

Alva Community Action Plan (CAPLan)

Notes of Steering Group meeting

Monday 19 October 2015

No '5 Inn Snug

In Attendance:

Alva Community Action Plan (CAPLan) Steering Group:

*Sandra Rees, *Anne Spruce, *Lynn Cameron, *Iain Craig, *Gemma Waghorn, Eilidh Johnston, Cllr Donald Balsillie

*Alva Community Councillors.

Apologies: *Linda Greig, David Fraser, Anne Stewart

1. **Community Action Plan (CAPLan) Steering Group Chairperson** - Margaret McArthur has resigned from the Community Council and the CAPLan Steering Group due to other demands on her time. As Margaret was Chairperson of the Steering Group it was agreed to appoint a replacement. Anne proposed Sandra and this was seconded by Iain. Sandra accepted the position.
2. **CAPLan Final Report** - this was received from Iona Dyson, Independent Analyst on 9 October, payment has been sent to Iona along with a letter of thanks. Eilidh agreed to do any minor tweaks required.

The group are very pleased with the report, however, following discussion it was agreed to add a back cover and to include acknowledgements i.e. *'This Community Action Plan was facilitated by Alva Community Council, with support from Clackmannanshire Council, Marshall's Farms, the No'5 Inn and volunteers from Alva'* Eilidh will edit and forward the report to Sandra.

Anne agreed to obtain a quote for printing copies of the report when she receives the final version from Sandra.

Sandra will ask Phil Ward, Alva Community Council, IT Convener, to put the final report on ACC's website and Facebook page. She will also send an email to the *CAPLan Progress Group with a link to the report (*those who indicated on their survey that they wanted to be kept informed).

Sandra will email the following with a link to the report:

Officers of Clackmannanshire Council i.e. Stuart Crickmar, Head of Services; Lesley Baillie, Community Planning Adviser; Elected Members i.e. Cllr Archie Drummond, Cllr Bobby McGill, (Cllr Donald Balsillie is a member of the Steering Group). A copy will also be sent to MSP Keith Brown and MP Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh. Clackmannanshire Council will consider the content of the report when planning works in Alva funded by the 'Village and Small Town Centres Initiative'.

When printed copies of the report are available copies will be circulated to Alva businesses, shopkeepers, groups, schools, etc. Copies will be placed in Alva Community Access Point (library) and Higglety Pigglety for members of the public.

We discussed how we could seek ideas to address the top 3 responses to each of the following questions;

Q3 'What would make Alva a better place for yourself, family and visitors',

Q4 'What would you like to see happen short term'

Q5 'What would you like to see happen long term'

The report concludes that there has been an '*under representation of young people and their views... and that it will be essential to include them in decisions made and work with them to create a sustainable future for Alva*'. We discussed ways of engaging with pupils in the Primary School and Alva Academy.

Lynn mentioned that at a recent meeting of the EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund panel there had been discussion about how the 4 Community Councils in Alva, Menstrie, Tillicoultry and Dollar could perhaps work together to find out what young people want and EDF have ring-fenced some money for this project.

3. **£1000 Donation from Marshall Farms** - This has been received, Sandra will write a letter of thanks.
4. **Scottish Government Town Centre Communities Capital Fund** - A bid for £25,000 has been made to the Scottish Government Town Centre Communities Capital Fund. This £1.7m fund is available to support enterprising, community-led projects which help to deliver town centre regeneration priorities in a local area. Community organisations were invited to bid for pots of between £20k and £150k capital funding to support projects which are in line with the key themes set out in Scotland's *Town Centre Action Plan*. The Deadline for applications was 29th September and if we are successful the money must be spent by the end of March '16.

In anticipation of the funds being awarded - A member of the Steering Group, David Fraser has been appointed as Project Co-ordinator. All members of the Steering Group have agreed to help.

The £25k will cover a facelift for 'pilot projects' along the main street and can be offered as % matching grants to property owners.

Grants to shop-owners for enhancement - £15,000

Signage - £4000

Lighting - £3000

Landscape improvements/art - £3000

5. **Local Community Plan £2000 Grant from Clackmannanshire Council** - To reinforce the value of a local community planning process which results from the determination and effort of local people, but primarily to help Community Councils follow through on community aspirations, Clackmannanshire Council is making £2000 each available to the Community Councils in communities which have or will shortly have a statement of local priorities. The money is for the Community Council to allocate to one or more community projects which tangibly demonstrate delivery on the local community plan in their area through/or activities which actively engage the wider community in the core function of the community council.

The Community Council agreed at their meeting on 12 October '15 that the CAPlan Steering Group should consider this offer of funding. Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that the Steering Group could utilise the money. Sandra will

reply to Lesley Baillie by 13 Nov and we then have until 18 Dec to finalise details of the project.

Suggestions included:

- Targeted engagement of groups' e.g. younger people as discussed at item 2.
- Consultation on long term town centre streetscape.
- Reminiscence event for older people.

- Work to boost the Wi-Fi signal in Alva.

- Employ some young people to help older folks make their voices heard through digital resources like websites, email and social media. Interviewing them and posting comments which they approve on the Alva CC FB page/website/contacting elected reps through ClacksWeb/Scottish government sites

- Sponsoring more town meetings; like the hustings, but with more space for people to express their thoughts and walk away feeling that they have been heard.

6. Publicity - It was agreed that we should do a press release about the completion of the Alva Community Action Plan, the £1000 from Marshall Farms, the £2000 grant from Clackmannanshire Council and the result of our bid for £25k to the Scottish Government Town Centre Communities Capital Fund. Sandra will arrange this in due course.

7. Charrettes Programme - Alva Community Council (ACC) received an email from Graeme Finlay, Principal Planner, Clackmannanshire Council confirming the deadline for applications for the Charrettes Programme. At ACC's meeting on 12 October '15 it was agreed that the CAPlan Steering Group should consider how to respond. Donald clarified that a Charrette is a 'planning event'. Following discussion it was agreed that Sandra will reply on behalf of the Steering Group confirming that we are interested and that our planning event will be to draw out a streetscape for the town centre with visualisations, etc. Clackmannanshire Council may be able to provide materials such as maps, plans, photographs, documents and officer time before, during and after the event. Applications need to be submitted by 30 October '15.

8. Clackmannanshire Council Community Dialogue on Priorities - Alva Community Council (ACC) received an email from Clackmannanshire Council with an invitation to meet with Stuart Crickmar, Head of Services to discuss Council and Community Priorities. At the ACC meeting on 12 October '15 it was agreed that the CAPlan Steering Group should consider how to respond as it seems most relevant to the work the group are doing in regard to what the Alva community priorities are as stated in the report. Following discussion it was agreed that Sandra will invite Stuart to a CAPlan Steering Group to give us the opportunity to tell him what our communities' priorities are and to ask him questions about how Clacks Councils cut backs will affect the local community. The 3 Community Councillors who are not on the CAPlan Steering Group may also attend this meeting.

9. Date of Next Meeting- The next meeting of the CAPlan Steering Group is to be confirmed - it will be the date of the meeting with Stuart Crickmar - see item 8.

