

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 11 May 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	<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 Sub Committee – Community Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lisa Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

In Attendance:

Members of Public (MOP) x 9 Cllr Donald Balsillie Cllr Archie Drummond
Police Scotland - Stephen Sneddon, Area Commander & PC James Millar

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions Philip welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. He explained that Chairperson, Lynn Cameron and Margaret McArthur are tonight representing Alva Community Council at an EDF meeting.	
2	Apologies Kirsty Wilson Lisa Williams has not attended a meeting since Sept '14, apologies received for Oct, Nov & Jan but not Dec, Feb, Mar, Apr or May. Under the provisions of the Scheme of Establishment and the Constitution it was agreed that Linda will write to Lisa terminating her position as a Community Councillor	Linda
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting 12/04/15 Proposed by Iain Craig Seconded by Ian Cameron	
4	Declaration of Conflict of Interest - None	

5	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes - None	
6	<p>Police Report</p> <p>PC James Millar attended with a colleague, James gave a report – attached.</p> <p>Linda confirmed that on behalf of Alva Community Council (ACC) she sent a letter to Andrew Wyse, Head of Legal Services, Clackmannanshire Council regarding issues raised by a MOP at the April meeting. Stephen Sneddon, Area Commander, Police Scotland attended tonight to address the issues:</p> <p>Community Policing</p> <p>ACC - There have been numerous changes to the community policing arrangements and personnel and it is our view that this disrupts the previous good links between a truly locally knowledgeable police presence and the community.</p> <p>Response - Area Commander, Stephen Sneddon explained that officers previously worked 8 – 5, Mon – Fri and were very visible but this was no good for issues arising after 5pm so a shift system was introduced using the same staffing levels. There is the usual turnover of staff as they progress, etc. Currently there are 24 officers, 2 are assigned to Schools and 2 to Court leaving 20 to work over 5 wards of Clackmannanshire. Future service provision may be changed again subject to approval by the new Commander. A suggestion has been made that of the 20 officers 5 are assigned to a ward with 3 officers supporting them leaving 12 for other Community Policing duties.</p> <p>Community Wardens</p> <p>ACC - We understand that changes/reductions have also been made to the provision of Community Wardens. Can you spell out the detailed changes?</p> <p>Response – Stephen Sneddon clarified that Clackmannanshire Council (CC) previously sponsored two Police Constables but this arrangement has ended due to austerity cuts, the two PC’s are now fully financed by Police Scotland. Four Community Wardens are employed by CC and continue to work with the Police and other council departments as required. For example, they may accompany a Housing Officer when visiting a tenant who has breached their tenancy agreement.</p> <p>CCTV.</p> <p>ACC - With the removal of monitoring of CCTV, what impact is anticipated on response to crime?</p> <p>Response – Stephen Sneddon explained that historically there was a Partnership agreement with the Police and Local Authorities of Clackmannanshire, Stirling and Falkirk. He confirmed the Partnership has been dissolved however, the three areas still have CCTV. Constant monitoring has ceased but the cameras are still recording 24/7 and can be checked and monitored as Police decide.</p> <p>Response to 101 calls</p> <p>ACC - Is there any indication to support the perception that response times have worsened?</p> <p>Response – Stephen Sneddon acknowledged there are training issues at Police Scotland call centre, this is outwith the remit of the local Commander. Calls are graded into order of priority.</p>	

7	Office Bearers Reports	
7.1	<p>Vice Chairperson Report – Philip Ward</p> <p>Phil explained that Chairperson, Lynn Cameron is representing ACC at an EDF meeting. Phil read Lynn’s report;</p> <p>Bunting (see item 9.1) We have enough pennants to do at least the 8 spaces between the 9 lampposts from Brook Street to Queen Street. Lynn and volunteer will be stitching them on to tape this week ready for hanging on Sunday 17 May. Lynn knows of more that are being/have been made and asks that they are dropped off to Higglety Pigglety ASAP for finishing. There will be more length to start heading down towards the park but we are not sure how much yet until we get the rest in. Please make everyone aware that we need them in NOW!</p>	
7.2	<p>Secretary Report – Linda Grieg</p> <p>Site of Ochil Leisure Centre (OLC) - As agreed at the March meeting Linda wrote to the CEO of Clacks Council for an update on plans for the OLC site and for reassurance that no decisions are made regarding redevelopment until results of the action plan are known in 2016. The CEO has responded and informed the Community Council that the OLC building is to be demolished as it is costing the council to maintain it even though it is a non operational building. The council are keen to engage with communities on their aspirations with the concept of a community hub. The approved budget paper recognises the need to redesign services around geographic hubs in consultation with communities. The Council have appointed Head of Strategy & Customer Services to initially liase with the Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) and then have detailed discussions with each Community Council. The development of a Community Action Plan for Alva is welcome in that the Council would see it play an important role in that dialogue. Some Community Councillors consider the response from the CEO stops short of the reassurance requested i.e. that that no decisions are made regarding the redevelopment of the OLC site until results of the action plan are known in 2016.</p> <p>Cllr Archie Drummond intimated that proceeds from the sale of the OLC site won’t be sufficient to build a community hub. Community Councillors acknowledged this advising that when the results of the CAPlan survey are analysed other funding would be sought in the event that a the mandate from the people of Alva is to build a hub (see 9.2)</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie said the land at former Alva Academy i.e. behind OLC site will eventually be declared as surplus to Council requirements and will be marketed for sale and in due course this will also happen to the OLC site. He explained Clackmannanshire Council (CC) are considering how to make best use of existing public buildings to provide public meeting space and one option is to build a new community wing at Alva Primary School. Some Community Councillors wondered how this could be achieved as there doesn’t appear to be any scope for extending the building.</p> <p>Following discussion it was agreed that Linda will write to the CEO again asking for reassurance that that no decisions are made regarding the redevelopment of the OLC site until results of the action plan are known in 2016.</p> <p>Land at Former Alva Glen Hotel and Berryfield - ACC has written to the owners of the land at the former Alva Glen Hotel site and also the owners of the land at Berryfield to ask what they intend doing with the land. No replies as yet.</p>	Linda

8.2	<p>Convener Report – Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) – Gemma</p> <p>Gemma confirmed she will attend the next JCCF meeting later in May when the topic will be 'Stengthening of Local Democracy' lead by Stuart Crickmar, Head of Strategy and Customer Services for Clackmannanshire Council.</p>	
8.3	<p>Convener Report – Planning / Licencing Applications – Linda (inc' Sub Committee - Planning and Environment – Linda , Margaret, Ian)</p> <p>Nothing to report</p>	
8.4	<p>Convener Report – Public Partnership Forum (PPF) and Alva Health Centre Patient Group - Kirsty Wilson.</p> <p>Kirsty attended the Alva Health Centre Patient Group meeting in April.</p> <p>Transport to Forth Valley Royal Hospital – 'First Bus' has the contract and will hopefully have disabled access platforms. Running times are not yet available. Suggested costs are £8 return – not confirmed.</p> <p>More Clinics & Treatments at Alloa and Stirling Community Hospitals – this is still under discussion.</p> <p>Alva Health Centre – will be having electrical refurbishment done, hopefully with minimal disturbance.</p> <p>Tullibody Health Centre/Complex – New site & arrangements still under discussion with planners and all concerned.</p> <p>Dr Joan Clark – retiring in September. There will also be a new District Nurse.</p> <p>Dr Graeme Hay – undertaking a 100 mile charity bike ride for Water Aid in August and any sponsors would be most welcome.</p> <p>Next meeting in June.</p> <p>There has been no PPF meeting.</p>	
8.5	<p>Convener Report – IT/Website / Data Protection – Philip</p> <p>Phil advised we are at 363 Facebook likes. MSP Keith Brown is retweeting ACC posts on Twitter.</p> <p>Linda has been shown how to post items on ACC's Facebook page.</p> <p>Following the recent general election Phil posted congratulations to the new MP on ACC's Facebook page, there were many positive responses to the post.</p>	
8.6	<p>Convener Report – Education – Gemma Waghorn</p> <p>Gemma reported Alva Academy Parent Council raised the issue of teenage drinking and Mrs McKerron, Head Teacher, is working closely with Police on this matter.</p> <p>The Violence Reduction Unit are working with senior pupils to put on an interactive play.</p> <p>Mr Clifford, Head of Music and Art held a competition, pupils were judges.</p>	

9	Sub Committee Reports	
9.1	<p>Sub Committee – Events – Lynn, Linda, Anne, Margaret, Gemma, Sandra & Iain</p> <p>Fun Day – 12 noon to 4pm, Saturday 23 May in Cochrane Park at rear of the Cochrane Hall. The Events Sub-Committee are meeting in the snug of No'5 Inn, 7pm, Wed 13 May, all Community Councillors are welcome to attend if they can help with the Fun Day. A Risk Assessment has been submitted to Clackmannanshire Council along with an application for an Entertainment Licence. Red Cross Event First Aid are booked to attend. At the Fun Day there will be an Assault Course, Bouncy Castles, Tartan Juggler, Face Painting, Competitions for children and adults, Side Stalls, Refreshment Tent and Fire Engine (if available). An article for the local press has been prepared. Posters for the events will be put up around the town. Applications for Competitions & Side Stalls are on ACC website and also in library and in Higglety Pigglety - where there is also a post box for completed applications. There will be no charge for entry to the Fun Day but there will be reasonable charges for the various attractions. The Cochrane Hall has been booked as a contingency plan for inclement weather. Public toilets in the park will be open and others will be available in the hall.</p> <p>Bunting – see item 7.1</p> <p>Queens Baton Relay Commemorative Plaque Cllr Donald Balsillie confirmed Clackmannanshire Council have the plaque, Facilities Management have suggested it be located outside the Cochrane Hall due to the size of it. Following discussion ACC agreed that it should be put on an outdoor plinth.</p>	
9.2	<p>Sub Committee - Community Action Plan (CAPlan) Sandra, Margaret, Anne, Lynn, Linda, Gemma & Iain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CAPlan Steering Group comprises 7 Community Councillors and 5 members of the public (MOP'S). There were 8 MOP's but 3 have resigned from the group in the last few weeks. The group met on 14 April. • The Steering Group are consulting with all Alva residents who are encouraged to complete and return a survey that will delivered to each household. Survey's are currently with Inglewood Press for printing. • The survey can also be completed online from 11 May via a link on the homepage at www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk • Potentially each citizen could complete their own survey – handy if your views differ from the main householder! Additional paper copies are available from Alva Community Access Point (library). • Consultation will be open until 1 June when all completed paper copies of the survey should be returned to any one of 10 collection boxes in shops, library, health centre, schools and Alva Parklands Centre. • Participants will be able to enter into a £50 prize draw and the winner will be announced at Alva Games on Saturday 11 July. • The results from the survey will go forward into a Community Action Plan that will help respond to consultations and generally help the group act in the best interests of the Alva community. • The analysis of community views will give a mandate to carry out community-based action by providing evidence of the need for action which will assist in applications for funding and support for projects and facilities. • One of the recipients of Alva Community Action Plan will be Clackmannanshire Council, who have supported the Steering Group, and will use the plan to decide priorities when Alva town centre is upgraded as part of the 'Village and Small Town Centre Initiative' that has recently seen upgrades in Sauchie and Tullibody. • The Steering Group will meet again soon to choose an independent analyst. 	

10	<p>Clackmannanshire Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie</p> <p>Contribution to Outcomes of Community Action Plan (CAPlan - see item 9.2) Cllr Balsillie said he would be meeting local employer Mr J Marshall of Marshall Construction about apprenticeships. Following discussion ACC asked Cllr Balsillie to ask Mr J Marshall if he could give a contribution to CAPlan outcomes.</p> <p>Pigeons – Cllr Balsillie explained Clackmannanshire Council have trapped approx. 200 pigeons and will continue until the numbers are reduced to acceptable levels.</p> <p>Cllr Archie Drummond</p> <p>Fracking / Local Development Plan (LDP) – Cllr Drummond said there is nothing in the LDP about fracking. He has spoken to Gary Dallas, Executive Director, who has said something could be built into the plan. Cllr Drummond will chase this up.</p>	
11	AOCB	
11.1	<p>Toilets in Park – A MOP asked why the toilets in the park were not open on 4th May, Public Holiday. Cllr Drummond confirmed that following a similar query at the April meeting he'd asked Clackmannanshire Council (CC) whether they consider likelihood of increased use during school holidays. He was advised that due to budget constraints the toilets are only open during the Summer school holiday period 10am-4pm daily and are unmanned. A Community Councillor added that the total budget for Cochrane Park toilets is £780 per annum. £410 was spent last year on football matches, £472 covered 3 major events per year - Alva Games, Community Fun Day and Italian Day. When open during summer school holidays the toilets are cleaned only twice a week. The Community Councillor considers this to be a very poor standard due to the potential for issues relating to public health via cross contamination. Cllr Drummond said he would find out if CC can do anything else to address these concerns.</p>	
11.2	<p>Cleanliness of Cochrane Hall - Following a query at the April meeting Cllr Archie Drummond asked Clackmannanshire Council (CC) to confirm the arrangements for cleaning the hall after hires, particularly after dog shows. He was advised that leisure staff have received no complaints over the cleanliness of Cochrane Hall. As part of the regular cleaning programme in depth clean was recently undertaken.</p>	
11.3	<p>Street Lights out on Ochil Road – A MOP asked when the street lights will be repaired at the stretch from top of Brook Street to top of the Cemetery. Another MOP said there has also been an ongoing issue with the street lights at Beuclerc Street as they were continuously on and after a failed repair they are now continuously off. When the MOP's contacted Clackmannanshire Council (CC) they were advised to contact Scottish Power. Cllrs Drummond and Balsillie consider that CC should sort it out and will follow this up.</p>	
11.4	<p>Dog Fouling in Cemetery – A MOP asked if something could be done about dog fouling in Alva cemetery. It was established that there are bins at the top and bottom of the cemetery so nothing else can be done other than trying to identify the culprits and reporting to Clackmannanshire Council.</p>	
11.5	<p>Bad Pavement outside Alva Parish Church – A MOP asked if Clackmannanshire Council could look at this and repair. Cllr Drummond said he would look into it.</p>	
12	<p>Date of Next Meeting - Monday 8 June 2015 at Alva Baptist Church</p> <p>7.00pm pre-meeting for ACC Councillors.</p> <p>7.30pm Public Meeting</p>	

Police Report

ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

11/05/15

INTRODUCTION

I am Police Constable 247 James Miller, one of community constables with the responsibility for Ward 2- Clackmannanshire North and I am stationed at Alloa Police Office. You can contact me by calling 101 or by e-mail at James.Miller@scotland.pnn.police.uk. Since your last meeting in April 2015 we have recorded 12 undetected crimes and 13 detected crimes for the Alva area.

PRIORITIES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Since the last meeting, we have 2 recorded crimes linked with anti-social behaviour as detailed below. Both incidents has been detected.

On 28th April 2015, this male attended at a residential dwelling in Craighorn Road, Alva and acted in a threatening and abusive manner towards people within. This was a domestic incident. A local male was arrested for his conduct.

On 2nd May 2015, a similar incident occurred between family members at Southcroft, Alva and male was arrested for his conduct.

VANDALISM

Since the last meeting, we have 6 recorded crimes relating to vandalism and are as follows:-

2 vandalisms to residential dwellings (stone smashed windows) in Craighton Crescent, Alva during the evening of 17th April 2015.

Wing mirror damaged on a motor vehicle parked in Erskine Street, Alva overnight on 17th to 18th April 2015.

A local male has been reported for wilfully damaging a gate in Carnaughton Place, Alva on 19th April 2015.

Vandalism to a window at the commercial premises known as Scotcrest, West Stirling Street, Alva overnight on 22nd to 23rd April 2015.

Vandalism to a window at a residential dwelling in Carnaughton Place, Alva during the day on 9th May 2015.

Enquiry still ongoing into all but one of the above, however if anyone has any information with regards to same please call 101.

On a positive note, one of our community constables has been working in partnership with a schools based officer and they have been conducting a crime review of vandalisms in the Menstrie and Alva area from August to September 2014. As a result, 7 local youths have been charged with over 10 offences and enquiries are still ongoing.

VIOLENCE

Since the last meeting, we have 6 recorded crimes relating to violence and are as follows:-

On the evening of 17th April 2015, a female was reported for minor assault on a child at Stirling Street, Alva.

On 26th April 2015, a non-serious assault occurred on Stirling Street, Alva. 2 local males were reported for this incident.

On 4th May 2015, a minor assault between juveniles was reported at Southcroft, Alva and a local youth has been reported for this. No persons were injured during this incident.

On the evening of 6th May 2015, a non-serious assault occurred between friends at East Stirling Street, Alva. 2 local females and 1 male will be reported for this incident. This incident accounts for 2 of the crime reports.

On the evening of 2nd May 2015, a domestic incident occurred at Cochrane Crescent, Alva which resulted in a slight injury to the victim. A male (not local) was arrested for his actions.

It is extremely encouraging that all these incidents have been detected and the persons responsible have been reported to the Procurator Fiscal. It is also worth highlighting that all the recorded assaults were non-serious.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

We have 7 undetected crimes and 1 detected crime relating to theft which are as follows:-

An incident was reported to police in Mid-April whereby a shed was reported as having being broken into broken into over the previous 6 weeks with items removed from within. This occurred in Coblecrook Gardens, Alva.

A male was reported for the theft of alcohol from the Co-Operative store 14th April 2015.

An insecure pedal cycle was taken from within a garden at Braehead, Alva sometime between 15th to 17th April 2015.

3 separate thefts of alcohol occurred at the Co-Operative store during April 2015. Male suspects are responsible for all of these thefts.

Overnight on 28th to 29th April 2015, cash card was stolen and money was withdrawn from the cashpoint. Police have a positive line of enquiry.

On 6th May 2015, a parcel shelf was stolen from an insecure motor vehicle in Johnstone Street, Alva.

Enquiries are ongoing in relation to all of the above however I would like to remind residents to ensure that they secure their property and ensure nothing is left lying out unattended or clearly visible for opportunists to take.

ROAD TRAFFIC

To date we have 3 detected road traffic offences. 2 are for defective vehicle parts and the other for a speeding violation and the relevant tickets were issued or report submitted.

The Scottish Government's inaugural Road Safety Week ran from 4th to 10th May 2015 and Police Scotland were involved in the multi-agency campaign. The main policing aims were to influence road user behaviour, reduce casualties and keep people safe. Police Scotland focussed on child pedestrians, cyclists and safety when travelling in the car.

Numerous motorists in the Clackmannanshire area have been stopped and all have been given advice in relation to their driving manner.

I would again 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.

OTHER INCIDENTS OF NOTE

I think that it is worth highlighting that the level of crime in Alva is less than 1 incident per day and Alva remains a safe community to live in.

ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

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

FEEDBACK FROM MEETING