

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 12 January 2015, 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	
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 Reginald Ryles

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions Lynn welcomed those in attendance to the meeting.	
2	Apologies Anne Spruce & Lisa Williams.	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting 08/12/14 Proposed by Ian Cameron Seconded by Iain Craig	
4	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes Cllr Archie Drummond had been asked to make enquiries about specific issues and the following are the responses he received from Clacks Council Officers. 1. On the north side of the A91, immediately to the East of the former Dalmore Centre, the road narrows and this is indicated by a bollard. Q. The bollard itself is black and in many light/weather conditions is effectively invisible. This is considered to contribute to not infrequent collisions with the projecting kerb. Would it be possible to paint the protruding kerb with reflective paint? Or perhaps there are other ways to make the protrusion more visible. A. I have taken the opportunity to drive through Alva in the dark to have a look at the road narrowings in Alva. The first point at which the road narrows is demarcated by a traffic	

island immediately to the west of the Dalmore Centre entrance. This island is highlighted with a yellow reflectorised bollard with a pass-left blue and white arrow in the bollard head. The island is also indicated by a white, hatched road marking in advance.

Immediately to the east of the entrance is a second island which is marked by a black bollard with a red, reflectorised band. This second island is off the driving line as the first island, described above, will already have deflected the traffic away. I have looked into the history of these islands and note that the first island has been struck once and the second bollard has never been struck. After the western bollard was struck it was replaced with the much more visible bollard that is in place today.

In my opinion the arrangement is satisfactory and should cause little problem to drivers abiding by the speed limit and driving with the appropriate care required in an urban area. This is backed up by the evidence that since the first incident there has been no repeat.

2. Potential traffic conflict/risk at the junction of the cycle path and the access to the woodland park.

Q. At the west end of the cycle way there is a junction between the cycle way and the vehicular route to the former "Farriers". There is no indication; warning signs or white lines to alert cyclists to this junction. This is considered to be a hazard.

A. I regularly cycle the route between Tillicoultry and Alva and have never considered the 'Farriers' road to be hazardous however, I do know this area well and am aware that there is a road here. This may be less obvious to a visitor. Coming from Tillicoultry the road is obvious however someone travelling from Alva may be surprised to encounter a second road so soon after crossing Burnside Farm Road. Given that there are two roads, I shall arrange to mark out the four give ways.

As the successful application of road markings requires dry roads and reasonable temperatures we will not be able to carry out any road marking works until late April.

3. Overgrown hedges in James Street and Queens Street

Q. I am advised that in James Street and Queens Street in Alva, the footways are being obstructed by overgrown trees and hedges. Is it planned to prune these any time soon?

A. Some vegetation was noted as overhanging the pavement, albeit slightly, and was due to shrubs. The overhanging shrubs which form part of seasonal work are due to be pruned in early January.

4. Pigeons at/from the former Alva Glen Hotel. The following is the response Cllr Drummond received from Andrew Crawford, Environmental Team Leader on 16/12/14.

The Council was not responsible for this building (Alva Glen Hotel) or the state it got into and we could only act within the powers available to us in terms of pest control. We were concerned about the potential for problems from pests at the site and, in advance of the demolition of the Alva Glen, did investigate the options for culling the pigeons as the owners had no apparent intention of dealing with the problem. However due to animal welfare legislation (Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) we were unable to net the building as it would have trapped the birds inside and due to the decrepit state of the building we were unable to gain access to poison them. We managed to access the ground floor level, however, and killed off the rats in advance. It was expected that the pigeon population in Alva would decrease as the air temperature dropped and the pigeons were forced to find new sheltered places to roost at night. The persistence of the birds during the daytime indicates a food source being available. We have investigated a number of allegations and spoken to those found to be feeding them although, again, we have no power to prevent people feeding birds under these circumstances.

We would appreciate any information about people feeding the birds and we would treat that information confidentially. We can advise that there is little scientific evidence showing a link between pigeon droppings and ill health providing normal personal hygiene measures are followed. There is evidence regarding dried and crusted droppings being linked to Histoplasmosis and cryptococcosis. This was identified as an issue for droppings within the Alva Glen during demolition and so was raised with demolition contractors. To reduce the impact of the pigeon droppings on the pavements of Alva the council has organised extra street cleansing and also has twice arranged for high powered jet washing of the worst affected areas. The last request for jet washing of the pavement on 28 November specified the pavement on Cobden Street adjacent to The Orchard. We can't eradicate the birds as they are part of normal wildlife throughout the country. To reduce their numbers we would have to shoot or poison them and, as they are out in the community, this clearly is not an option. We would also have to fully justify killing the birds or the Council could be prosecuted under the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Should the problem persist in the longer term then there are some alternatives, however, they would incur significant cost to the council. Options could include a night time survey of pigeon roosting spots with deterrents such as fitting spikes on ledges, etc., wires along roof ridges and providing pigeon lofts for breeding control. In the meantime we will continue to monitor the situation and do what we can to reduce the impact of these birds on the community.

5	<p>Police Report</p> <p>PC Reginald Ryles attended and gave a report – attached.</p>	
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6	<p>Declaration of Conflict of Interest</p> <p>Linda suggested that ACC consider how to deal with conflicts of interest which would occur when decision making is influenced by personal or wider interests. It was agreed to consider this further at the next meeting.</p>	
7	<p>Office Bearers Reports</p>	
7.1	<p>Chairperson Report - Lynn Cameron</p> <p>Official Complaint about Christmas Lights - Clackmannanshire Council (CC) received an official complaint about Alva's Christmas Lights being on too long. CC passed this on to Alva Community Council (ACC) who are responsible for the lights. Lynn confirmed that the lights had been taken down on 12 Jan. They should've been taken down the previous week but due to high winds the contractor was unable to do so. ACC employ a contractor to store, maintain and put the lights up and down each year and they must abide by Health and Safety Regulations. It was clarified that the lights are LED and use minimal electricity.</p>	
7.2	<p>Secretary Report - Linda Grieg</p> <p>Clackmannanshire Council Budget Consultation runs until 09/02/15. Online Consultation is now open at www.clacksweb.org.uk. Links are on Alva Community Council Website & Facebook Pages.</p> <p>The consultation can also be accessed on Citizen Space (https://clackmannanshire.citizenspace.com)</p> <p>There will also be Face to Face Forums but these are still to be confirmed. Linda will pass on details to Phil for ACC Website and Facebook page.</p> <p>Discussion followed about how ACC could create further awareness and to encourage the community to complete the online consultation. Iain suggested the PTA could arrange for leaflets to be put in each school bag at the primary school as this would reach 400 homes approx. A MOP said there is going to be a booklet about the consultation but copies have not yet arrived at the Community Access Point (CAP).</p> <p>A Community Councillor suggested that Clackmannanshire Council could save money by not sending out final demand letters to people who have been paying their Council Tax faithfully each week and have just a couple of weeks left to pay for the year 14/15 so will be within the given timescale for payment. A married couple at an address in Alva each received a copy of this letter. A MOP is aware of this happening to others.</p> <p>Community Access Point (CAP) - Linda wrote to the CEO at Clacks Council on 17/12/14 regarding concerns raised by members of the public regarding the possible closure of the Alva CAP. A reply has been received stating that our concerns have been noted and will be passed on to elected members to inform their decision on the budget in February.</p> <p>Also included in the letter were the concerns we have regarding the site of Ochil Leisure Centre and explained how we have been asked by the Council to lead the Alva Community Action Plan. The CEO has confirmed that no decisions have been taken regarding redevelopment of the site at this point and that she would anticipate that Elected members would be keen to hear community views on any proposals that come forward.</p> <p>Clackmannanshire Council Local Transport Strategy Consultation is being updated. The public consultation exercise has already been carried out and Linda has received a questionnaire to be completed by ACC. It was agreed that Linda will forward in on to Community Councillors by email for comments and then Linda will complete one questionnaire on behalf of ACC.</p> <p>Understanding Customer Service in Clackmannanshire Council - Community Conference on 21st February 2015. This has been organised in response to reports from community groups about differing experiences of Customer Service in Clackmannanshire Council, sometimes making it difficult for community groups to fulfil their role. Anyone who would like to attend should let Linda know.</p>	<p>Linda</p> <p>Linda</p>

	<p>Policies for ACC Linda proposed that ACC adopts Policies as we are encouraging community engagement. Policies should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal Opportunities • Safe Guarding Children & Vulnerable Adults Policy • Health & Safety <p>It was agreed that Linda will source them and email them out for approval.</p> <p>Warm Home Discount - Reading from Cllr Balsillies report, Linda advised this discount is available to all households with an income of less than £16,500, or have a child under 5, or are on any form of benefit. If you meet the criteria then you may be entitled to a £140 warm home discount from your energy supplier. Anyone wanting energy advice can contact Clackmannanshire Council's energy advisors on 01259 450000 or visit the Energy Saving Trust website. It was agreed that this information is put on ACC website and facebook pages.</p>	Linda
7.3	<p>Treasurer Report - Anne Spruce</p> <p>Anne wasn't present but confirmed via email that bank account balances are:</p> <p>Special Events Account</p> <p><u>Expenditure</u> Santa sweets for Chirstmas Lights Night £10.58 Christmas lights installation £433.55</p> <p>Balance to date £6166.12</p> <p>Ordinary Account</p> <p><u>Expenditure</u> Donation to Alva Baptist towards heating and lighting for meetings September - January £200</p> <p>Balance to date £1749.34</p> <p>Anne will apply to Clackmannanshire Council to have the £200 repaid to ACC</p>	
8	Convener Reports	
8.1	<p>Convener Report - Environment including Parks and Alva Glen - Linda</p> <p>Cycle Path Project / Wild Flowers ACC funding application to Grow Wild has been shortlisted to be discussed further at panel. Alva Glen Heritage Trusts (AGHT) application has also been shortlisted. Grow wild has invited us both to talk with them about our projects and in exploring further a proposal of combining the two initiatives. They say that both projects fit well together and complement very well in strengthening both project ideas. Linda is meeting with AGHT to discuss this further.</p> <p>Benches for Park Linda has received diagrams from a MOP on where the benches could be located in the Cochrane Park and will pass this on to Clackmannanshire Council ASAP.</p>	
8.2	<p>Convener Report - Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) - Gemma</p> <p>Gemma confirmed the next JCCF meeting is next month and she will attend.</p>	
8.3	<p>Convener Report - Planning / Licencing Applications - Linda (inc' Sub Committee - Planning and Environment - Linda , Margaret, Ian)</p> <p>Nothing to report this month.</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 meeting had been cancelled and reorganised for 21/01/15. Kirsty will attend.</p>	

8.5	<p>Convener Report - IT/Website / Data Protection - Philip</p> <p>Facebook - Currently there are 323 'likes' on facebook.</p> <p>IT Manual - Phil has updated the IT manual and generated new passwords for everything. Phil distributed the CD's to 6 members of ACC who volunteered to be custodians. The old discs are to be destroyed.</p>	
8.6	<p>Convener Report - Education - Gemma Waghorn</p> <p>Gemma reported that Alva Academy 6th Year pupils hosted a McMillan Coffee Morning on Friday 26 September '14. £26,051.47 has been raised so far with money still to come in.</p> <p>Academy 6th year pupils are getting ready for exams.</p>	
9	<p>Sub Committee Reports</p>	
9.1	<p>Sub Committee - Events - Lynn, Linda, Anne, Margaret, Gemma, Sandra & Iain</p> <p>Queens Baton Relay Commemorative Plaque - A plaque to commemorate the QBR passing through Alva has been purchased to celebrate this unique event. Following discussion it was agreed that the plaque would ideally be situated just inside the back door at the Cochrane Hall. Linda will consult Clackmannanshire Council to reach agreement.</p> <p>Planters - Lynn confirmed all the planters in the town centre have now been adopted.</p> <p>EDF Burnfoot hill Community Fund Following discussion it was agreed to make 3 applications to the fund for the next panel sitting in March '15. These will be for the Fun Day on 23/05/15, planters and additional Christmas lights.</p> <p>A MOP asked about application forms for groups to apply for an EDF micro-grant of up to £250. Lynn advised these are not available yet. ACC will hold the micro-grant funding when it becomes available.</p> <p>Bunting - Lynn has asked pupils at Alva Academy to work out how many pennants will be needed to hang between lampposts in the town centre. Lynn is encouraging individuals and groups to start making pennants to decorate the town for the week of the Fun Day i.e. 16 to 23 May '15.</p>	Linda
10	<p>Sub Committee - Community Action Plan (CAPLan) Sandra, Margaret, Anne, Lynn, Linda & Gemma</p> <p>Sandra advised there was no CAPLan meeting in December, the last one was on 24/11/14 and a report is in ACC's December minutes.</p> <p>CAPLan Steering Group - are meeting in the back room of the No'5 Inn on Tuesday 13 January to discuss and agree a format for the next public meeting. A group email address has been set up for the CAPLan Steering Group, this includes members of the public as well as ACC sub-committee members. caplansg@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk</p> <p>POST MEETING NOTE: The next CAPLan public meeting has now been arranged for Wednesday 28 January at Parklands, Alva, 7 to 9pm.</p>	
11	<p>Clackmannanshire Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie & Cllr Archie Drummond - both sent apologies for being unable to attend but sent the attached reports.</p>	
12	<p>AOCB</p> <p>Damaged pole on cycle path - A MOP mentioned this. Linda will pass onto Clackmannanshire Council.</p> <p>Back road to Balquharn - A MOP asked if improvements could be made to the</p>	

	<p>back road to Balquharn as it is a dirt-track road with many pot-holes and unsuitable for walkers. Following discussion it was agreed to consider this at the CAPLan meeting on 28 Jan - see item 10.</p> <p>Alva Primary School PTA BBQ - This is being arranged for Monday 25 May at the school from 3.15 pm.</p>	
<p>13</p>	<p>Date of Next Meeting - Monday 9 February 2015 at Alva Baptist Church</p> <p>7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors.</p> <p>7.30pm Public Meeting</p>	

**Report to Alva Community Council - 12 January 2015**

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

Can I start by wishing each of you all the very best for 2015.

At last months meeting you asked me to make specific enquiries on a number of matters and these have been addressed by the appropriate council staff and responses sent to Lynn as and when the replies came in (see item 4 of minutes)

Council Budget 2015/16

The council has begun its consultation programme on the budget for next financial year.

You are all too familiar with the difficult financial position that all local government is in - Treasury driven reduction in available spending compounded with unavoidable additional requirements for expenditure. To give just one example of the latter Clackmannanshire council tax payers will have to spend an additional quarter of a million pounds funding teachers pensions simply to meet Treasury requirements that don't fit Scotland's needs.

I would encourage the Community Council to consider submitting a formal response and it is also open to individuals to do so too. This can be done on line at:-

www.clacksweb.org.uk/council/mcbbudgetconsultation1516/

Alternatively details will be made available in booklet form, as last year, in council offices

I would issue the usual health warning that the proposals on the table are, at this stage, no more than officer identified options. It will be for councillors, essentially the SNP administration, to firm up on a final set of proposals to be decided by all members.

It is therefore essential that you get your comments fed into the process.

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

Proposal to close Community Access Point in Alva

With the earlier caveat that this is no more than an officer proposal at the moment, I can advise you that several local people have reinforced my knowledge and view of the importance of the library, internet access and payment facilities available in Alva.

Tillicoultry faced a similar proposition four years ago and the voice of the community got an outcome very much better than the one proposed by the former council administration.

While there is no way of ducking the need to make efficiencies that could mean changes to service delivery models as opposed to simple axing of services that are essential.

The French Connection

Many of you will know that Tillicoultry is twinned with the town of Crevecoeur le Grand in Picardy, France and some of you might even know that it is my privilege to be chairperson of the Twinning Association.

This is one of the best things I have been involved with simply because of the wide range of links, activities and friendships that have evolved from the twinning. And there is one more that is happening in Alva.

For six months started on 5 January, Sandrine Faedy, a PE teacher from Crevecoeur le Grand, will be working in Alva Academy in a deal financed by the government of France and supported by the Academy. Additionally her husband Romauld, also a PE teacher will be working in Alloa Academy and their two children will be attending Alva Academy and Tillicoultry Primary School respectively.

The entente cordiale is alive and well in the Hillfoots.

Regards

Archie

Cllr Donald Balsillie Report. Apologies for my non attendance 12/1/2015

Budget 2015/2016

Suggested budget proposal provided to the SNP Administration from senior management are on the Council WEB site for Consultation.

Other suggestions from the public are invited.

Senior management have identified to the administration that to meet the UK governments cuts via the Barnett formula and Scottish Government that to deliver a balanced budget the Council has to make approximately £8/ 9 million worth of savings next financial year.

It is SNP policy not to make staff redundant and we provided this reassurance to staff just before Christmas. Similarly it is the administrations wish that Community Access points (CAPs) be retained in every settlement that currently has one (although it is recognised that services should be co-located/ combined where possible for efficiency and one stop shop benefits). This against the proposal that all CAPS are closed except Ben Cleuch centre in Tillicoultry (to serve the Hillfoots) and Speirs Centre(for Alloa).

For Alva, in fighting for the retention of local services and facilities, the long term issue is how do we make best use of existing public buildings and provide public meeting space and modern Library / CAP facilities? With the closure and condition of the Ochil Leisure Centre and likely demolition the option that is emerging is to build a new community wing within or onto the primary school. This could combine public meeting space with all the School library facilities (secondary and Primary along with the public library and wifi / pay points) allowing continued access to the public through the day and evening. This option is at a very early stage of consideration.

I am aware that the Alva Community Action Plan is evolving and being lead by the community Council and it is important that the community debate these issues as well as consider realistic alternatives that could be considered.

Bottom line is the Council needs to manage and maintain fewer buildings with fewer overheads and where possible combine local staff and services.

Parks

Cochrane/ Johnstone Park-as part of the cyclical maintenance programme for parks and town enhancement the Council has prepared Plans for new tree planting and I have raised the Community Councils desire for additional seating. These plans should have been sent to the Community Council.

Traffic Orders

In response to public safety concerns about drivers speeds in residential areas Traffic orders for twenty mile an hour signs are now complete for the Back Road and Alva North with signage being put in place. Orders for Alva South and signage will be concluded over the next few weeks. No objections have been received.

Alva Eco Homes

Negotiations between Link Homes and Scottish Government over grant and management arrangements are continuing. It is now anticipated that a site start will not be until March 2015.

Pigeons

With the demolition of the privately owned Alva Glen hotel and current ownership, it was inevitable that the large amount of pigeons roosting their would be displaced.

Council officers had and have advised that the returning cold weather should lead to dispersal. It is clear from the Councils own monitoring and comments from the public that this has not happen as the weather has been seasonally mild. Legislation protects all birds from intentional killing without a license. Approaches to Scottish Natural Heritage to license the cull of the pigeons have been refused.

The recent national press coverage has caused Scottish Natural Heritage to revise their position. The killing of pigeons is a sensitive issue and not to every ones liking , indeed many bird lovers provide food to birds in the harsh winter months.

Urban areas having these problems have used bird scares including natural solutions like the controlled use of birds of Prey to try to move pigeons on. Officers are currently considering these approaches.

With the forecast of cold weather over the next few weeks, alternative approaches being suggested and the change in licensing position I am confident that we will see a reduction in pigeon numbers over the next few weeks.

Warm Home Discount

With cold weather forecast I would like to remind those attending the meeting that fuel poverty is a real issue for people in Scotland. If you spend more than 10% of your household income on energy costs you are judged to be in fuel poverty.

It is important to know that if your household income is less than £16,500, you have a child under 5 or you are on any form of benefit you are likely to be entitled to a £140 warm home discount each year from your electricity supplier. The big six energy suppliers offer this. It is not widely publicised and you have to apply for it. Please bring this to the attention of anyone you feel might fall into this category.

If you want any energy advise at all including info on energy tariffs, insulation, boiler grants etc please contact the Councils two energy advisers who will be happy to provide free advice 01259 450000.

Cllr D. Balsillie-12/1/2015

POLICE SCOTLAND

ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

12/01/2015

INTRODUCTION

I am Police Constable 528 Reginald Ryles, one of five Community Policing Constables for the Alva – Tillicoultry area, stationed at Alloa Police Office. You can contact us by calling 101 or by email to the Community Policing Sergeant.

In the last calendar month, dating from 12/12/2014, we have recorded 7 undetected crimes and 8 detected crimes for the Alva - Tillicoultry areas.

PRIORITIES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In the last calendar month, we have 2 recorded crimes linked with anti-social behaviour and relates to the following:-

- Local female reported for Threatening and Abusive Behaviour at The Nethergate, Alva on 19/12/2014.
- Local male reported for persistent Noisy Music and Obstruction in Cobden Street, Alva on 04/01/2015.

We have also been carrying out increased high visibility patrols at weekends, in the local areas, to tackle anti-social behaviour and will continue to do so.

VANDALISM

In the last calendar month, we have 4 recorded crimes relating to vandalism and are as follows:-

- Smashed window at closed swimming pool, Park Street, Alva between 10/12/2014 and 16/12/2014. No further lines of enquiry.
- Smashed living room window at unoccupied house, Johnstone Street, Alva between 23/12/2014 and 29/12/2014.
- Damage to roof of motor car at East Stirling Street, Alva overnight between 01/01/2015 and 02/01/2015.
- Smashed rear kitchen window flat at Queen Street, Alva on 09/01/2015 (between 1130hrs and 1930hrs).

Enquiry still ongoing into the last two above, however if anyone has any information with regards to same please call 101.

VIOLENCE

In the last calendar month, we have 2 recorded crimes relating to violence and are as follows:-

- An assault at Alva Academy on 17/12/2014. This incident is detected and one juvenile has been dealt with accordingly.
- A domestic violence incident on 09/01/2015 which is detected where all enquiries have been completed and one male has been reported.

Police Scotland treats Domestic Abuse as a very high priority and to quote the Chief Constable “*Police Scotland will not tolerate domestic abuse. Working with our many partners in the public and voluntary sector, we will tackle it and we aim to prevent it destroying the lives of its victims*”.

I would like to encourage anyone with any information or concerns regarding Domestic Abuse to contact us on 101.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

In the last calendar month, we have 3 undetected crimes and 1 detected crime relating to Thefts which are as follows:-

- Theft by Shoplifting on 12/12/2014 from Co-op, Stirling Street, Alva. This is detected and one male and one female have been reported.
- Theft of an insecure and unattended BMX from a rear garden at Cobblecrook Gardens, Alva on 13/12/2014 between 2200hrs and 2330hrs. There are no further lines of enquiry, however I would like to remind residents to ensure that no property is left lying out unattended, insecured or clearly visible for opportunists to take.
- Theft by Shoplifting on 23/12/2014 and 02/01/2015 from Co-op, Stirling Street, Alva. Both are undetected, however a male suspect has been identified for both and will be reported for same when traced.

ROAD TRAFFIC

In the last calendar month, we have 2 detected road traffic offences, one of which relates to minor road traffic offences and the relevant ticket issued and the other relates to a drink driving and Dangerous Driving incident on 16/12/2014 on the A91 between Stirling and Alva where a female has been reported.

A change in the limit for drinking and driving has now taken effect from 05/12/2014 which provides a lower limit of 22 micrograms in 100 millilitres of breath where it was previously 34 micrograms.

This will undoubtedly allow the Police to make our roads safer and, with the publicity circulated by Police Scotland, hopefully decrease the number of persons reported for this offence.

I think it is prudent to mention to all 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 licence and the subsequent consequences (financially or otherwise).

I 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 can be dealt with in the strictest of confidence and will assist in making your community and roads safer.

OTHER INCIDENTS OF NOTE

A Drugs Warrant was executed in the area on 19/12/2014 and one female has been reported for being in possession of controlled drugs (cannabis).

ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

Facebook and Twitter – Community Messages can be placed on local Police sites via the Community Sergeant.

FEEDBACK FROM MEETING

