

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 11 January 2016, 7.30pm

Venue: Alva Baptist Church

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| Lynn Cameron – Chairperson Sub Committee- Events Sub Committee - CAPlan | LC | Philip Ward – Vice Chairperson Convener – Data Protection / IT / Website | PW |
| Secretary – Linda Greig Convener – Environment inc Parks & Alva Glen Sub Committee – Events Sub Committee - Licensing & Planning | LG | Anne Spruce – Treasurer Sub Committee – Events Sub Committee - CAPlan | AS |
| Sandra Rees Convener - Planning Community Action Plan Coordinator Sub Committee - Events | SR | Kirsty Wilson Convener- Health inc Alva Health Centre Patient Group | KW |
| Ian Cameron- Sub Committee - Licensing & Planning | ICa | Iain Craig Sub Committee – CAPlan Sub Committee - Events | ICr |
| Gemma Waghorn Convener – Education inc School Council & PTA Sub Committee – Events Sub Committee - CAPlan | GW | Community Councillors in attendance – Lynn, Linda, Anne, Sandra, Gemma, Ian & Iain. Minutes - Sandra | |

In Attendance:

Members of Public (MOP) x 10

Elected Councillors

Cllrs Donald Balsillie & Archie Drummond

| Agenda Item | Minutes of Item Discussed | Action By |
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| 1 | Welcome and Introductions Lynn welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. | |
| 2 | Apologies Apologies from Phil Ward & Kirsty Wilson | |
| 3 | Declaration of Conflict of Interest None | |
| 4 | Minutes of Previous Meeting on 08/12/2015 Sandra's name to be added to those in attendance. Some minor spelling to be checked. Proposed by Ian Cameron, seconded by Sandra Rees. | LG |
| 5 | Matters Arising from Previous Minutes None | |
| 6 | Police Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PC James Millar attended and gave a report. Attached. • There was continuation of last months discussion regarding the issue of parking on double yellow lines in Alva. Of particular note was Queen Street, where traffic travelling north to the junction with Stirling Street have to use the oncoming lane to access the junction due to cars parked | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> on the double yellow lines next to the fast food outlet. Other similar illegal parking issues were discussed including the junction at Stirling Street / Croftshaw Road. PC Millar assured ACC that Police would observe drivers parking illegally in Alva & warnings & tickets will be issued. | |
| 7 | Office Bearers Reports | |
| 7.1 | <p>Chairperson Report – Lynn Cameron</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Years Honours List - Lynn congratulated our Treasurer, Anne Spruce, who is included in the New Year Honours List, she will be awarded the Order of The British Empire Medal for services to young people and community in Alva. A round of applause was given. Christmas lights - were removed from town centre lampposts today. EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund - On 27 January Lynn will attend a meeting at EDF. Currently the EDF panel consider applications twice per year in April and October from groups in the 4 Hillfoots towns, any group may only submit one application each time. The EDF panel are reviewing this criteria. | |
| 7.2 | <p>Secretary Report – Linda Greig</p> <p>Keith Brown MSP Clackmannanshire & Dunblane wrote to Alva Community Council (ACC) to congratulate us on this years Christmas Lights display in Alva and the Christmas Fayre Event organised by ACC. He would like to express his thanks for all the great work that ACC undertake in the community over the year and as always, if he can be of any assistance not to hesitate to getting in touch with him.</p> <p>Alva Post Office - MSP Keith Brown & MP Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh have been contacted by Post Office Ltd with regards to proposed changes to the services provided from Alva Post Office. To allow them to respond to the communication from Post Office Ltd with regards to how the changes may impact on constituents, they would be grateful if the Community Council could provide them with their views on this matter.</p> <p>The matter was discussed. Some consider the shop is badly in need of refurbishment inside and out so this is welcome news. Potential issues of privacy when being served at the PO counter were mentioned. The shop would have longer opening hours i.e. 7am to 10pm but it was unclear whether PO services would be available all this time. It is not yet known what sort of merchandise the shop would sell. Linda will reply to the elected members advising that there are no initial concerns and ask for more detailed information.</p> <p>Future Proofing your Group – Lesley Baillie has sent ACC an invitation to this event on Tuesday 2nd February 2016. 6.00pm for 6.30pm to 9.00 pm at the Makers Bistro, Alloa. Anne Spruce and Iain Craig may attend and bring a report to the next ACC meeting</p> <p>Tony Kelly, an independent facilitator from the Tenant Participation Advisory Service, will lead a one-off session for Community Councillors and Federation and Tenant Group members who are interested in exploring the factors determining the continuity of their group.</p> <p>The session has been designed specifically for community councils and tenants & residents associations. Registration is now open for up to two members with ideas, experience or knowledge to share from.</p> | <p>LG</p> <p>AS ICr</p> |

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| 7.3 | <p>Treasurer Report – Anne Spruce <u>Special Events Account</u></p> <p>Balance on the account is £8590.25 of which £5282.16 is ring-fenced (for action plan and Christmas lights). Balance £3308.09.</p> <p><u>Ordinary Account</u></p> <p>Balance £2047.81</p> | |
| 8 | Convener Reports | |
| 8.1 | <p>Environment including Parks and Alva Glen – Linda</p> <p>Unsafe Sign - Linda asked elected Cllrs why nothing has been done about the unsafe sign on junction of Stirling Street and Cobden Street that was reported last month. Cllr Drummond recommended using the Report It section at www.clacksweb.org.uk</p> <p>Park Benches - 4 new benches are now in place in Johnstone Park.</p> <p>Beautiful Scotland - Communities are being encouraged to enter countrywide environmental campaigns. Local volunteers and entire communities are being urged to come together to clean up and 'green up' the areas in which they live, work and play - and be recognised for their tireless efforts in improving their own villages, towns and cities. As part of the 50th anniversary celebrations, participants will be provided with a free packet of native seeds and asked to plant in the four colours of the Keep Scotland Beautiful saltire logo. Projects will then be assessed for the most innovative and creative planting.</p> | |
| 8.2 | <p>Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) – Gemma</p> <p>Gemma advised she will attend the next JCCF meeting at the end of January.</p> | |
| 8.3 | <p>Planning / Licensing Applications – Sandra</p> <p>Sandra receives a link to Clacks Council's weekly planning bulletin. Nothing to note for Alva in the 11 and 18 Dec bulletins. No bulletin over the festive period. On 11 Jan (date of this meeting) ACC received the link to the bulletin of 8 Jan in which there is the following application;</p> <p>Planning Application for land at former Alva Glen Hotel Ref- 15/00295/FULL. Erection of 24 flats. There had apparently been a Neighbour Notification advertisement in local press on 30 December.</p> <p>Sandra had not had time to study the application in detail prior to the meeting but brought copies of some of the documents for perusal. Following examination of the plans and discussion it was agreed that Sandra would send a letter including objections to the proposal for only 16 parking spaces for the 24 flats and the height of the 4 storey building. Copy of the letter is attached to these minutes. POST MEETING NOTE. The letter is now a public document along with other letters of concern/objection at www.clacksweb.org.uk/planning</p> | SR |
| 8.4 | <p>Health Convener – Kirsty</p> <p>No report.</p> | |
| 8.5 | <p>IT/Website / Data Protection – Philip</p> <p>No report.</p> | |

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| 8.6 | <p>Education – Gemma</p> <p>No report.</p> | |
| 8 | <p>Sub Committee Reports</p> | |
| 8.1 | <p>Events - Lynn, Linda, Anne, Sandra, Gemma & Iain.</p> <p>The Events group are meeting on 25 January to start arranging the Fun Day.</p> | |
| 8.2 | <p>CAPlan – Sandra</p> <p>The Community Action Plan (CAPlan) Steering Group haven't met since the last Community Council meeting in December. A meeting is planned for 18/01/16 when the group will discuss the proposal from Alloa Town Centre BID (Business Improvement District) that we discuss / share experiences to find out what opportunities may exist for future partnership working.</p> <p>There was an under representation of younger people in the Alva CAPlan. The report recommends outreach to younger people to establish their views, include them in decisions made and work with them as we consider the future of the town. Lynn advised that EDF (see item 7.1) are considering funding a project that will work with young people across the 4 Hillfoots towns. Lynn will bring an update to the February meeting.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>Clackmannanshire Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie</p> <p>Clackmannanshire Council Budget – Clackmannanshire Council (CC) now have to make an additional £2m savings in the 2016/17 budget, a total of £12.9m. The online consultation 2016/2017 is now live. Computers are available at Alva Community Access Point (CAP) as are budget consultation forms.</p> <p>Grants – Cllr Balsillie is glad to be working with ACC as we can access grants for various community projects that Local Authorities can't access. For Example, Tesco Local Community Fund from sale of carrier bags will be used to fund environmental improvement projects across the UK e.g. community gardens & sports facilities. Tesco customers vote for the projects they most want in their local area. 6 projects will receive funding in each of the 432 regions. Individual projects will range from £8,000 to £12,000. It was agreed that this would be discussed further at the CAPlan meeting on 18/01/16 (see item 8.2).</p> <p>Land at Former Alva Academy – Cllr Balsille explained work on the eco-housing at Erskine Street/Queen Street is scheduled to commence soon. Tigh Grian Ltd is the developer and have appointed Marshall Construction to build 48 houses for Link & Paragon Housing Association. Clackmannanshire Council have 100% nomination rights for the 1st allocation of all 48 houses, however, after that they will have 50% nomination rights.</p> <p>Storage Container. LC asked Cllr Balsillie for an update on the clearance of the area identified for a storage container to be situated for use by ACC. Cllr Balsillie will make enquiries and inform LC.</p> <p>Cllr Archie Drummond</p> <p>Refugee Families – Cllr Drummond is glad that 2 refugee families have settled in Alva. He thanked the community who have been supportive. ICA added that the families are very happy and thankful for help.</p> <p>Clacks Council Head of Education – Cllr Drummond reported that a Head of Education is being recruited. There is potential to enhance services and support in schools.</p> | <p>CAPlan</p> <p>Cllr DB</p> |

Alva Community Council

Mr Grant Baxter
Kilncraigs
Greenside Street
Alloa
FK10 1EB

18 January 2016

Dear Mr Baxter

Planning Application Number: 15/00295/FULL
Development: Proposed Erection of 24 Flats
Location: Former Alva Glen Hotel, 59 Stirling Street, Alva

On behalf of Alva Community Council I write in connection with the above planning application.

The Community Council are pleased to see some activity regarding this land in Alva town centre, however following examination of the plans we wish to make the following objections:

16 parking spaces for 24 flats.

The Local Development Plan (LDP) states that the H39 site at the former Alva Glen Hotel is suitable for a flatted development of 12 units. The conflicting application for 24 flats with only 16 parking spaces is a major concern to the Community Council as Alva town centre parking issues are well documented. We understand that Police and Clackmannanshire Council Roads and Transport Department share our concerns.

The inadequacy of surrounding roads to cope with the additional car parking required will put increased burden on highway safety. The roads surrounding this land are already busy and congested, the additional demand for roadside parking will cause traffic problems and create a safety hazard for other motorists.

Alva Community Council facilitated a Community Action Plan Report that was launched in November 2015. Lack of parking in the town centre is mentioned 5 times in the report at sections 5.2, 6.4, 7.1, 7.3 and 11.3. There are various empty shop units in the town centre and many of those remaining are struggling to survive; lack of parking has been identified as a major factor. Overspill parking from the proposed housing development would devastate the vitality of the town centre.

Lack of green space in Alva Town Centre

Clackmannanshire Council acknowledged the request from Alva Community Council that a community garden should be incorporated into plans for this site. This has not been addressed in this application.

The 4 storey block of flats will be visually overbearing.

The proposed development by reason of its scale and height is an inappropriate design for Alva town centre. Such a large building would be totally out of keeping with the character of neighbouring properties and would have an unacceptably adverse impact on the visual amenity of the town centre. There has been failure to take opportunities available for improving the character of the local environment and the way it functions.

Alva Community Council ask that Clackmannanshire Council refuse this Planning Application and encourage the applicant to resubmit a building design that is smaller, less intrusive and more sensitive to the character of the town centre and with at least 125% parking as set by the National Roads Development Guide.

One or two Community Councillors may like to attend the meeting at which this application is expected to be decided. Could you please let me know as soon as possible the date of the meeting.

Finally, may I suggest when planning permission is eventually agreed and granted that Clackmannanshire Council reflect on the history of the land when considering a name for the building. It is my understanding that when the former hotel was built it was originally named the 'Bluebell Tavern'. I propose that the development is named Bluebell Court or Bluebell Place.

Yours Sincerely

Sandra Rees
Planning Convener
Alva Community Council



ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL
11/01/2016

INTRODUCTION

I am Police Constable 247 James Miller, the community constable with the responsibility for Ward 2 - Clackmannanshire North and I am stationed at Alloa Police Office.

There are two Community Policing Sergeants (Graham Cadden & Catherine Sharkey) and they are stationed at Alloa Police Office. If you require to make contact direct catherine.sharkey@scotland.pnn.police.uk or graham.cadden@scotland.pnn.police.uk

In the last month, we have responded to 86 calls for the Alva area which resulted in 9 crimes being recorded: 5 are undetected and 4 are detected.

PRIORITIES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In the last month, we have 3 recorded crimes linked with anti-social behaviour as detailed below -

On 22nd December 2015, at Croftshaw Road, Alva, 2 juveniles were found by police to be acting in a threatening and abusive manner. They were also responsible for damaging property and were reported for these offences.

On 27th December 2015, at Brook Street, Alva, a male was acting in a threatening and abusive manner towards police. He was arrested and a report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 7th January 2016, at Dalmore Drive, Alva, a report was received of persons acting in a threatening and abusive manner. Police attended and are following up on a positive line of enquiry.

VANDALISM

In the last month, we have 3 recorded crimes relating to vandalism and are as follows:-

Overnight from the 10th to 11th December 2015, a car mirror was vandalised whilst it was parked and unattended in Erskine Street, Alva. Enquiries are ongoing to identify and trace the person responsible.

In the early hours of 19th December 2015, at Myretoungate, Alva, the window of the bus shelter was smashed by 2 males. Police are following several lines of enquiry to identify and trace the males responsible.



On 29th December 2015, a window was smashed at a residential dwelling at Dalmore Drive, Alva. Enquiries are continuing to identify and trace the person responsible.

VIOLENCE

Since the last meeting, we have 1 recorded crime relating to violence and is as follows:-

On 14th December 2015, an assault and theft occurred at a residential dwelling in Craighorn Road, Alva. A male has been charged and reported for these offences and he was known to the victim.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

Since the last meeting, we have 1 recorded crime relating to theft or aggravations thereof, which is as follows:-

Overnight from 22nd to 23rd December 2015, a metal bin was stolen from a residential dwelling in Dalmore Drive, Alva. Enquiries have been concluded with no suspect being identified.

ROAD TRAFFIC

Since the last meeting, we have 1 recorded road traffic offence, which is as follows:-

On 17th December 2015, a male was arrested for various driving offences in East Stirling Street, Alva. The offences related to his license, insurance and his demeanour.

I would again like to encourage anyone with any information regarding persons who drink and drive or use drugs and drive to contact us on 101. The information will be dealt with in the strictest of confidence and will assist in making your community and roads safer.

ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

In response to concerns expressed over parking on the pavement and on double yellow lines in Stirling Street, Alva, PC Brent Chambers has visited several businesses nearby to request their assistance in persuading their customers to park safely and responsibly.

It is my intention to carry out a period of monitoring, education and then enforcement to try and address the problem.

Facebook and Twitter – Community Messages can be placed on local Police sites via Community Sergeant.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED



FEEDBACK FROM MEETING

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED