

# Alva Community Council (ACC)

## Minutes of Meeting, Monday 8 April, 7.30pm

### Venue: Alva Baptist Church

#### Community Councillors Present:

<b>Jim Lyle</b> (JL), Chairperson	<b>Lynn Cameron</b> (LC), Vice-Chairperson
<b>Mary Dalrymple</b> , (MD) Secretary	<b>Russ Fenton</b> (RF), Treasurer
<b>Sandra Rees</b> (SR), Minute Secretary	<b>Philip Ward</b> (PW), IT/Website Convener
<b>Ian Cameron</b> (IC), Planning Convener	<b>Kirsty Wilson</b> (KW), PPHF Co-ordinator
<b>Anne Spruce</b> (AS)	<b>Gemma Waghorn</b> (GW)
<b>Linda Grieg</b> (LG)	<b>Margaret McArthur</b> (MMcA)

#### In Attendance:

Members of Public (MOP) x 8

Cllr Archie Drummond (AD), Cllr Donald Balsillie (DB), Cllr Robert McGill (RMcG)

PC David Armitage (DA)

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> - Jim Lyle opened the meeting extending a welcome to those in attendance. He explained that only Mary, Russ and Kirsty are surviving members of the previous ACC forum. The other nine are new Councillors and this is their second meeting.	
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Police Update</b> - PC David Armitage explained that <b>Police Scotland</b> is now the police force of Scotland. It was formed last week through the merger of the previous eight Scottish police forces and will have several effects on local police including role of Community Constable. From 16 April there will be team of twelve Community Constables for Clackmannanshire, none will be assigned to any particular town so there won't be the usual photo of your Community Constable on posters and it could be other PC's attending ACC meetings in future. It was explained there are pros and cons but Police responses will be the same. Cllr Robert McGill expressed concern that the new Community Constable Team will not be able to build up relationships with youth in the same way as a designated officer did before.</p> <p>Police areas are now 'wards' and Alva is North with Tillicoultry and Coalsnaughton. Priorities are Anti-Social Behaviour, Roads, Vehicle Crime, Shoplifting, Drug related offences, Illegal Parking. Bollards have been installed on some pavements on main street but the cost of doing the remainder is excessive due to underground services being too high. PC Armitage confirmed there would soon be mobile speed camera patrols at the Industrial Estate. MOP asked if they could also set up on main street as problems there with speeding. PC Armitage explained there are plans to use social media e.g. Facebook &amp; Twitter to communicate with the public. He confirmed the new UK phone number to contact Police for non-emergency assistance;</p> <p><b>101</b> Non- Emergency: <b>999</b> Emergency:</p>	
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Resignation of George Furmage as Treasurer / ACC member</b> Jim Lyle thanked George for his contribution to ACC and wished him well. Russ Fenton has replaced George as Treasurer.</p>	

3	<p><b>Constitution</b> - following discussion it was agreed to adopt the model constitution until the AGM then make changes if required. This was proposed by Anne Spruce and seconded by Lynn Cameron.</p>	
4	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting on 11/03/13</b> - Accepted.</p>	
4.1	<p><b>Matters Arising from Minutes of Meeting on 11/03/12</b> -</p> <p><b>JCCF</b> - Mary explained that she attends <b>Joint Community Council Forum</b> and is the ACC point of contact for emails, etc. She asked if any of the other Community Councillors would like to take this on. There were no volunteers but Jim Lyle suggested that potentially any of the Councillors could attend any JCCF meeting. He considers that JCCF is not a statutory body and has some concerns that will be discussed at the next meeting.</p>	
5	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting in November 2012</b> - Mary confirmed that following some debate over whether to make these public they have now been typed up and will be put in public forum to comply with the Constitution.</p>	MD
6	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting in December 2012</b>- Mary advised the December meeting was not a public meeting and was duly noted. Reverend David Fraser, returned the undated cheque that had been issued to Alva Baptist Church by the previous Treasurer of ACC following the December meeting as the accompanying letter, which was unsigned and undated, stated that it was from the disbursement of funds from the wound-up ACC. As ACC was not being wound-up this was inaccurate so David Fraser handed the cheque back as a matter of integrity. Discussion followed about cheques issued inappropriately to other community groups to disperse ACC funds and it was unanimously agreed not to pursue these and to move on. Linda Grieg expressed concern that ACC could be seen to be covering up this issue. Jim Lyle reassured that there is no cover up as the situation is being minuted and these will be made public. Cllr Donald Balsillie considered ACC had made the correct decision.</p>	MD
6.1	<p><b>Councillors Reports</b></p> <p><b>Housing Developments/Community Centre</b> - Jim Lyle asked the three elected Cllrs if they could comment on houses to be built on the site of old school in Erskine Street / Queen Street and why Council meetings about this were held in secret as a MOP had asked ACC to investigate following an article in local press. Jim asked if the developer could be instructed to build a Community Centre as part of the deal with the Council. Cllr Donald Balsillie explained private developers aren't interested so the Council is considering selling the land for less than full value in exchange for cheaper development. The planning application has been lodged and public can submit comments/objections from 16 May.</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie advised the sites at Stephen Clarks / Golf Course and at Hodgsons have planning permission for houses but no work has started so this is open for debate and suggested that ACC could lead this. Jim mentioned the £2.6 million that was set aside on a previous occasion for a Community Centre that didn't materialise. Donald suggested ACC clarify exactly what is required e.g. meeting space, Wi-Fi, etc, to be more specific. Cllr Archie Drummond advised the previous ACC members hadn't taken the opportunity to pursue developers for community benefits and encouraged the new ACC members to take this on.</p>	

	<p>Cllr Donald Balsillie advised that Ochil Leisure Enterprises (OLE) will be issuing a questionnaire to establish what services the public want at Ochil Leisure Centre (OLC) and suggested that ACC get involved in discussions about what Alva needs for next 20+ years. MOP, David Fraser, suggested ACC meet prior to 16 May to discuss the way forward. <b>POST MEETING NOTE:</b> there will be an interim public meeting of ACC on Monday 22 April, 7.30pm at OLC. Priya Clark, OLE Development Officer, is able to attend.</p> <p><b>Burgh Land</b> - Jim Lyle asked about old Alva Burgh rules and whether unused land could still be utilised. It was confirmed that the Burgh's assets were given to the new Clackmannanshire Council in 1975 reform. Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed that any old Burgh land cannot now be reclaimed.</p> <p><b>Alva Glen Hotel</b> - Cllr Donald Balsillie explained the owners overestimate the current value and refused the two formal offers made. Clackmannanshire Council have taken steps to acquire the former hotel by Compulsory Purchase Order. Owners have now engaged a consultant to assess the value. The Council must follow due process and this will determine the time-scale.</p> <p><b>Buses to Forth Valley Royal Hospital</b> - Cllr Robert McGill asked if ACC were aware of the NHS proposal to cut the H1 &amp; H2 buses from Hillfoots towns to the new hospital in Larbert. Cllr Archie Drummond said that FVHB used to deliver services from Stirling and one of the conditions of the move to Larbert was to provide transport so the buses are not a commercial bus service. FVHB are renegeing on the agreement, passing transport costs onto the community. Archie strongly suggests ACC write to Chief Executive as three weeks ago he was unaware of the proposal. Kirsty Wilson, PPHF Co-ordinator confirmed she was aware of this and would write a letter. Cllr Donald Balsillie agreed with Archie adding that Clacks Council has no leverage as the agreement was with Falkirk Council as they had the planning application.</p> <p><b>Scotfest Festival-</b> Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed that the Food Festival &amp; Craft Exhibition will take place once again in Cochrane Hall, Alva on 14 September 2013. It is organised by Discover Clackmannanshire Tourism Group who are looking for volunteers to man car parks, etc. Kirsty asked if the grass in park would be repaired by then.</p>	KW
7	<p><b>Planning</b> - On behalf of husband Ian Cameron, Planning Convener, Lynn Cameron reported the only planning application that may cause concern is the extension to the existing wind farm at West of Burnfoot Hill at Tillicoultry. The proposal is for 6 additional turbines and associated buildings. These are unlikely to be visible from Alva. 36 objections have been submitted to Clackmannanshire Council including one by previous Councillors of ACC. Following discussion it was agreed that current Councillors of ACC will not pursue the objection lodged by former members.</p>	
8	<p><b>Royal Bank of Scotland Closure of Alva Branch</b> - Mary Dalrymple issued a draft petition however it was agreed that ACC would initially send a letter to RBS CEO, Steven Hester asking that the decision is reversed.</p> <p><b>Treasurers Report</b> - ACC are in process of clarifying the accounts held and considering moving to Bank of Scotland. Signatories for bank account agreed at meeting on 11/03/13 will be any 2 of 4. Russ Fenton, Jim Lyle, Lynn Cameron and Mary Dalrymple.</p>	MD

<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>IT Update</b> - IT/Website Convener, Philip Ward, suggested ACC purchase a domain and virtual private server. Purchase was agreed but members asked Philip to source a Scottish based provider which may increase quotes of £4.42 p.a. and £4.99 p.m. respectively.  <b>Website:</b> this would be a Wordpress system.  <b>Mailing List Software:</b> This would enable us to have a single email address for the whole community council and one for each sub-group e.g. councillors@, health@, info@, etc. This would relieve individuals from having to manage their own lists of email addresses  <b>Secure Document Storage:</b> Could host on own server.  <b>Facebook / Twitter Pages:</b> Philip considers ACC should have these.  <b>Calendar:</b> Google.  <b>Task Group:</b> Philip asked for two ACC councillors to form a task group with him.</p> <p>It was agreed to discuss these IT items further at the interim meeting at OLC on 22 April at 7.30pm.</p>	<p>PW</p>
<p><b>10 11 12</b></p>	<p><b>Due to time constraints agenda items 10, 11 and 12 were adjourned to the next meeting on 13 May 2013.</b></p> <p>10. Christmas Task Group - LC, LG, GW &amp; MD  11. Logo Task Group - to be set up.  12. Data Protection - JL</p>	
<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>Format of Alva Community Council meetings</b> - Jim Lyle clarified that members of the public (MOP) could only speak if the Chair agrees. He explained that at each meeting ACC Councillors will have a pre-meeting at 7pm to agree the agenda, etc. MOP's are welcome to attend the public meeting from 7.30pm. Jim offered reassurance that no decisions would be made at the pre-meeting.</p>	
	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> Monday 13 May 2013  7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors. 7.30pm Public Meeting</p> <p><b>Interim Meeting</b> - 22 April 2013 at Ochil Leisure Centre.</p>	
	<p><b>Meeting closed at 9.45pm.</b></p>	

