

# Alva Community Council (ACC)

[www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk](http://www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of Meeting, Monday 10 February 2014, 7.30pm**

**Venue: Ochil Leisure Centre, Alva**

## Community Councillors Present:

<b>Lynn Cameron - Chairperson</b> Sub Committee - Events	<b>Philip Ward - Vice Chairperson</b> Convener - Data Protection inc IT & Website
<b>Anne Spruce - Treasurer</b>	<b>Sandra Rees - Minute Secretary</b> Sub Committee - Events
<b>Gemma Waghorn</b> Convener - Education inc School Council & PTA	<b>Kirsty Wilson</b> Convener - Health inc Alva Health Centre Patient Group
<b>Jim Lyle</b> Sub Committee - Planning	<b>Lisa Williams</b>

## In Attendance:

Cllr Donald Balsillie (SNP)      Cllr Archie Drummond (Ind)      Cllr Robert McGill (Lab)  
PC Louise Harding      Community Warden, Steven Vallely  
Members of Public (MOP) x 4

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Minutes of Item Discussed</b>	<b>Action By</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Lynn welcomed those in attendance.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Margaret McArthur.    Linda Grieg.    Ian Cameron.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting 14/01/14</b> Minutes proposed by Anne Spruce.    Seconded by Jim Lyle	
<b>4</b>	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b> None.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Police Report</b>  Referring to the Police Report (copy attached) the PC answered questions from MOP's and Councillors including the disturbance at Dalmore Drive within the last few days involving a repeat offender. The PC confirmed that there is a team of Community PC's including PC's Smith and Armitage. There was discussion about the requirement for three items of information before the Sheriff will issue a warrant e.g. car registration, people frequenting an address, etc. Cllr Bobby McGill asked the PC if there was an update on the changes to Police Scotland, the PC confirmed there has been no confirmation to date. Cllr Archie Drummond thinks Community Officers are to be increased.  PC Louise Harding explained that she works with the Community Warden Team and introduced Community Warden, Steven Vallely.  Steven explained that Community Wardens look out for vulnerable people e.g. older people, are additional eyes and ears of the community assisting in crime prevention, become involved with young people to build a constructive dialogue, take rapid action on vandalism, graffiti and litter. They have issued fixed penalty notices regarding dog fouling and can do so for litter dropping also. A MOP asked about the recent wheelie bin fire in Johnstone Street, Steven explained it occurred at 3am and there were no witnesses. A MOP asked about monitoring of disabled parking spaces, Steven confirmed that Traffic Wardens have been withdrawn in some areas and this task may become remit of Community Wardens. A MOP asked why	

	dog bins are not emptied regularly as those in the park are full and why the ordinary bins have been removed from the park. Steven suggested the MOP contacts Environmental Services.	
<b>6</b>	<b>Office Bearers Reports</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	<p><b>Chairperson Report - Lynn Cameron</b></p> <p><b>RBS</b> Lynn gave an update on the RBS saga regarding the changes of signatories on ACC accounts. RBS have apologised and have offered £100 compensation which will be paid into the main account.</p> <p>Following discussion it was agreed to send £40 to Alva Baptist Church for hosting ACC's meeting in January when a larger venue was required to accommodate the MOP's attending for discussion on the Local Development Plan. Anne agreed to send a cheque.</p> <p><b>EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund</b> Lynn confirmed that she and Margaret will soon meet with a rep from EDF Community Fund as ACC can apply until 2036 for a grant from the £20k + that is available annually to Alva, Tillicoultry and Dollar Community Councils. Alva groups and organisations that match the key aims of the fund, and provide benefit to people living in the area, may apply for a grant award via ACC. ACC will make an application for funding for planters and hanging baskets to brighten the town centre for summer.</p> <p><b>Rotary Club of Alloa</b> - Lynn confirmed that she, Sandra and Lisa attended the presentation by Rotary Club on 14/01/14. They offer support to local organisations, for example, physical help with events such as monitor car parking.</p>	AS  LC MMcA
<b>6.2</b>	<p><b>Secretary Report - Margaret McArthur</b></p> <p>Margaret was absent but sent the following report;</p> <p><i>I went to an open event in Alloa Town Hall hosted by CTSI at which proposed cuts by Clacks Council were discussed. Some of the points raised were:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>proposed staff cuts will put pressure on existing staff;</i></li> <li>• <i>reduction on one service may put increased pressure on others;</i></li> <li>• <i>there are potential cuts in services to e.g. the elderly, those with Additional Support Needs and others;</i></li> <li>• <i>third sector will probably have to take up the slack where services are being cut;</i></li> <li>• <i>cycle path between Tilly and Alva commended but there were questions as to cost of upkeep, safety and whether it will be lit or unlit.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>School Buses</b> - a MOP asked if there is any truth in the rumour that school buses are to be withdrawn and children expected to walk or cycle on the new cycle path from Tillicoultry to Alva Academy. Cllr Donald Balsillie said Clackmannanshire Council (CC) currently provide school buses for those living up to 3 miles away and there are no plans to reduce it to 2 miles which is the threshold used by many other Local Authorities. He said no mains lighting is proposed for the cycle path but solar studs are being considered. Cllr Bobby McGill commented all aspects of service provision are being considered by CC as over £7 million has been taken out of their budget. Cllr Archie Drummond said that the Hillfoots Diamond Jubilee Way cycle path is an enhancement to Clackmannanshire but if common sense prevails children won't be expected to walk along it to school.</p> <p>Jim considers there should be a cycle path from Alva to Alloa.</p>	
<b>6.3</b>	<p><b>Treasurer Report - Anne Spruce</b></p> <p>Anne confirmed that there is £439.42 in the main account and £5079.31 in the events account. An application has been made to Clackmannanshire Council for an administration grant.</p>	

<b>7</b>	<b>Convener Reports</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	<b>Convener Report - Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) - Jim Lyle</b>  Jim confirmed that JCCF meetings are quarterly and proposals to constitute the forum have been shelved.	
<b>7.2</b>	<b>Convener Report - Planning / Licencing Applications - Jim Lyle</b>  Jim said Linda has collated copies of representations submitted regarding the Local Development Plan. A report will be given at the March meeting.	
<b>7.3</b>	<b>Convener Report - Public Partnership Health Forum and Alva Health Centre Patient Group - Kirsty Wilson.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some residents of Alva attend Tullibody Health Centre and building works to create a disabled WC are now complete.</li> <li>• Two GP's are leaving Alva Medical Practice and one new GP has joined.</li> <li>• There has been only 48% uptake of the Bowel Screening Programme, Kirsty encouraged people to participate.</li> <li>• Those requiring travel vaccinations should make an appointment with their GP as some protection takes 6 weeks to activate.</li> <li>• A decision has been made not to relocate Alva Medical Practice to the site at Queen Street.</li> <li>• Diabetes Awareness are having a stall at ACC's Family Fun Day on 24 May.</li> </ul> <p>There was discussion about waiting times to see particular GP's, Jim waited 11 days. Kirsty clarified that some GP's are popular so therefore appointments are in demand. She also mentioned that the practice offers early morning appointments on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and late evening appointments on Mondays. Requests for emergency house calls only can be made from 8am Monday to Friday, routine calls 8.30 to 6pm.</p>	
<b>7.4</b>	<b>Convener Report - IT/Website / Data Protection - Phil Ward</b>  Phil explained he is working on features for the website. He encouraged Community Councillors and others to use the 'keep in touch' option of the website (see minutes of December '13 meeting for more detail).  Phil explained that the calendar on the website is unloved and neglected and had been thinking of turning it off until he spoke to Community Councillors from other towns. Phil proposed that ACC's website calendar is combined with that of other towns and asked for feedback on this idea. Jim suggested that JCCF should be doing this, however, here were no objections and several Councillors considered it a good idea as did Cllr Donald Balsillie.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Sub Committees</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<b>Sub Committee - Events - Lynn Cameron</b>  <b>Family Fun Day 24 May 2014</b> - Awards for All gave ACC a grant last year for two specific projects i.e. Christmas Lights and a Family Fun Day. Lynn explained that a Community Family Fun Day is planned for Saturday 24 May in the Cochrane Park 12noon to 4pm followed by a Family Ceilidh	

	<p>with buffet in the evening in the Cochrane Hall 7.30 to 10.30pm. Although the Awards for All grant will be used to provide this it is hoped to raise some funds at the events as ACC require £1000 annually just to have the Christmas lights put up, taken down and in kept in storage.</p> <p>The events sub-committee are still considering fundamentals of the fun day but suggestions include bouncy castle, climbing wall, balloon modelling, kids baking competition, funniest vegetable competition, various stalls, refreshment marquee, mascots, tombola, etc.</p> <p>The theme of the fun day will be POMPOMS. Lynn would like community groups and individuals to start making as many colourful pompoms as possible. She'll co-ordinate the hanging of these from trees, lampposts, etc, throughout the town for the week leading up to 24 May.</p> <p><b>Commonwealth Baton Relay</b> - Lynn confirmed that the baton will pass through Alva on Wednesday 25 June 2014 passing Alva Academy and Alva Primary School. ACC Events Sub Committee will arrange a community event when the time of baton arriving in Alva is known.</p> <p><b>Alva Games, Sat 12 July</b> - Lynn will speak to Craig Dunbar of Alva Games Committee to propose that ACC Events Sub-Committee arrange a childrens fancy dress competition, majorettes, etc, to join the procession led by Alloa and District Brass Band from the town centre to the park.</p>	
8.2	<p><b>Sub Committee - Planning and Environment</b></p> <p><b>Shrub Beds at rear of Glentana</b> - Linda was absent. Lynn explained that an email had been received from Kenny Inglis at Clackmannanshire Council Land Services proposing the removal of herbaceous and shrub beds to the rear of the Glentana Building and replacing them with turf. They consider the beds have outgrown their useful life, are causing a maintenance problem and apparently the shop tenants have expressed a desire to have the beds removed. Kenny asked if ACC have any concerns regarding this proposal. As Linda has spoken to the shop tenants it was decided to postpone a decision on this until the March meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Archie Drummond that the Committee of Alva Parklands Centre, in the vicinity of Glentana have expressed concern about overhanging bushes and that Older People frequenting the centre are concerned for their safety and security.</p> <p><b>The Plight of the Bumblebee</b> - Sandra explained that she met members of Menstrie and Clackmannan Community Council at a recent event and learned about '<i>The Plight of the Bumblebee</i>'. There is national concern about the decline of the bumblebee and if nothing is done we face ecological turmoil as they are essential to pollinate plants. Menstrie CC are planting wildflowers the entire length of the new cycle path at the community woodland between Menstrie &amp; Blairlogie and Clackmannan are filling planters with wildflowers. Sandra suggested that Land Services could consider planting wildflowers in the beds at Glentana. She also suggested that using funding from EDF (see item 6.1) ACC could consider planting wildflowers at the Alva end of the cycle path to Tillicoultry that is currently under construction.</p> <p>For those who want to find out more about '<i>The Plight of the Bumblebee</i>' The Bumblebee Conservation Trust has a website as does Scottish Wildlife Trust - their Stirling branch meet in the Raploch centre and on 4 March there is a session on how to attract bees, butterflies &amp; ladybirds into gardens.</p> <p><b>Air Quality</b> - Jim mentioned that there is an increase in lichen which can indicate that the air quality in Alva is poor.</p>	LG
9	<b>Clackmannanshire Councillors Reports</b>	

	<p><b>Alva Glen Hotel</b> - Cllr Archie Drummond said that Clackmannanshire Council still await the outcome of the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO), there has been an objection from the owner that they didn't have the opportunity to develop the site. Cllr Donald Balsillie said that private developer Mulraney of Alloa has complicated the matter by trying to purchase the hotel from the current owner, Cllr Balsillie said Mulraney told him on 7 Feb that he had secured the hotel. While not doubting that Mulraney told Cllr Balsillie this Cllr Drummond considers that Mulraney would not have been able to purchase the hotel while it was the subject of a CPO. A Community Councillor suggested that the elected members ought to be able to find out the exact situation from Scottish Government.</p> <p>Following discussion the consensus of those present was that profit would be the main objective of a private developer and they may not necessarily have the best interests of Alva at the top of their agenda. Cllr Balsillie clarified that any private developer would still have to go through the normal planning process and people of Alva would have the opportunity to comment and object to any plans submitted.</p> <p><b>Clackmannanshire Council Cutbacks</b> - Cllr Bobby McGill said the Council's budget would be set in a few weeks and savings of over £7 million need to be made meaning significant change for public service delivery. CC staff are being balloted on the proposal that they work 1 hour less per week for a 3% reduction in pay.</p> <p><b>Hospital Buses</b> - Cllr Bobby McGill confirmed that H1 and H2 hospital buses have been given a reprieve to December '14 to allow further negotiations, a working group has been set up to find a long term solution.</p> <p><b>Old Cinema</b> - A Community Councillor asked elected members if any progress has been made with the old cinema building on Alva's main street that is now a meat factory as there is still no sign of action being taken to improve the exterior of the building. Cllr Balsillie had a meeting with the owner some time ago and gave him contact details of Business Advisors in the Council. Following discussion it was agreed that ACC would write a letter of complaint to Ian Doctor at Environmental Services regarding the broken windows, tree growing out of the building, etc. A MOP said a piece of fascia fell onto the pavement below recently. Lynn said that she and Ian would try to speak to the owner and explain the concerns.</p>	
<b>10</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b> 10 March 2014 at Ochil Leisure Centre</p> <p>7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors.</p> <p>7.30pm Public Meeting.</p>	





# Police Service of Scotland

## Community Council meeting

Name of  
Community Council:

Alva Community Council

Date of Meeting:

10/02/2014

Crime Reports  
Detected:

Since the last meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014. We have:

6 Crimes detected, not including minor road traffic offences.

These offences relate to incidents including breach of the peace, assault x4, production of a controlled drug and being concerned in the supply of drugs (cannabis).

Points of note from the detected cases would be the case where an individual has been charged with being concerned in the supply and the production of drugs. 1 individual was apprehended and charged with these offences under the misuse of drugs act. They will appear at Alloa Sheriff Court in the near future.

The 4 assaults are not linked in any way and are all of a minor nature.

The Breach of the peace incident was dealt with by the way of an Anti Social Fixed Penalty Notice and was an isolated incident.

Crime Reports  
Undetected:

3 Crimes are undetected. They are as follows:

1 of these relate to a vandalism to a window to a flat situated in The Nebit. Lines of enquiry are continuing in relation to this.

1 theft by shoplifting from a shop within Stirling Street. A suspect has been identified and requires to be traced.

1 Fraud which relates to false advertising and the victim being out of pocket after purchasing goods online.

Total Crime Reports:

15 Crimes



## Police Service of Scotland Community Council meeting

Road Traffic  
Offences:

6 cases have been dealt with in relation to road traffic offences.

% of Overall  
Detection Rate:

67 % (not including road traffic offences)

PACT :

Pact priorities for January and February 2014:

Our PACT priority for this period relates to drug misuse in the Alva and Menstrie areas.

Drug misuse has a detrimental effect on the communities in which we live and work. Chris and I are interested in obtaining information relating to drugs misuse and drug dealing. We will then use this information to obtain drugs warrants and target the dealers blighting the community. We can be contacted in confidence via the non emergency telephone number of 101.

Feedback from  
meeting: