

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 10 November 2014, 7.30pm

Venue: Alva Baptist Church

Community Councillors Present: Community Councillors Not Present:

Lynn Cameron – Chairperson Sub Committee – Events Sub Committee – Community Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Philip Ward – Vice Chairperson Convener – Data Protection / IT / Website	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secretary – Linda Greig Convener – Environment inc Parks & Alva Glen Convener – Planning Sub Committee - Events Sub Committee – Community Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Anne Spruce – Treasurer Sub Committee - Events Sub Committee – Community Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sandra Rees – Minute Secretary Sub Committee – Events Sub Committee – Community Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Margaret McArthur Sub Committee - Events Sub Committee – Community Action Plan Sub Committee – Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ian Cameron Sub Committee - Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kirsty Wilson Convener- Health inc Alva Health Centre Patient Group	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gemma Waghorn Convener – Education inc School Council & PTA Convener – Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) Sub Committee – Events Sub Committee – Community Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Iain Craig Sub Committee -	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jim Lyle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

In Attendance:

Members of Public (MOP) x 10

PC David Armitage

Cllr Donald Balsillie

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions Lynn welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.	
2	Apologies Philip Ward, Ian Cameron, Kirsty Wilson, Jim Lyle, Lisa Williams and Iain Craig.	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting 13/10/14 Sandra advised that the draft version of the minutes that were made available to the public in Alva Community Access Point and on the ACC website from 03/11/14 had been edited at section 7.5. The final draft was approved as follows; Proposed by Anne Spruce Seconded by Linda Greig	
4	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes Post Meeting Notes - Jim wasn't present but asked that the following motion be put forward: only items that are discussed or presented at ACC meetings are recorded. Linda seconded the motion. Following discussion it was agreed that Post Meeting Notes may be added where it does not affect the integrity of the minutes and used only when appropriate i.e. for information only, should attract no discussion and certainly no decisions. It was agreed that Post Meeting Notes will be kept to a minimum.	

<p>5</p>	<p>Police Report</p> <p>PC David Armitage attended and gave a report – attached.</p> <p>Lynn mentioned there had been several children making a nuisance of themselves in shops during the October school holiday.</p> <p>PC Armitage intimated that tickets are available from PC Roy Mitchell for the OAP Christmas Party organised by the Alloa Round Table. PC Mitchell can be contacted on 101 (Police non-emergency phone number).</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Office Bearers Reports</p>	
<p>6.1</p>	<p>Chairperson Report – Lynn Cameron</p> <p>ACC Sub Committees were confirmed as follows;</p> <p>Events Sub Committee – Lynn, Linda, Anne, Margaret, Gemma and Sandra</p> <p>Community Action Plan (CAPlan) Sub Committee – Sandra, Lynn, Anne, Margaret, Gemma and Linda. It was agreed that Sandra will facilitate e.g arrange meetings, advertising, etc.</p> <p>A MOP asked if ACC needs to lead the CAPlan. Margaret replied that ACC are the correct conduit as Community Councillors have a responsibility to determine the views of the community and to inform Clackmannanshire Council. Cllr Balsillie added that it will raise the profile of the Community Council.</p> <p>Alva Traders Awards – Lynn congratulated the Crown Inn of Alva who are winners of the Community Pub of the Year 2014 and Alva Tandoori Restaurant as it came 1st in the Trip Advisor top 10 Curry House 2014 awards and also gained an independent award.</p> <p>Shops Closing - Lynn advised that 3 shops in the town centre will be closing adding that many of the remaining shops are struggling to keep going during the recession. She encouraged people to use Alva shops if they want them to remain open.</p> <p>Skatepark – Lynn advised that there is a petition in Higglety Piggletty for those who wish to support the proposal for a skatepark in Alva. ACC suggest that those who issued the petition get themselves organised into a proper group with an action plan. ACC will help e.g. by putting articles on our website but can't take a lead on the project.</p> <p>Co-op Funding – Lynn confirmed that the Co-op are not accepting any more applications for grants from community groups.</p>	
<p>6.2</p>	<p>Secretary Report – Linda Grieg</p> <p>Clackmannanshire Council Budget Presentation – At the September meeting it was agreed that we would accommodate the then leader of Clackmannanshire Council (CC), Cllr Womersley at this meeting to give a budget consultation presentation. However, Cllr Womersley has since stood down as leader of CC and Cllr Sharp took up the position on 3 Nov. ACC will hopefully be able to have the presentation at another time.</p> <p>Data Protection Certificate – this is in the ACC filing cabinet at Alva Community Access Point (CAP).</p> <p>ACC Resource Cupboard – Linda advised the cupboard and resources are now in CAP and the key is with the filing cabinet key, held by staff at CAP. There are instructions in the cupboard and filing cabinet on how to inform other Councillors if you need to move anything from the CAP building. Please cooperate so we can keep track of who has what e.g. high viz vests.</p>	

	<p>Bus Stops Lining – Linda asked for an update from Cllrs regarding this issue that was brought up by a MOP in September. Cllr Balsillie confirmed that some of Alva bus stops had their lines repainted recently.</p> <p>Benches in Cochrane Park – Linda asked Cllrs for Clackmannanshire Council's (CC's) position on providing benches for Alva residents as this issue was brought up by a MOP earlier this year. It had been suggested that ACC could consider providing benches but we are not in a position to do this at present. Cllr Balsillie considers this a modest request to CC and discussion followed about positioning of the benches. However, he suggested that ACC could apply to EDF for funding for additional benches in future and a MOP suggested approaching Glenochil prison as they make benches.</p> <p>Wild Flowers – Linda has some wild flower seeds from Grow Wild and has been in touch with CC's Land Services to sow them at the Alva end of the new cycle path to Tillicoultry. Cllr Balsillie said Tillicoultry Community Council are interested in doing likewise at their end of the cycle path.</p> <p>Pavement at A91 Alva to Tillicoultry - Linda asked Cllr Balsillie for an update on what is being done about the unsafe condition of the original pavement alongside the A91 between Alva and Tillicoultry. Cllr Balsillie confirmed the pavement is no longer in use as people should walk on the adjacent new cycle path. Out-of-use signs will be put up.</p>	Linda
7.2	<p>Convener Report – Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) – Gemma</p> <p>Gemma confirmed she will attend the next JCCF meeting on 20/11/14. The forum will be attended by heads of three departments of Clackmannanshire Council</p>	
7.3	<p>Convener Report – Planning / Licencing Applications – Linda (inc' Sub Committee - Planning and Environment – Linda , Margaret, Ian)</p> <p>Festive Licencing Hours – Clacks Licencing Board has agreed that all licenced premises permitted to sell alcohol for consumption on their premises can open for an additional hour over the festive period. The extension will apply from 19/12/14 to 03/01/15 with each licenced premises allowed to trade for an hour beyond their usual closing time, subject to no premises being permitted to trade beyond 2am.</p>	
7.4	<p>Convener Report – Public Partnership Forum (PPF) and Alva Health Centre Patient Group - Kirsty Wilson.</p> <p>Margaret attended PPF in the Bowmar Centre on 17/06/14 on behalf of Kirsty.</p> <p>Margaret explained one of topics was the ambulance service which incorporates a variety of transport. RVS service was also discussed, they provide community transport and a good neighbour service. They also provide emotional support to older people as well as practical help with shopping, etc. A variety of support can be requested by older people e.g. help to visit a friend. Currently 37 people in Clackmannanshire use this service.</p>	
7.5	<p>Convener Report – IT/Website / Data Protection – Philip</p> <p>Philip wasn't present but Lynn gave his report:</p> <p>Facebook – Currently there are 274 'likes' on facebook, 6 of them in the last week alone. I'm hoping for 300 before the end of the new year.</p> <p>There have been a couple of incidents in the last few weeks where the server has crashed. This has rendered our website unaccessible and email was undeliverable for the duration.</p>	

	<p>I have set up server monitoring using a second server that I operate. My own server and the Community Council server now monitor each other and they will alert me if ever one of them can't see the other.</p> <p>These changes have got me thinking that it is probably time to update the IT manual that I produced, and generate new passwords for everything while I'm at it. I will endeavour to have CD's ready for volunteer custodians for the December meeting.</p>	
7.6	<p>Convener Report – Education – Gemma Waghorn</p> <p>Gemma reported that Alva Academy 6th Year pupils hosted another McMillan Coffee Morning on Friday 26 September. £26,000 has been raised so far with money still to come in. There was a fund-raising Ceilidh on 30 October.</p>	
8	<p>Sub Committee Reports</p>	
8.1	<p>Sub Committee – Events</p> <p>Hanging Baskets and Planters - Alva Beavers, Nicols Opticians and Higgleddy Pigletty shop have adopted planter(s) in the town centre but there are plenty more so if you or your shop, club, group are interested please email info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk or pop into Higgleddy Pigletty for a chat. Anne confirmed she'd contacted Alloa Advertiser who will be printing an article soon about the Beavers involvement and there will also be an article on ACC's facebook page.</p> <p>No Christmas Fayre – As OLC is now closed we had to consider other venues for a Christmas Fayre and found that the Cochrane Hall is booked on dates we would've wanted so there will be no fayre this year. However, next year's Christmas Fayre will be at the end of November 2015 hopefully in the Cochrane Hall. Margaret agreed to make the booking for the hall.</p>	
9	<p>Community Action Plan (CAPlan)</p> <p>Sandra gave the following summary of meeting of the first CAPlan meeting on 27/10/14.</p> <p>Five Community Councillors attended - Sandra, Margaret, Lynn, Linda & Iain. We were pleased to welcome representatives of Groups from Alva Cadet Force, Age Concern and Alva Community Action Group and also 10 members of the public. Lesley Baillie, Community Planning Adviser, Clacks Council was also present.</p> <p>Lesley explained that she and other officers of CC will provide advice and support but they do not have ownership of the exercise to create the Alva Community Action Plan, it must be the work of the people of Alva and reflect their views. This ensures that the results are not influenced by the Council's priorities.</p> <p>Copies of Community Action Plans of other towns in Clackmannanshire were available to look at Including Tullibody, Cambus & Glenochil, Sauchie & Fishcross, Dollar and Muchart. Lesley explained the plans vary in style and size i.e. from a few to 58 pages but each contains a statement of priorities of the community.</p> <p>If an application is made CC could provide approx. £2000 for materials and resources which could, for example, be used to purchase services of an analyst if a questionnaire was used. This funding would be paid into an ACC account and ring-fenced.</p>	

	<p>There followed discussion about possible objectives including the desire for a skatepark, lack of toilet facilities, the general shabby appearance of the town centre and lack of parking. People wondered about the future of Ochil Leisure Centre and the Cadet Force. Sandra encouraged attendance at the Steering Group meeting on 24 November where there will be opportunity to consider these matters further.</p> <p>Alva CAP has been booked for the next CAPLan meeting for Monday 24 November, 7 – 9pm.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>Clackmannanshire Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr Archie Drummond - sent apologies for being unable to attend recent ACC meetings but sent a report that Lynn read out and is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>Learning Event - Linda asked why an email about a Learning and Development Service event 'for the Alva Learning Community' was distributed just two days before the event on 29/10/14 and why was it held in Tillicoultry and not Alva. Cllr Balsillie said he has sent a letter of complaint as it should've been held in Alva Academy. Youth Services don't have ACC on their mailing list, the email was forwarded by Cllr Drummond.</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie advised that Clackmannanshire Council has to find savings of £30m from their budget over the next 10 years. He encouraged people to visit the Speirs Centre in Alloa which is now home to the central library, customer service, computers for use by the public, registrars, etc.</p> <p>Housing and Care Services – Cllr Balsillie advised there is to be more integration of these services within Clackmannanshire Council.</p> <p>Hospital Buses – The H1 and H2 buses to Forth Valley Royal Hospital in Larbert are secure until 2018.</p> <p>Lock-up Garages – Clackmannanshire Council have garages in Alva at Carnaughton Place, Parkgate, James Street, Johnstone Street. The Council are considering whether those with low demand could be used for alternative purposes. Cllr Balsillie asked ACC to consider whether they would wish to rent a garage and perhaps share it with Alva Glen Heritage Group. A Community Councillor asked if ACC could have it rent-free, Cllr Balsillie said it could perhaps be part of a grant to ACC. There were concerns about maintenance and insurance costs.</p> <p>Pigeons – Cllr Balsillie spoke to the Environmental Health Dept who have no issue with the pigeons in Alva that have been made homeless following the demolition of Alva Glen Hotel. It is hoped that they will scatter in the colder weather.</p> <p>Ochil Leisure Centre – Cllr Balsillie commended the efforts of Ochil Leisure Enterprises but considers that the leisure centre will be handed back to Clackmannanshire Council following a fire on 3 Sept '14. A MOP advised that OLC featured significantly in the Clacks Council Leisure Strategy as OLC had been running as a successful business, however, the insurance does not cover the extensive damage and there is infrastructure issues dating back decades and there doesn't appear to be a way out. Cllr Balsillie concluded that the outcome is not in favour of reopening.</p> <p>Berryfield – Cllr Balsillie will find out for the December meeting the status of the planning consent for this site</p> <p>Old Cinema – A MOP asked why the owners are not obliged to maintain the outside of the building. Cllr Balsillie explained the owner is not legally required to do so but he has written 3 letters to the owner and received no reply. He has put the owner in touch with Business Advisors that appeared to have a positive outcome but still nothing has been done. Lynn and Ian Cameron offered to visit the owner after the festive period. Cllr Balsillie suggested that other traders get</p>	

	<p>together and perhaps form a Traders Association as Alva has a good town centre including a fishmongers, butchers, dentist, opticians, etc, etc, He suggested that the Community Action Plan may identify issues and possible solutions to town centre concerns.</p> <p>Recycling Bins – A MOP asked why the 4 large unsightly recycling bins are on the main street outside the Community Access Point and wondered if they are still required now that most households have individual bins for glass. He suggested they be put somewhere else out of sight. Following discussion it was agreed that ACC will think of other potential sites for the bins and include the matter for consideration at the next Community Action Plan meeting. Cllr Balsillie took the opportunity to mention that Clackmannanshire Council is in the top 3 Local Authorities for recycling.</p>	
10	<p>AOCB</p> <p>EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund – Margaret intimated that any constituted group in Alva can apply to EDF for a grant up to £2000. In due course micro-grants of up to £250 will be available to non-constituted groups, ACC will hold the micro-grant funding. EDF are sending posters about these grants and Margaret will put them up around town.</p> <p>GP Telephone Appointments – A MOP mentioned that there is apparently only 10 GP telephone appointments per day and some people are requesting home visits if they can't get one of the phone appointments. Margaret agreed to try to find out more at the Patients Group forum.</p>	MMcA
11	<p>Date of Next Meeting - Monday 8 December 2014 at Alva Baptist Church</p> <p>7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors.</p> <p>7.30pm Public Meeting</p>	

Report from Item 10

ARCHIEDRUMMOND

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Clackmannanshire North

an independent voice for our community



Report to Alva Community Council - 11 November 2014

As I am unable to attend this meeting please accept my apology for absence and this brief update in lieu.

The following matters of local interest have arisen since the last meeting:-

Housing.

Link Housing held an open day to outline the development which will start any day now on the former Academy Site. I ran into several Community Councillors at the event which was also well attended by local people.

In the meantime, Marshall Construction have visited Wales to meet there with the builders of the "pods" to seek to ensure effective liaison to facilitate a smooth construction phase.

This development is main stream housing to be let from the council's waiting list.

Given that the private sector is now pressing ahead with the development of the former Alva Glen Hotel site the council has reverted to its original plans for development of social housing on the former Community Centre site in Tillicoultry. The council is talking to the Scottish Government about transferring the additional grant that may be lost following the late private sector purchase of the Alva site.

Ochil Leisure Enterprises.

Following the unfortunate electrical incident and closure of the pool, the council has been and is still engaged in talks with OLE to seek to determine the likely outcome. That is not yet resolved.

Review of Leisure Services

The council commissioned a consultant to undertake a review of leisure services in Clackmannanshire as a starter for the development of a ten year leisure strategy to be produced by December 2015 when the existing strategy expires,

Given that the primary facility is the Leisure Bowl in Alloa and that there is a five year break clause in the current ten year contract with Wasp Leisure it was considered prudent to review the position at this time.

In short the report concluded that the current contract is value for money and that the facility has an appropriate life expectancy. Therefore the council decided to run the contract to its end in five years and to develop the new strategy by December 2015.

I can provide a copy of the full report should anyone so wish.

Visit my website - www.your-councillor.com/archie-drummond

Bus Services to Larbert Hospital.

After considerable lobbying of NHS and the Cabinet Secretary for Health, Forth Vally NHS has agreed to maintain the H1 and H2 bus services until 31 March 2018 which affords the opportunity to work in partnership with the council beyond that date.

It is also worth noting that NHS Forth Valley has delivered on its further undertaking to deliver more services from Clackmannanshire Hospital which means local people no longer have to travel to Larbert for several services.

Alva Learning Community

Following on a recommendation from the recent Education Scotland Inspection of Alva Academy that there was room for improvement in the "Alva Learning Community", meetings were set up to consider local community learning and development.

This seeks to encompass learning and development in the broadest sense and fits well with developing a local plan for our communities.

I attended both meetings in my capacities of Chairperson of the Twinning Association and member of Alva Academy and Tillicoultry Primary School Parent Councils. I also shared details with Alva CC and will continue to do so in respect of future meetings.

I would respectfully suggest that the Community Council might want to send someone along to the next meeting to then take a view on ongoing participation.

Council Lock ups.

The housing service has reported on the current provision and utilisation of council lock ups.

It is acknowledged that the validity of the waiting list is suspect so I would advise anyone who wants a lock up that they should reapply as any lack of take up may lead to change of use of the sites.

EDF Burnfoot Farm

Good to see Alva and Menstrie Community Councils represented at the most recent meeting of the panel that approves, or otherwise, applications for funding. Your fellow councillors who attended will likely report back but this is now a significant resource for the whole of the Hillfoots.

Kinship Carers

The council has agreed that rates for Kinship Carers will be aligned with those paid to foster carers so ending a long standing anomaly that was simply unfair and was almost certain to be legally challenged.

Regards

Archie



Police Service of Scotland Community Council meeting

Name of
Community Council:

Alva Community Council

Date of meeting : 10/11/2014

Foreword:

Hello, I am PC David Armitage, one of your community officers covering the Clackmannanshire North Ward.

Since the last meeting on 13/10/2014 we have recorded 4 undetected crimes and 5 detected crimes. Including Road Traffic Offences we have 7 detected crimes.



Police Service of Scotland Community Council meeting

Ward Priorities

Antisocial behaviour

We have no recorded crimes of anti-social behaviour. We have had recent and ongoing operations running tackling anti-social behaviour, Operation Alamo tackled inappropriate use of fireworks and bonfires.

We are also running increased high visibility patrols over the weekends tackling anti-social behaviour.

Vandalism

We have no recorded vandalisms since the last meeting.

Acquisitive Crime

We have 4 crimes involving theft. One of them is the theft of a pedal cycle from 15/10/14. There are no outstanding suspects and no lines of enquiry available.

We also have a theft of a motor vehicle from 19/10/2014. This is currently being investigated with several lines of enquiry still being progressed.

The last 2 relate to a child breaking into 2 sheds, which has been reported to the children's reporter.

We will be carrying out further operations in relation to thefts over Christmas.

Speeding/Road Traffic

We have 2 detected road traffic offences. We are also running Road Traffic Operations over the festive period, including tackling drink and drive offences.

Violence / Disorder

We have 2 crimes recorded. One for assault, which is detected. The other is for a statutory breach of the peace which is also detected.



Police Service of Scotland Community Council meeting

Other Incidents of note/relevant Community Council information.

Tickets available from PC Roy Mitchell for the OAPs Christmas Party organised by the Alloa Round Table. Please contact him at Alloa with requests.

Feedback from meeting:

Please e-mail any feedback to:-