. Fruit Barras, not-for-profit schemes, are located in Sauchie and Tullibody. Some supermarkets are offering soup packs for £1. Kirsty agreed to speak to the proprietor of the fruit shop in Alva and suggest that he considers offering soup packs for approx. £1.</p> <p>At the forum Police Scotland reported that hate crimes are now only recorded as 'incidents'.</p> <p>Police 101 Non-Emergency Number - A MOP informed Kirsty that she'd been charged for using this number which has been introduced for contacting Police for non-emergency situations. POST MEETING NOTE: Police UK website states 'Calls to 101 from both landlines and mobile networks cost 15p per call, no matter what time of day you call or how long you are on the phone'.</p>	KW
6.4	<p>Convener Report - Data Protection (incorporating IT & Website)</p> <p>IT - Philip Ward reported that ACC now has 155 'likes' on Facebook, mostly local people. However, only 5 of these are ACC members. Phil encouraged other members and any MOP to 'like' us on Facebook. There had been 172 'views' on the two recent events.</p> <p>Phil explained that on ACC website the 'contact us' option has been changed to 'keep in touch'. A MOP asked if a weekly digest for information could be made available rather than several separate email/facebook postings. Phil will consider this.</p> <p>There are various ways to keep in touch with ACC;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website: www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk • To contact ACC for official business, email: info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk • Ideas for information for website or to post a local event, email: webmaster@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk • Facebook: Alva Community Council • Twitter: @AlvaCommCouncil • There is also now a subscribers mailing list - if you join you will be contacted by email when new posts are created - see website for details. 	PW

	<p>Data Protection Jim Lyle said that at a JCCF meeting a while ago Community Councils were advised they should register under the provisions of the Data Protection. However, Phil considers that as a small not-for-profit organisation we don't need to register at the moment as the only information we hold is members email addresses. However, we must be mindful of the Freedom of Information Act.</p>	
6.5	<p>Convener Reports - Education (incorporating PTA & School Council)</p> <p>Gemma Waghorn confirmed that £25,185.23 had been raised for McMillan by Alva Academy.</p>	
6.6	<p>Convener Report - Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF)</p> <p>The next meeting is on Thursday 12 December. Gemma, Kirsty and Jim will attend.</p>	
7	<p>CLACKMANNANSHIRE COUNCILLORS REPORTS</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie - Local Development Plan (LDP) -Referring to a plan of Alva with areas for development highlighted members could see areas with proposals for housing;</p> <p>H36 - Brook Street/Beauclerc Street. 17 units. Former Industrial Site (Stephen Clarks), now brownfield. Planning permission approved for road and plot layout, but not house types.</p> <p>H37 - Brook Street/Back Road. 8 units. As above.</p> <p>H38 - Berryfield (a.k.a. Hodgsons Mill) at east end of town near new Alva Academy. 100 units. Brownfield residential development.</p> <p>H39 - Demolition & redevelopment of (Alva Glen Hotel) site for a flatted development, perhaps housing for the elderly, 12 units.</p> <p>H40 - Queen Street/Erskine Street. Brownfield. Planning permission granted in Sept '13 for 48 houses and flats.</p> <p>H41 - Alva West - Greenfield. Proposals for 430 units between Mowlem houses and Balquharn Farm and also opposite on south side of A91.</p> <p>MO5 - Park Street (behind OLC) Mixed use site, brownfield opportunity for residential, commercial/business, 20 units.</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie explained ACC and MOP's could influence the plans for Alva and encouraged those present to study the LDP prior to the presentation at ACC's January meeting. Several members of ACC think the people of Alva would like to see the H36, 37, 38 & 39 sites being developed prior to considering the major proposals for H41. Concerns were raised about drainage at H41 but Donald confirmed that the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) haven't objected. As Convener of Clacks Council Enterprise and Environment Committee Donald is aware of environmental concerns about H41 but he is in favour of the development of this site. Increasing the town's population would support the social infrastructure and sustain Alva Primary School which is operating at 60% capacity. Proposals for H41 include 25% social / affordable housing but this could be waived, there is a demand for 1 & 2 bedroomed houses.</p> <p>Donald advised that developers for all sites will be expected to contribute to new or improved infrastructure and facilities. These could include community hall, cycle routes, sports facilities and public art provision.</p> <p>A MOP asked if Clacks Council still have 100% nomination rights at H40. Donald confirmed they do initially but this may not be in perpetuity.</p> <p>An ACC member asked if there had been any progress at the M05 site at</p>	

	Park Street i.e. adjacent to Ochil Leisure Centre. Donald confirmed there had been some discussion with Alva Medical Practice regarding possible relocation to the site but nothing has been decided. The member reminded Donald that ACC and perhaps OLC wish to be involved in discussions regarding the inclusion of a Community Hub/Meeting Place. (ACC mins of 10/06/13 refers).	
8	SUB COMMITTEES	
8.1	Sub Committee - Events Lynn advised that a Family Fun Day and Cabaret Evening is planned for 24 May 2014 at Cochrane Park and Hall. The hall is £29.30 per hour and it was agreed that Lynn should confirm the booking for 5 hours i.e. 6 to 11pm.	LC
8.2	Other Business Nomination for Provosts Citizen of the Year Award. Members agreed to nominate Doreen Harvey. She was a member of ACC for approximately 24 years until February 2013. Margaret McArthur will complete and submit the nomination documents. Venue for ACC meeting Meetings are currently in OLC as ACC wish to support this community led facility. However, several members consider that there is too much background noise. There was discussion about other venues but it was decided to remain at OLC for the time being*. Phil had brought along a PA system for use tonight and suggested that ACC consider purchasing their own system. *The next meeting on 13 January is in Alva Baptist Church -see 6.2	MMcA
9	AOCB Mary Dalrymple announced that she is resigning from Alva Community Council for personal reasons, there were no objections to this. POST MEETING NOTE: Secretary, Margaret McArthur has written to Mary thanking her for her contribution to ACC. Alloa Rotary Club Information Evening, 14 January. It was agreed that 2 members would attend to hear the presentation about work of the club and learn of the support they could offer ACC. Single Outcome Agreement - Jim attended a performance review meeting about this at Hawkhill Community Centre on 19 th Nov.	
10	Date of Next Meeting 13 January 2013 at Alva Baptist Church 7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors. 7.30pm Public Meeting with Neil Urquhart, Planning Dept, Clacks Council.	

Income and Expenditure Account for Alva community Council as at 31st July 2013

	2013	2012
Balance in Bank as at 31st July 2012	1296.56	1626.36
Receipts		
Grant Clacks Council	900	600
Donation	20	
Uncashed Cheques Returned	200	
	<u>2416.56</u>	<u>2226.36</u>
Payments		
Volunteer Expenses	173.88	271.03
Bank Charges	8.76	9.82
Printing	119.98	
Poppy Wreath	38.60	33.50
Misc Expenses	47.7	160.29
Grants	1000	180.00
Web /charges		70.16
funds Transfer		200.00
AGHT		5.00
	<u>1388.92</u>	<u>929.80</u>
Cash In Bank	1027.64	1296.56

Balanced as per Bank Statement

31/10/13

Maureen E. S. 2013

Income and Expenditure Account for Alva community Council Special Events Account as at 31st July 2013

	2013
Balance in Bank as at 31st July 2012	209
Receipts	
Grant Awards for All	9250
Reimbursement of Telephone	9
	9259
Payments	
Scouts	100
Alva Academy	50
Toddlers	50
	200
Cash In Bank	9268

Balanced as per Bank Statement

30/11/13

Mauraen Eg