# Alva Community Council (ACC)

# www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

# **Final Minutes of Meeting** Monday 9 April 2018

**Venue: Alva Baptist Church** 

Sandra Rees - Chairperson Sub Group - Events Sub Group - CAPLan	SR	Lynn Cameron – Vice Chairperson Sub Group – Events Sub Group - CAPLan	LC
Linda Greig - Secretary Convener - Environment Convener - EDF Micro Grants Sub Group - Licensing & Planning Sub Group - Events	LG	Anne Spruce – Treasurer Sub Group – Events Sub Group - CAPlan Sub Group - EDF Micro Grants	AS
Louise Young - Minute Secretary Convenor - Health Centre Patient Group Sub Group - Events	LY	Gemma Waghorn Convenor - Education Convenor - Health (Public Partnership Health Forum) Sub Group - Events Sub Group - IT/Website	GW
Iain Craig Convenor - Licensing & Planning Sub Group - Events Sub Group - CAPLan Sub Group - EDF Micro Grants	ICr	Mary Dalrymple Convenor - Data Protection Sub Group - Events Sub Group - IT/Website	MD
Graham Burt Convenor - IT/Website Sub Group - Events	GB	Robbie Russell Sub Group - Events Sub Group - CAPLan	RR
Kirsty Ryles Sub Group - Licensing & Planning Sub Group - Events Sub Group - IT/Website	KR		
<b>Community Councillors in attendance</b> – S Louise	Sandra, Lynr	, Kirsty, Louise, Graham, Iain, Anne Minut	tes -

## In Attendance:

Members of Public (MOP) x 5 Elected Councillors – Cllrs Benny, Clark Lesley Baillie

Agend a Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions	
	Sandra Welcomed everyone to meeting. Introduced Lesley Baillie from Council.	
2	Apologies	
	Apologies from Gemma, Mary, Linda Attended pre-meeting and gave apologies for main meeting. Robbie did not attend.	
3	Declaration of conflict of interest -	
	None	
4	Minutes of Previous Meeting	

	Proposed by Graham, seconded by Iain.	
5	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes - Crossing at Burnside Court, across Brook Street - Cllr Benny agreed to take this enquiry further.	
6	Police Report – PC James Millar - Community Police Officer	
	Attached Separately	Linda
	Cllr benny updated regarding the school crossing at the Primary - Advising she has assisted on a couple of occasions. She has spoken to the head of services & roads, guaranteed to become a 20mph on Brook Street (school) in the near future, signage needs to be changed from the side streets (James, Johnstone, George & Henry). She is going to call again to chase this up and the possibility of replacement crossing patrol.	Liliua
7	Office Bearer reports	
7.1	Chairperson report - Sandra Rees	
	<u>Internal Communications</u>	
	Sandra introduced, Lesley Baillie, Community Planning Advisor, Clackmannanshire Council. There have been 3 meetings with Lesley to discuss Internal Communications to which all Alva Community Councillors were invited. The meetings were in April 2017, 04/12/17 and 26/02/18.	
	As a result of discussions at these meetings some proposed changes have been made to the Code of Conduct and Standing Orders. They have been circulated to all Alva Community Councillors.	
	The draft Code has amendments to; Section 1 (introduction) Section 8 (openness) Section 11 (respect) There are also new 'Guidelines for Communication' on pages 5, 6 and 7.	
	The draft amendments to the SO's are at items 13 and 17.2.	
	At the last meeting on 12/03/18 it was agreed they will be presented for approval and adoption at this April meeting.	
	There was one objection from a Community Councillor who wasn't in attendance. All other Community Councillors who were in attendance approved the amended documents and they were adopted, subject to a few typing errors being corrected.	
	Breach of Code of Conduct	
	This will be carried forward to the next meeting.	
	Lynn added that a trailer load of rubbish was taken to the Recycle centre from the cemetry clean up. She was advised that no-one can take anything from the centre now i.e compost etc. Why is this?  Cllr Clark - he has similar questions as to why this has all stopped.  Cllr Benny - Advised stopping taking tyres in at the centre as its too labour intensive.  Cllr Clark is going to take our questions and raise a councillor enquiry.	
7.2	Secretary Report - Linda Greig read by Lynn	

**Flower Barrels.....**The unpaid work squad has agreed to paint our flower barrels. They have all the information they need & the resources are in the container. Lynn will be their first point of contact when they are ready to start supported by Linda as they may undertake the project in the evenings or at the weekend.

**Fly tipping at Westhaugh Caravan Site....** It was brought to our attention the rubbish lying on the embankment at the site. The rubbish is visible from Collylands Road B908.

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April it seemed that the rubbish would be bundled in appropriate locations inside the boundary of the site, whereby it would then be deposited into a skip that will be delivered and removed next weekend (13th to 16th April). Unfortunately the site manager has reported back to the Council this morning that little to no progress has occurred this weekend.

Only potential comfort is that we do know that the Council are aware of the issue, & are working on resolving the issue and that they have said they will keep us updated.

**Celebrate Community Councils...**Throughout April; the Scottish Community Councils website will be showcasing the varied work of community councils across Scotland. More information about this is available on Community Council Scotland website <a href="http://www.communitycouncils.scot/celebrate-community-councils.html">http://www.communitycouncils.scot/celebrate-community-councils.html</a>

We want to hear about lots of different community council work, for example:

- Projects that are ongoing
- Work with organisations and other local groups
- Health and social care projects
- Young people-focused projects
- Stalled spaces
- Participatory budgeting (also known as Community Choices)
- Community magazines and other publications

To get involved, simply tweet anytime throughout April about a community council and an achievement of theirs that you are proud of, and remember to include the hashtag #CelebrateCCs. You do not need to be a community councillor or tweet from an official community council Twitter account. If you have suggestions of what we should tweet, and you do not have a Twitter account, send them to <a href="mailto:lynn.sharp@improvementservice.org.uk">lynn.sharp@improvementservice.org.uk</a>. Linda will send the email we received regarding this to Graham.

## 7.3 Treasurer Report - Anne

Treasurers Report April 2018

### **Ordinary Account**

No change

Balance £1987.44

## Special Events

Income

	£2500.00 EDF grant for Fun Day			
	£1560.00 Unpresented cheque for lights 2016			
	£209.09 Cemetery clean up £107.00 Licence for Fun Day			
	£12.25 Wrist bands for fun day			
	Balance £16824.68			
	Ringfenced- Total £9916.61			
	Micro grants £1270.00			
	Lights £3713.08			
	Action Plan £2720.46			
	Fun Day £2213.07			
	$\pounds 500$ Community Grant has been approved. I will claim this as soon as I have paid the balance for the band.			
8	Convenor Reports			
8.1	Environment including Parks & Alva Glen - Linda Greig			
	Included in Secretary report.			
8.2	Planning & Licensing Applications - Iain Craig			
	Application for planning at rear of 42 George Street, Alva			
8.3	IT Report - Graham Burt			
	Very quiet on the website with no new posts since last meeting. As usual our Facebook page has been busier I posted pictures of the Alva Cemetery Clean-up Day and several announcements for local events Our follower numbers are up a little to 791 yet likes have remained the same at 781			
8.4	Health - Louise Young			
	Louise has been discussing with John Spruce, Member of the Parish Church, Alva in regards to purchasing and installing a defibrillator in the village. We are only in the early stages of this. In discussion with Dollar and Tillicoultry as they are further along in the process of putting one in place.			
9	Events Sub Committee Update - Lynn Cameron / Sandra Rees			
	Cemetery Clean-up Day			
	The Events Group of Alva Community Council responded to comments about declining maintenance standards in Alva Cemetery since the former Foreman retired approx 15 years ago.			
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group arranged the event for Saturday 17 March. They then combined forces with Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI) Group who had arranged a litter pick on Ochil Road at the top of the cemetery for the same day. The youth group also made dog poo bag holders from plastic bottles and placed them, with bags, along the road they were working on (photos below)

Ian Anderson, former Alva cemetery Foreman who lived for many years in the 'cemetery house' was amongst those at the clean-up to see what others were doing to his former pride and joy. Ian was surprised with an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday cake and at tea-time in the meeting room, a rendition of 'Happy Birthday' for his big day on Mon 19 March.

The event took place despite a few flurries of snow and a wind chill factor but all were wrapped up warm and just glad that it wasn't raining! The excellent community team work resulted in approx. 40 bags of compostable waste and 10 of the other stuff being taken to the tip'.

Several of those attending expressed interest in a 'Friends of Alva Cemetery' group and have arranged another Cemetery Clean-up day for Saturday 30 June.

Meeting arranged for Monday 16th April to finalise details for the funday on the 26th May.

Hanging baskets are going up to the nursery to get filled again - looking at a possible watering rota. Lynn going to go around the businesses and ask the businesses to water them.

3 tier planter - Lynn going to buy some spring plants to put in just now.

ACDT having a stall at the funday and looking for an activity, suggestion was sponge throwing at the councillors - Cllr Clark agreed on the basis that another Cllr joined him!

## 10 Community Action Plan - Sandra Rees

### Alva Community Development Trust

At the ACDT Group meeting on 21/03/18 in Cochrane Hall an Interim Committee were appointed.

They are: Janet Archibald, Mary Laing, Sandra Rees, Kirsty Ryles and Mellisa White

At the first Committee meeting on 04/04/18 it was decided that ACDT will now be independent of ACC. ACDT don't yet have a constitution but it is imminent.

Therefore, after this report, there will be no further reports to ACC from ACDT unless a request is made from either party. However, as Sandra and Kirsty are members of ACDT Committee and ACC we could attempt to answer any questions if appropriate.

The Committee will make decisions for approx. 12 months until a legal structure is developed and a Board appointed. One of the many tasks to be done during this time is a skills assessment of existing committee members to identify gaps and Board members with the required skills will be sought / appointed.

There will be some public meetings over the next year but only when there is clear purpose. The Committee have a lot of work to do behind the scenes. ACDT will have a stall at the Fun Day on 26 May to raise awareness of the group and membership forms will be available.

#### Cochrane Hall

ACDT have registered an Expression of Interest (EOI) for Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of Cochrane Hall with Clackmannanshire Council.

At the Clacks Council budget meeting it was decided that they will work with Communities in Alva, Dollar and Tullibody with a view to achieving Community Asset Transfer of community facilities by September 2018 following provisions of the Community Empowerment Act. Clacks Council expect Business Plans in the next few weeks but ACDT are nowhere near that stage. There is a long and complex procedure that will not be complete in 6 months time. The group, with assistance from Julie from CTSI will liaise with Clacks Council to discuss a phased approach.

Scottish Kennel Club (SKC) - Brian Forbes, Clacks Council had a request from SKC to explore the possibility of a long term lease of the Cochrane Hall. As Alva Community Council and ACDT have been campaigning to keep the hall open Brian invited Sandra to a meeting with SKC on 28 March in the Cochrane Hall. Lynn also attended from ACC and Christine, a non-community councillor member of ACDT. Julie from CTSI was due to attend but sent her apologies.

We were not informed beforehand that Brian would be accompanied by Clacks Council Solicitor plus another person or that Keith from SKC would be accompanied by 2 others at the meeting. The letter that SKC had sent to Brian outlining their proposals wasn't shared with us before the meeting, although SKC said there was no reason why it couldn't have been circulated.

### SKC Proposals

SKC are interested in a long term lease with responsibility for repair and insurance (20 years was mentioned with breakouts each 5 years on both sides). SKC will work with the community including ACDT as they don't want or need exclusive use.

SKC won't be able to rent space to private business

SKC will pay for a caretaker and they have staff who can manage bookings. SKC plan to increase the amount of dog shows. They are usually weekends up to 5pm.

SKC would work with ACDT if they were the tenants of the hall

We discussed ACDT and SKC being joint tenants but think there would be problems when ACDT try to get grant funding.

Clacks Council Solicitor said if ACDT were to become the tenant they would need to be able to convince Clacks Council over the next few months that they have a sustainable business plan.

Sandra, Christine and Lynn are due to meet the 3 people from SKC on Tues 24 April for further talks and they, and it would appear Clacks Council, are hoping for a final decision. They don't want Julie to attend. However, it is unlikely that this meeting will go ahead as Julie has liaised with the legal team at Development Trust Scotland (DTAS) and confirmed that Clacks Council must give ACDT time to consult with the wider community in Alva and to produce a Business Plan before making a decision regarding the Cochrane Hall.

Cochrane Foundation - Sandra and Anne met with Mr Martin Dunsmore, Chairperson of Cochrane Foundation on Fri 09/03/18 and requested a 'Letter of Support' for ACDT regarding the CAT of Cochrane Hall and Sandra has now received this.

### **Toilets in Cochrane Park**

At the Clacks Council budget meeting it was decided to close the toilets in Cochrane Park. For the last few years they have only been open approx. 6 weeks per year. At the last ACDT meeting it was agreed to consider Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the toilets. Clacks Council are happy to consider this along with the Expression of Interest of Cochrane Hall.

An EDF Community Fund application for £2500 will be submitted by the closing date of 23/04/18 to pay for overheads, including staffing if feasible, although a team of volunteers would still be required. The toilets would probably be open only during daylight hours. Also discussed was opening the middle section of the block as a shop that would perhaps sell confectionary, juice, ice lollies, buckets & spades, etc.

# **Outdoor Gym**

The Outdoor Gym equipment has been installed and the Official Opening will be on Saturday 14 April at 2pm. Alva's very own Kenny Cook will do the honours by cutting the ribbon to declare it open, Kenny is a well known athlete who won the Hill Race at Alva Games in 1996, completing it in 19 minutes 30 seconds

Thanks to Mike Nicoll, Landscape Design Officer, Clacks Council who coordinated the installation of the gym.

The former CAPLan group arranged for outdoor gym equipment to be installed in the Cochrane Park using 2k funding from EDF and over £5k from Ochil Leisure Enterprises (a share of their bank balance after the Alva swimming pool was closed).

# Alva Community Access Point (CAP / library) – to be relocated to Alva Primary School

At the Clacks Council budget meeting it was decided not to close Alva CAP/Library but to continue with plans to relocate to Alva Primary School. Brian Forbes, Customer Services Manager, Clacks Council is the contact officer for this project and he has confirmed that dialogue will continue.

The meeting with Brian on 05/04/18 was postponed to week commencing 23/04/18 as Brian, who will be accompanied by Eileen Turnbull, will have an update on the design work for the hub and parking from their external advisors, but meanwhile he has said.

- 1. Council agreed at its Budget meeting on 8th March to relocate Alva CAP into Alva Primary School.
- 2. Draft designs have been produced for the CAP/community space in the front area of the school. Updated designs are currently being developed by our external architects (part of HubCo) these will be available in the next couple of weeks.
- 3. Options are also being considered for the new parking/drop off arrangements again these will be available in the next couple of weeks.
- 4. Timescales Work on the CAP/Community Hub are planned to take place during Summer 2018, with the aim to open the CAP in Autumn 2018.
- 5. Security concerns Appropriate systems will be built into the design to ensure public users of the CAP have no direct access to the Primary School. There are a number of examples of public libraries/community use being co-located alongside schools in other parts of Scotland. If it was felt helpful, we would be happy to arrange visits to a couple of community campuses to see at first hand how this operates and talk to others as to how security is managed.

# Village and Small Town Initiative (VSTI) – Alva Streetscape Improvements

The CAPLan Group previously met with Stuart Crickmar regarding this. It is now time to apply for grants to supplement the £650,000 Clacks Council have to upgrade Alva Town Centre in 2019 / 20. An application can be made for a grant from the Scottish Government Regeneration Capital Fund, using Council capital in order to try and secure match funding and Stuart will complete the application. He has confirmed public consultation in Alva will commence prior to 2019. Clackmannanshire Council has allocated capital for a Community Empowerment Fund. It is possible that use could be made of this to support engagement and development.

Alva Community Council are meeting with Stuart Crickmar on Wed 25<sup>th</sup> April.

## Community Action Plan (CAPLan) Group

The above two items were on the agenda of the former Community Action Plan Group (CAPLan) which was a sub group of Alva Community Council (ACC) but evolved into Alva Community Development Trust (ACDT) who now have a revised agenda.

ACDT have asked that ACC resume responsibility for these items and following discussion this was agreed. It was also agreed to continue with the CAPLan Group and that the Outdoor Gym should also remain the remit of the CAPlan Group as ACC received the funding for the project.

There is £2720.46 in the CAPLan fund in the bank. Approx £1500 is remaining funding received for the gym and is ring-fenced for that purpose.

It was agreed to give £1000 to ACDT, a contribution for the management of the toilet block in Cochrane Park. This is the £1000 given to the CAPLan Group by Clacks Council on completion of the Action Plan in 2015 and was to be used to support a community project.

# 11 Community Councillors Reports

# Alva Community Council Briefing 2018 04 09 By Cllr Clark

- Appointment of new CEO going forward I am on the appointment committee
- Restructure will take place after new CEO problem will be to complete all the work with a thinner staff group
- Cuts called for strategic plan of implementation to be brought before the Scrutiny Committee -particularly in light of Audit Commission comments
- New Council Leader to be Ellen Forson with Phil Fairlie. Conservative has resigned from the group and voted with SNP at budget
- Written to the Head of Education asking for a breakdown of how Pupil Equity Fund is being spent to get an overview of what is happening
- Went "walkabout" with Housing staff looking at the bad closes in Tillicoultry and Alva. Very concerned about the standard of private sector rented properties. They are in the worst condition and charging

33% on average more than Council

- Concerned at Holyrood starvation of Council funding meeting with Shadow Communities Minister, Monica Lennon. Also arranging to meet Anis Sarwar about concerns of risk of collapse of Integrated Joint Board
- Arranged that sticks be swept up at crows nesting at Cochrane Park
- Took up right of way across the road from Bol Farm
- Meeting with Mike Mulraney and John Marshall to continue dialogue on business in Clackmannanshire
- Met with Poverty Alliance and hope to do something in the autumn. 26% of Clackmannanshire's children are living in poverty and it is the biggest indicator for health, educational attainment and crime
- Dealt with Lollipop vacancy two months ago

Cllr Benny reiterated that she will go back to the school/Services regarding the crossing at the primary school and check criteria of the PVG for volunteers to cover the crossing.

### 12 AOCB

Addition was education (was not on Agenda) by Sheona Craig.

Acting head Mr Arnold has finished up post. He has been in regular contact with the new head, Mr McEwan who starts after Easter break. There is a vote on the new school tie for academy, parents, kids and staff all involved in voting.

Authority review to be done. School to be inspected after break.

Tapestry group looking at how assessment is done throughout Clacks.

New text system in place for reporting absence.

Scottish education awards - the Primary schools previous depute head Mrs Littlejohn now head at Banchory primary is one of 3 finalists for head teacher of the year.

Alva Academy/all feeder primaries and OYCI are up for the schools partnership award.

A 12 year old pupil of Alva Academy asked via a letter if someone from the Community Council could arrange to go to Alva Academy and Primary schools to talk to pupils about littering and show the things that can happen. not only in the own town but also the world they live in. On a different topic he said ' We could get more people into reading like my Gran has been trying with me. It would be good if there could be more variety of books in the public library and ask the schools to make a set time each class can go to the Alva Academy library and have a reading time in classes. This could possibly improve the intelligence of those who choose to read fact books and the vocabulary of those who choose to read fiction books.

A MOP noticed and mentioned the new electric car charging points being put in place down cobden street/Johnstone Street area.

# Date of next meeting 14th May 2018 7.30pm Public Meeting Community Councillors pre-meeting 7pm

# **POLICE REPORT**

## ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL 09/04/2018

## **INTRODUCTION**

I am Police Constable 247 James Miller, one of two Community Policing officers for the area stationed at Alloa Police Office, the other is Police Constable 1046 Dawn Grant. You can contact us by calling 101 or by e-mail at Dawn.Grant@scotland.pnn.police.uk or James.Miller@scotland.pnn.police.uk.

Over the last month there have been 11 crimes recorded by Police Scotland. There have been 3 detected crimes and 8 undetected crimes, some of which are still under investigation.

### **PRIORITIES**

### ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There was 1 recorded incident of anti-social behaviour in the area, it was as follows;

- Between 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 at Craighorn Road, Alva, a domestic incident occurred involving offensive communications. The male responsible was arrested and appeared from custody.

### **VANDALISM**

There were 2 recorded incidents of vandalism in the area, they were as follows;

- Overnight from 25<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at James Street, Alva, a parked and unattended vehicle was intentionally scratched. No suspect has been identified and all enquiries are now complete.
- Between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at the Masonic Hall, Ochil Road, Alva, the external walls have been covered in graffiti using black and yellow spray paint. Enquiries are at an early stage but any information would be appreciated to assist in tracing those responsible.

# **VIOLENCE**

There were 5 recorded incidents of violence in the area, they were as follows:

- On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018 at Coblecrook Gardens, Alva, an allegation and counter allegation of domestic assault were reported and fully investigated by the police. With both complaints, no further action was taken due to insufficient evidence.
- On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 at The Nebit, Alva, an allegation of domestic assault was made which was by fully investigated by the police. No further action was taken due to insufficient evidence.
- On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 at the Tumpike Tavern, Cobden Street, Alva, a male was assaulted by another male who was subsequently arrested by the police.
- On 8<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at a residential dwelling in Parkgate, Alva, a minor domestic assault occurred which resulted in the male responsible being arrested and appearing from custody.

### **ACQUISITIVE CRIME**

There were 2 recorded incidents of acquisitive crime in the area, they were as follows;

- On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at a residential dwelling in The Nebit, Alva, a mobile phone was stolen during a party. A suspect has been identified and efforts are continuing to trace him.
- On 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at the Co-op, Stirling Street, Alva, a quantity of food and alcohol was stolen by 2 males. Police are following a positive line of enquiry to trace and apprehend both males.

## **ROAD TRAFFIC**

There was 1 recorded incident of a road traffic offences in the area, it was as follows:

- On 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at a residential dwelling in Myretoungate, Alva, a wall was damaged as a result of a road traffic collision. Enquiries are ongoing to trace the driver who failed to stop and provide details at the time.

It should be noted that traffic offences are routinely detected and dealt with by police without the need for them to be recorded. These offences may appear in the ASB section.

## **OTHER INCIDENTS OF NOTE**

PC Miller attended the March Alva Primary School PTA to discuss issuing relating to children crossing Brook Street safely while commuting to and from school. It was agreed that community officers would continue to attend where possible to assist with this.

PC Miller has also been engaged in dealing with neighbour disputes and other community matters in the ward area.

### **ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES**

The signage for the disabled parking space in Stirling Street, Alva has been installed and enforcement of this space has started.

PC Miller has also attended one of the planning meetings for this year's Alva Games and will continue to contribute to the planning process to ensure a safe and successful games.

PC Miller and PC Grant will be continuing their efforts to address local issues such as anti-social behaviour, inconsiderate and dangerous parking and underage drinking. Efforts have also been made to encourage safe and considerate driving practices.

The Clackmannanshire Community Team will continue to target local drug dealers utilising intelligence received from the community. This intelligence is essential to enable officers to act against those involved and we encourage any information to be passed to the police or via Crimestoppers. PC Miller recently assisted in the recovery of a substantial quantity of controlled drugs from an address in Alloa.

Please continue to report any concerns to police on 101 or directly to ourselves via e-mail.

Facebook and Twitter – Community Messages can be placed on local Police sites via one of the Community Sergeants, who are PS Scott Thomson 378 and PC 653 Graham Cadden. Both are based at Alloa Police Office.

### **FEEDBACK FROM MEETING**