

Alva Community Council (ACC)

Minutes of Meeting, Monday 13 May, 7.30pm

Venue: Alva Baptist Church

Community Councillors Present:

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

In Attendance:

Members of Public (MOP) x 7

Cllr Donald Balsillie (DB), Cllr Robert McGill (RMcG)

PC Ewan Brodie (EB)

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions Lynn Cameron opened the meeting extending a welcome to those in attendance.	
2	Apologies Margaret McArthur	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting Proposed by Ann Spruce, seconded by Kirsty Wilson. (RF missing from Action By column at item 8)	
4	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes None	
5	Police Update by PC Ewan Brodie See appendix	
6	Office Bearers Reports	
6.1	Chairperson Report Vice-Chairperson, Lynn Cameron confirmed that Chairperson, Jim Lyle has resigned. It was agreed that Lynn will be Acting Chairperson until the AGM in September.	
6.2	Secretary Report Mary Dalrymple attended Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) meetings in December and March. Agenda items included the new Policing arrangements and to explain these further to ACC she has invited Chief Inspector Stevie Sneddon to attend the next meeting on 10/06/13. Mary confirmed that the meeting on 10/06/13 will be held in Alva Baptist Church. Monthly meetings will resume after Summer	

	on 09/09/13 in Ochil Leisure Centre (OLC) meeting room. On behalf of ACC Mary thanked Rev David Fraser and members of Alva Baptist Church for providing a venue and hospitality for several years.	
6.3	Treasurer Report Russ Fenton reported that he has statements relating to two accounts but they still have the name of the previous treasurer on them despite informing the bank of the new signatories. Following discussion it was agreed that Russ and Lynn would make an appointment to speak to the Bank Manager.	RF LC
6.4	Conveners Report -Public Partnership Health Forum (PPHF) Kirsty will attend the PPHF meeting on 03/06/13. Kirsty wrote a letter to CE of Forth Valley Health Board regarding the proposal to cut the H1 and H2 buses from Hillfoots towns but got a very short reply stating that the proposal was still being discussed. Cllr Donald Balsillie advised of a recent press release regarding the proposed withdrawal of H1 and H2 buses from Hillfoots towns. Donald said this will be discussed at Clackmannanshire Council and he hopes for cross party support to reject the proposal as FVHB are renegeing on Section 75 agreement. Falkirk Council were the planning authority and agreed a bus service incorporating the Hillfoots. Donald has written to Minster for Transport, Keith Brown and Alex Neil MSP to express displeasure. Labour Cllr Bobby McGill agreed with SNP Cllr Donald Balsillie adding that FVHB made the decision to put the hospital far away from much of the population it serves on the understanding they would provide a bus service.	
6.5	Convener Report - Planning Ian Cameron confirmed that there were no planning applications to discuss.	
6.6	Convener Report - IT/Website See item 14.	
7	Distribution of Minutes. Sandra Rees clarified that after each meeting she will email draft minutes to all ACC members quoted in them to check for accuracy. Those Councillors should then advise whether any amendments are required which will be done prior to the final version being copied to all ACC members. Minutes require to be approved at the next meeting before being put in the public file at Alva Library or posted on the website. E.G. April minutes were not posted on website until after approval the May meeting. Clackmannanshire Council Liaison Officer, Lesley Baillie will be able to access the minutes on the website.	
8	Councillors Reports Alva Glen Hotel - Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed that Clackmannanshire Council will discuss this at a meeting on Thursday 16 May.	

POST MEETING NOTE: Press release 20 May 2013

Clackmannanshire Council is to proceed to acquire the former Alva Glen Hotel by Compulsory Purchase Order.

In December the Enterprise and Environment Committee agreed to make a formal offer to the owner and in the event that the offer was declined to commence compulsory purchase proceedings and report the matter to Council.

On Thursday councillors were told that attempts to buy the property voluntarily had failed, as have attempts to get the owners to carry out necessary repairs to the property.

The report to Committee advised Members that a valuation report from the District Valuer had assessed the property as having a "nominal" value but that an inflated offer had been made based on the estimated opportunity cost of avoiding the need for compulsory purchase action. This too failed, so it has now been agreed to obtain the property by a Compulsory Purchase Order.

Council Leader, Councillor Gary Womersley said: "It is perhaps not surprising that the offer has been rejected, given that the owners appear to have a very inflated view of the current value of their property. The owners have repeatedly failed to carry out any significant repairs to the property or address its unacceptable condition.

"The former Alva Glen Hotel has become a dangerous structure and there is little to be gained in prolonging unproductive negotiations if the Council is prepared to go down this route. Further evidence of the continuing deterioration of the condition of the building is the recent direct action the Council has taken in respect of a dangerous chimney on the property."

The Council's Housing Strategy has identified Alva town centre as one where poor property condition needs to be addressed and it is envisaged that the Clackmannanshire Local Development Plan will promote town centre regeneration which will include the provision of affordable and social housing.

The potential redevelopment of this site for housing use would therefore accord with existing and proposed strategies and policies.

Housing Developments/Community Centre - Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed that housing will be built on the old Alva Academy site but planning permission is still required. After the Clackmannanshire Council meeting on 16 May this will be open to the public domain.

Park / Alva Games - Alva Games will take place as usual in Johnstone Park. However, Cllr Donald Balsillie explained that to avoid further damage to the park the fairground will be on the ground at back of Ochil Leisure Centre adjacent to the park. The ground on the corner of Queen Street and Erskine Street may be used for parking vehicles belonging to the Showmen.

Dog Fouling - Cllr Donald Balsillie explained Clackmannanshire

	<p>Council are launching a new initiative to encourage dog owners to take responsibility for clearing up after their pet. 'Green' dog walkers will be provided with brightly coloured spray to put on any dog faeces they see while walking their own dog. The idea is that irresponsible owners will return to the same area and hopefully be shamed into clearing up. Cllr Robert McGill agreed that irresponsible owners should be named and shamed. <i>It is a criminal offence under the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003 for an owner to fail to clear up after their dog without good reason and they may be liable for Fixed Penalty Notice of £40.</i> Donald encouraged members of the public to report dog fouling to Clacks Council. One of the ways this can be done is via www.clacksweb.org.uk however times, location and description of dog and owner are required.</p> <p>Discussion followed about dog bins, a MOP mentioned lack of dog bins on Brook Street, however, Cllr Donald Balsillie considers that there are enough and questioned the need for more bins when dog bags can be put in any street bin. MOP said the dog bins are usually overflowing. Sandra Rees said she'd reported the overflowing bin at the foot of the glen via www.clacksweb.org.uk and it was emptied the next day. Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed that dog fouling bags can be obtained FREE from council offices.</p> <p>Police Cllr Robert McGill attended the Police Scotland public forum at Forth Valley College where the merging of 8 forces was discussed. Robert considers Police Scotland to be a in a state of shambles. Mary Dalrymple confirmed that Chief Inspector Stevie Sneddon will attend the next meeting on 10/06/13.</p>																							
<p>9</p>	<p>Nomination of Conveners</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="277 1137 1299 1648"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Convener</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Alva Games</td> <td>Lynn Cameron</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alva Glen Committee</td> <td>Linda Greig & Gemma Waghorn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alva Health Centre Patient Group</td> <td>Kirsty Wilson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Data Protection</td> <td>Philip Ward</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education</td> <td>Gemma Waghorn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Environment</td> <td>Lynn Cameron</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF)</td> <td>Mary Dalrymple</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Licensing Applications - including for ACC</td> <td>Ian Cameron</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parks</td> <td>Sandra Rees</td> </tr> <tr> <td>School Council / PTA</td> <td>Gemma Waghorn</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Convener	Alva Games	Lynn Cameron	Alva Glen Committee	Linda Greig & Gemma Waghorn	Alva Health Centre Patient Group	Kirsty Wilson	Data Protection	Philip Ward	Education	Gemma Waghorn	Environment	Lynn Cameron	Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF)	Mary Dalrymple	Licensing Applications - including for ACC	Ian Cameron	Parks	Sandra Rees	School Council / PTA	Gemma Waghorn	
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<p>9.1</p>	<p>Alva Games</p> <p>Lynn Cameron has tried to contact Alva Games Secretary, Craig Dunbar but has had no response. She will try again as wants to discuss the shop window dressing competition.</p>	<p>LC</p>																						
<p>10</p>	<p>December Meeting</p> <p>Mary Dalrymple asked if ACC members would consider re-introducing a December meeting. Philip Ward suggested, and others agreed, that we wait till November to see if a December</p>																							

	meeting is required as the constitution states extra-ordinary meetings can be called.	
11	<p>Events Sub Group (Lynn Cameron, Linda Grieg, Gemma Waghorn & Mary Dalrymple)</p> <p>Linda explained the group has discussed a late night shopping event on 5 December, decorating the town with lights, etc, but funding is required. Discussion followed about various grants that may be available, etc.</p> <p>Meanwhile, there is a Guess the Dolly's Birthday in (Lynn & Ian Cameron's) Higglety Pigglety shop on Alva's main street, 50p per guess. All proceeds to Alva Community Council Fundraising for Christmas Lights.</p>	
12	<p>Fundraising within the Community</p> <p>Gemma Waghorn has spoken to some members of the community who would like a Family Fun Day, perhaps with a disco.</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie suggested teaming up with other community groups with similar aims, e.g Ochil Leisure Centre, Alva Glen Group, Alva Primary PTA. Donald suggested investigating a grant from EDF Energy. Mary Dalrymple confirmed she and Linda Greig have submitted an application to Awards For All.</p>	Events Sub Group
13	<p>Logo Sub Group - (Philip Ward & Lynn Cameron)</p> <p>Lynn Cameron agreed to design a logo and Philip Ward will put it on computer.</p>	LC PW
14	<p>IT Sub Group - (Philip Ward, Mary Dalrymple and Gemma Waghorn)</p> <p>Philip and MOP, David Fraser, will put items on website that will automatically go to Facebook and Twitter. MOP, Darren Whyte, also agreed to assist. www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk is ACC's website and ideas should be sent to webmaster@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk</p>	PW
15	<p>Bank Update</p> <p>see Treasurers Report at item 6.3.</p>	
16	<p>OLE / ACC Joint Working for Community Hub</p> <p>Following the interim meeting on 22/04/13 a joint letter from Ochil Leisure Enterprises (OLE) and Alva Community Council (ACC) was sent to Clackmannanshire Council registering an interest in some of the land at the former Alva Academy site. The proposal is to extend the footprint of Ochil Leisure Centre (OLC) to incorporate a Community Hub for which OLE and ACC would seek advice and consultation to establish what community groups need.</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed that Colin Machin has option of land west of Queen Street i.e. the land adjacent to OLC. There is a 'blue paper' to secure land east of Queen Street i.e. at Erskine Street.</p> <p>POST MEETING NOTE: alloalive.com (also local press) reported on</p>	

	<p>28/05/13 that 48 socially rented homes are to be built on the site of the former Alva Academy after the council agreed to sell the land to developer, Tigh Grian Limited* who have secured Scottish Government grant-funding for the project through the Greener Home Innovation Scheme. They will work in partnership with a Housing Association. The Minister for Housing and Welfare announced on 18/03/13 a grant to Tigh Grian Ltd of £2,267,616 for the Alva site. Clackmannanshire Council sold the land to Tigh Grian Ltd for £1 with the condition they are granted full nomination rights. The bid is based on a range of one bedroom four-in-a-block cottage flats and two bedroom semi-detached houses. Initial meetings have been held to explore the scope to relocate the existing Alva Medical Centre to Queen Street.</p> <p>*Colin Machin is a director of Tigh Grian Limited.</p> <p>POST MEETING NOTE: At the June meeting Cllr Donald Balsillie clarified that Tigh Grian Ltd will be offered option of land to EAST of Queen Street i.e. at Erskine Street for the above project if he meets Clackmannanshire Council criteria. (not West of Queen Street as reported above)</p>	
<p>17</p>	<p>AOCB</p> <p>A MOP asked if any other towns are having their hospital buses put off. Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed that some buses from areas of Stirling to Forth Valley Royal Hospital are under threat but none in Falkirk. The MOP expressed concern as it's £3.90 to Stirling then a connection would be needed to the hospital from there. Discussion followed about a community eco bus and demand led services e.g. taxi.</p> <p>A MOP suggested advertising ACC meetings on Facebook and Twitter. Philip Ward confirmed there are plans to do this.</p>	
	<p>Date of Next Meeting Monday 10 June 2013</p> <p>7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors. 7.30pm Public Meeting</p>	
	<p>Meeting closed at 9.15pm.</p>	

**POLICE
SCOTLAND**

Clackmannanshire



ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING 13th April 2013 – 13th May 2013.

PACT PRIORITIES

The PACT priorities for the area that have been identified are mainly youth related Anti-social behaviour during the weekends, in and around the area of The Cochrane Park, Johnstone Park and the area of the swimming pool, Park Street, Alva. The youths involved regularly consume alcohol in the above areas and alcohol is the obvious catalyst for the adverse behaviour.

During the month of May, we have been working in close partnership with the community wardens to provide extra patrols in the above areas. The community wardens currently have the above areas marked as part of their daily monitoring forms and as such will visit these areas at peak times a minimum of 3 times per week.

High visibility patrols in and around the affected areas area being undertaken when possible in an effort to dissuade any further adverse behaviour.

CRIME

Since 13th April 2013, excluding road traffic offences, 10 crimes were detected.

They were as follows,

1x Culpable and Reckless Conduct;

1x Telecommunications Act offence;

1x Assault;

1x Section 38 Breach of the Peace (*Racial*);

1x Breach of the Peace;

1x Breach of Specific Bail Conditions;

1x Antisocial Behaviour etc (Scotland) Act 2004 (*non registered landlord leasing a property*)

In relation to Road Traffic, 9x offences were detected this month to date.

There are 10 crimes which are undetected at this time.

They are as follows;

2x Vandalism;

2x Theft;

1x Willful Fire-raising (*bus shelter*)

1x Hit and Run RTC

1x Fraud (*UKASH*)

1x Theft by Housebreaking

1x Theft from a m/v

1x Assault

There are several named suspects and positive lines of enquiry for a number of the crimes listed above and should be detected in the near future.

CRIMES/INCIDENTS OF NOTE

Theft by Housebreaking – Cadet Hall, Park Street, Alva

A theft by Housebreaking was reported on the 16th April 2013. Entry had been gained via a rear fire emergency door and several items removed from within.

At this time this crime remains undetected however several positive lines of enquiry are available after a successful Scene of Crime Examination was carried out and the property was recovered.

U-KASH Fraud

A report has been received of a current telephone scam involving persons contacting individuals who may be looking for a cash loan. These persons offer the desired cash amount however require the individual to purchase £50 U-KASH vouchers from a local store to confirm their identity and pass the serial number. The serial number allows the £50 to be claimed by the caller.

There is no evidence to suggest that this is an issue solely affecting Alva or Clackmannashire.

At this time this crime is undetected but several positive lines of enquiry are available.

CULPABLE AND RECKLESS CONDUCT – FIREWORKS

A report was received on 12th ^{MAY} ~~April~~ 2013 concerning two young males who were throwing fireworks at pedestrians in Stirling Street and at a property in Caroline Crescent.

This issue was resolved quickly with the two males responsible being traced and kept in custody to appear at Alloa Sheriff Court today (13th ~~April~~ 2013).

MAY

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

As usual I am appealing for any intelligence, whether it be drugs or crime related, in order that we can continue with our proactive approach in policing the Alva area. In particular any information relating to the topics I have raised in this report would be fantastic.

Thanks

PC Euan Brodie 923
Tullibody, Cambus and Glenochil Community Constable
Community Team
Alloa Police Office.
01786 456000 / 101
euane.brodie@scotland.police.pnn.uk