

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 8 December 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 - Events	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

In Attendance:

Members of Public (MOP) x 8

PC David Armitage

Cllr Archie Drummond

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions Lynn welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.	
2	Apologies None. Lisa Williams was not present.	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting 13/10/14 Proposed by Iain Craig Seconded by Anne Spruce	
4	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes Developer Community Benefit / Financial Contributions Developer Community Benefit / Financial Contributions – At the October meeting it was agreed that Linda would write to Gordon McNeil, Head of Planning Service at CC with a request to set up a holding account / environmental fund for financial contributions for Alva from future developers. Linda will liaise with Cllr Balsillie who previously said he would assist with the content of the letter and establish whether funds would be needed to open an account. Model Constitution – Lynn and Linda have signed the Model Constitution that has been adopted by ACC temporarily and sent to Lesley Baillie, they will discuss the way forward with Anne & Margaret later.	Linda

8	Convener Reports	
8.1	<p>Convener Report – Environment including Parks and Alva Glen – Linda</p> <p>Cycle Path Project / Wild Flowers – Linda declared she'd made an application to Grow Wild for funding for wild flower seeds without consulting with others as the closing date was before this meeting, she explained if others objected the application could be cancelled. However, there were no objections and discussion followed about the positive aspects of this project. Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton and Devonside Community Council (TCDCC) are willing to work in partnership with ACC for the project that will incorporate other community groups to sow wild flowers along most of the cycle path from Alva to Tillicoultry. Funding from Grow Wild will be confirmed or otherwise in February '15. All being well planting will commence in March '15.</p> <p>Benches in Cochrane Park – Linda explained there is landscaping being done in the park and Cllr Balsillie has asked for 4 benches. The MOP who originally requested the benches several months ago was not present but another MOP will ask her to contact Linda to discuss possible locations for the benches</p>	
8.2	<p>Convener Report – Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) – Gemma</p> <p>Gemma confirmed she did not attend the JCCF meeting on 20/11/14. However she reported that the forum was attended by heads of three departments of Clackmannanshire Council and there had been discussion on how to incorporate Community Councils into budget consultations.</p>	
8.3	<p>Convener Report – Planning / Licencing Applications – Linda (inc' Sub Committee - Planning and Environment – Linda , Margaret, Ian)</p> <p>Berryfield – Linda received an email from Environmental Services who clarified that planning permission has expired and current site ownership of the land at Berryfield is unknown but they will continue to pursue this to establish ownership.</p> <p>Former Alva Academy – Cllr Drummond explained work on the housing at Erskine Street/Queen Street will commence in January 2015.</p>	
8.4	<p>Convener Report – Public Partnership Forum (PPF) and Alva Health Centre Patient Group - Kirsty Wilson.</p> <p>PPF - Kirsty reported that the December PPF meeting had been cancelled and reorganised for 21/01/15.</p> <p>Alva Health Centre Patient Group – Due to lack of space there were no hot refreshments served at flu jab sessions this year.</p>	
8.5	<p>Convener Report – IT/Website / Data Protection – Philip</p> <p>Facebook – Currently there are 301 'likes' on facebook, one is in USA and another in SA but all others are local.</p> <p>IT Manual - Phil has updated the IT manual and generated new passwords for everything. Phil forgot to bring the CD's but 6 members of ACC volunteered to be custodians when he brings them to the January meeting.</p> <p>ACC Website – Phil explained ACC's website now has the ability to host photo galleries and encouraged members to submit to him any photos they may have of ACC events, etc.</p> <p>Balloon / Lantern Release – following the tragic death of a youngster in Alva this week members of the public are arranging a memorial balloon / lantern release and Phil has agreed to publicise this on ACC website and Facebook pages.</p>	

8.6	<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.</p> <p>Academy pupils are busy with their 'Extravaganza' show, performances for pupils and teachers only next week.</p> <p>Alva Primary Christmas Show is on Wednesday & Thursday this week, 2 tickets per pupil.</p>	
9	<p>Sub Committee Reports</p>	
9.1	<p>Sub Committee – Events</p> <p>Queens Baton Relay Commemorative Plaque – Anne advised that some QBR funds remain unused and will have to be returned if not spent. There is a proposal that a plaque to commemorate the QBR passing through towns in Clackmannanshire is purchased for each Community to celebrate this unique event, there will be no cost to individual Community Councils. A show of hands was taken and agreement that Linda arrange the plaque for Alva. The Events Sub Committee will meet to discuss wording and location of the plaque.</p> <p>Planters - Most of the planters in the town centre have been adopted but there are still one or two left so if you or your shop, club, group are interested please email info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk or pop into Higglety Pigglety for a chat.</p> <p>Alva Christmas Lights Switch On and Late Night Shopping Event Lynn reported that the Christmas tree lights were switched on after the countdown outside the Cochrane Hall on Thursday 4 December. Alva Primary School Carol Singers gathered on the steps of Cochrane Hall and sang some festive songs after the switch on. In the town centre Alva Brownies carried on the festive entertainment by visiting all the shops that had remained open late for the occasion. Santa was able to visit the event in Alva and he popped into all the shops with his Elves! Santa spotted a Fire Engine in town and stopped for a chat to the Fire Fighters. There was also a 6 piece wind band ensemble providing a collection of festive music in the town centre. Lynn thanked Alva Primary School, Alva Brownies, the wind band ensemble, the shops that remained open especially for the event and of course Santa and his Elves for making the evening a success. Two additional lamppost lights and 26 additional strings for the tree were purchased by the £2000 grant from Foundation Scotland and EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund.</p> <p>Alva Calendar of Events for December 2015 – It is hoped to create this to collate all events within Alva for next year as many people don't know what's on and when.</p>	
10	<p>Sub Committee - Community Action Plan (CAPlan)</p> <p>Sandra gave a summary of the second CAPlan meeting on 24/11/14.</p> <p>Funding – the sub-committee made an application to Clackmannanshire Council for £2000 for materials and resources. Since the CAPlan meeting the funds have been paid into ACC's bank account and ring-fenced for the CAPlan.</p> <p>Timescale – We hope to have the CAPlan completed by January 2016.</p> <p>The meeting was advertised in Alloa Advertiser, Stirling Observer, ACC website and Facebook page. There were posters in local shops inc Post Office, Pharmacy, Higglety Pigglety, Nicols Opticians and also in Parklands, Scout Hall and Churches. Information about the meeting was emailed to Ochil Leisure Centre, Wee County Crafters, Toddlers Group, Bowling Club (s) and the Golf Club.</p>	

Interactive Brainstorming Session:

Those attending split into groups to discuss and make a list of areas in Alva that they would like to see improved or facilities created, etc. A spokesperson was appointed from each group and the contents of the lists collated onto a flipchart. Each person was given five coloured dots and invited to place on the flipchart next to the topics most important to them. The number of dots is indicated after each entry as follows;

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Modern Community Centre / Hub on site of Ochil Leisure Centre (18);
Multi-purpose, café, rooms for hire, business, toilets, changing facilities for hill climbers/mountain bikers, tourist information, skill sharing.
Leisure centre / swimming pool (1)
Skatepark (4)
Music venue in park (1)
More support for sports – coaches, etc
Cycle route 76 (sustrans) off road route to Alloa (4)

TOWN CENTRE

Visual enhancement of main street – themed painting e.g. like tobermory (14)
Town centre more vibrant (10)
Whole town centre strategy
Parking both sides of street
Bicycle and motorcycle parking bays
Themed town e.g. craft town, book town, etc (5)
Improved car parking – on and off street (7)
Seating on main street (1)
Permission for businesses to have outside tables & chairs during open hours (1)
Planting small trees on north side of main street (1)
Sort clock above Co-op
Enhanced lighting
Toilets (1)
Improved signage (1)
Planters

TOURISM

Hydro scheme, visitor centre at Alva Glen (15)
Improvements to Alva Glen at entrance (5)

PARKS

Improvements to Johnstone and Cochrane Parks (5)
Lighting, Benches, Snack shack, Crazy golf, Outdoor gym – parcourt running

HOUSING

Create planning pressure regarding housing at Hodgsons (Berryfield) & Glen sites (5) This would help sustain school rolls

COHESION

All groups working together

The above exercise was a brainstorming session for generating ideas and solutions, not for analysis or decision making.

Several more people agreed to join the CAPLan Steering Group bringing the total to 8.

A group email address will be created for communicating with each other between meetings.

caplan@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk – ACC CAPLan Sub-Committee members.

caplansg@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk – CAPLan Steering Group including members of the public who have signed up for the steering group as well as ACC sub-committee members.

	<p>In mid January the Steering Group will meet informally to discuss the format for the next public meeting – date and venue of informal meeting to be confirmed.</p> <p>The next CAPLan public meeting will be on Tuesday 27 January – venue to be confirmed.</p>	
11	<p>Clackmannanshire Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie - sent apologies for being unable to attend.</p> <p>Cllr Archie Drummond – confirmed that Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton and Devonside Community Council (TCDCC) have commenced work on their Community Action Plan.</p> <p>Ochil Leisure Centre (OLC) – Cllr Drummond advised that Clackmannanshire Council (CC) legal department are dealing with the property transfer back to CC following a fire on 3 Sept '14. He said CC are meeting soon and are likely to agree demolition of OLC and it's quite likely that social housing will be built on the site. A Community Councillor expressed concern about the amount of new housing planned for Alva yet there is no Community Centre.</p> <p>Community Centre - Referring to the Alva CAPLan report above Cllr Drummond said the hope for a Community Centre on the site of Ochil Leisure Centre is 'on the spectrum of wishful thinking' in the current financial climate. A Community Councillor voiced concern that such a decision could be made before community views are confirmed in the Alva CAPLan. Following discussion it was agreed that Linda will write to the Chief Executive of Clackmannanshire Council asking that no decision is made until the Alva CAPLan is complete and applications made for project funding.</p> <p>Funding for CAPLan – Cllr Drummond suggested ACC apply to EDF for additional funding for the CAPLan as up to £10,000 could be available. He also advised that Kincardine CC had an excellent questionnaire for their CAPLan.</p> <p>Wee County Mens Shed – This organisation promotes men's health and wellbeing in Clackmannanshire. Cllr Drummond said they may be interested in helping with the wild flower planting (see item 8.1).</p> <p>Police Performance – Cllr Drummond said Police performance has slumped in the last 3 months, possibly due to Commonwealth Games/ Queens Baton Relay.</p> <p>Pigeons – Referring to the pigeons in Alva that have been made homeless following the demolition of Alva Glen Hotel a MOP reported that during recent heavy rain their mess was washed off rooftops onto buildings, shop windows and onto pavements, he considers this to be a health hazard. Cllr Drummond agreed to liaise with the Environmental Health Department although it is hoped that the pigeons will scatter in the colder weather.</p>	Linda
11	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Cycle Path Markings – A MOP expressed concern that there are no road markings at the junction of the A91 / Road to Woodland Park / Cycle Path. Linda asked Cllr Drummond to find out about a crossing.</p> <p>Community Notice Board – A MOP asked Linda why she had covered up the attribution notice belonging to Alva Community Council & Alva Glen Heritage Trust displayed on the public notice board at the Alva CAP. Linda explained that she did this in order to display ACC's agenda and notice of the next months ACC meeting for the public as this is a requirement of ACC's Standing Orders.</p>	
12	<p>Date of Next Meeting - Monday 12 January 2015 at Alva Baptist Church</p> <p>7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors.</p> <p>7.30pm Public Meeting</p>	

POLICE SCOTLAND

**Alva Community Council Meeting
08/12/2014**

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

Since the last meeting on 10/11/2014 we have recorded 4 undetected crimes and 8 detected crimes. Including Road Traffic Offences we have 11 detected crimes.

Ward Priorities

Antisocial behaviour

Since the last meeting, we have no recorded crimes which directly link with anti-social behaviour. We have had recent and still ongoing operations running tackling anti-social behaviour.

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. This is the second month running where we have had no reports.

Acquisitive Crime

We have 4 undetected crimes involving theft.

The first relates to the theft of farm equipment from a local farm between 14/11/14-18/11/14. The equipment was fairly heavy and enquiry has been carried out with places of disposal. There are no suspects for this crime at present.

We have had a report of an attempted housebreaking with intent to steal from a garage near to Myreton Gate, Alva. This occurred between 21/11/14 and 28/11/14. Tools have been used in effort to gain entry to the garage, however this has failed. Enquiry is still ongoing with regards to this incident. I would just like to remind residents to ensure garages and sheds are kept secure and checked regularly.

A report of theft of a games console was received and occurred on 25/11/14 at an address in Craighorn Road, Alva. We have a named suspect for this and are still carrying out enquiry with regard to this incident.

The last one relates to a theft by finding which occurred on 27/11/14 whereby someone has left a wallet and contents at an ATM in Stirling Street, Alva which has been stolen. Enquiry is still ongoing with regard to this, we have no suspects at present.

We have 1 detected crime in respect of theft. This is a theft by shoplifting and intended theft, which occurred on 20/11/14. A male and female have been reported to the procurator fiscal.

Speeding/Road Traffic

We have 3 detected road traffic offences. These are of a minor nature.

A change in the limit for drinking and driving has taken effect as of 5th December 2014. This provides a lower limit of 22 micrograms in 100 millilitres of breath where it was previously 34micrograms.

This will undoubtedly allow the Police to make our roads safer and increase the amount of persons who will be reported for the offence.

I think it is prudent to pass on to all Alva residents that the new lower limit will mean that even the smallest amount of alcohol could easily put someone over the limit. The risks are not worth the cost of losing your license and suffering financially.

We have begun our drink/drug drive campaign in the lead up to Christmas and it will continue into the New Year. We would 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.

Violence / Disorder

We have 2 crimes recorded. Both of which are detected. The first relates to an assault with no injury. The individual is a juvenile and has been charged.

The second relates to a threatening and abusive behaviour which is of a domestic nature. Again the accused has been charged and reported to the procurator fiscal.

Incidents of Note

"Emergency services in the Forth Valley responded to an address in Carnaughton Place, Alva around 8.50am today, Friday 5th December in response to a call about the welfare of a five-year-old boy.

"On arrival, police officers found the child with a significant injury to his body and he was later pronounced dead at the scene by the Scottish Ambulance Service.

"Enquiries into the full circumstances surrounding this incident are ongoing and a woman is currently detained in connection with the investigation. We are not currently looking for anyone else and I want to reassure the local community that there is no risk to them.

"Police officers will be carrying out various enquiries in the area and I would ask the public to continue to give us the full support they have shown so far, to allow us to conclude these investigations as soon as possible and allow the area to return to normal.

"This is a quiet area and I would emphasize that this is a very unusual incident which poses no risk to others."

Feedback from meeting

