

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday 9th September 2019

Venue: @ Alva Library

Lynn Cameron – Chairperson	LC	Sandra Rees – Vice Chairperson	SR
Linda Greig - Secretary	LG	Anne Spruce – Treasurer	AS
Graham Burt	GB	Kathrine Graham	KG
Iain Craig	IC	Mary Dalrymple (suspended)	MD
Community Councillors in attendance – LC SR AS LG IC GB KG			
Minutes – LG			

In Attendance:

Members of Community (MOC)17

**Elected Councillors –Cllr Donald Balsillie (DB)
Cllr Martha Benny (MB)**

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome and Introductions - LC welcomed all to the meeting and covered general housekeeping.	
2	Apologies - none	
3	Declaration of conflict of interest – none	
4	Minutes of Previous Meeting proposed by IC and seconded by GB	
5	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes - None	
6	<p>Police Report – Community Police Officer PC James Miller in attendance and gave report, see attached.</p> <p>GB asked about Police enforcing the parking restrictions outside the Parish Church & other issues of parking in and around Alva were brought up. PC James Miller assured all, that Police do what they can and have issued tickets to those offending the parking restrictions when the Police are present, but also stated that Police officers cannot be in Alva patrolling the streets indefinitely. Discussion followed on the proposed new road layout on Stirling street and how this may help alleviate this ongoing issue.</p> <p>Discussion turned to the bigger issue of the way drivers are acting whilst collecting pupils from both Alva Academy and Alva Primary using the Greenhead access and exit to both schools. There are reports and evidence of a bottleneck of cars contributing to potentially dangerous situations to pedestrians using the area. Drivers are parking on the pavements which forces pupils of all ages to walk on the road where they are required to avoid both stationary and moving vehicles. A member of the community asked for the community council to act but the community council are unsure what they can do as the Police are unable to be there each day and Clackmannanshire Council don't seem to be able to change the road lay out as the road is an unadopted road. All agreed that a better design</p>	

	<p>of road lay out could help the situation. Cllr Martha Benny said she would make some enquiries to see if anything could be done.</p>	<p>MB</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Office Bearer reports</p>	
<p>7.1</p>	<p>Chairperson report – LC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGM will be on Monday 14 October • Interim Elections - It has been confirmed that Clackmannanshire Council are going to proceed with Interim Elections for the Community Councils that are at, or close to, minimum in numbers. <p>ACC have 8 out of a possible 14 members so we are close to the minimum 50%. There will be an advert in Alloa Advertiser. Nomination forms will be available from Clacks Council website from 11/09/2019</p> <p>The term of office for all existing Community Councillors in all towns in Clackmannanshire, including Alva, ends approx. October 2020 (including those who join at Interim Elections)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alva Development Trust – Have asked us to announce that with effect from 25 September the monthly Alva Games Bingo tea will be in Cochrane Hall. • Glentana Mill - Following some incorrect comments about Alva Community Council on Facebook we posted a statement to set the record straight. <p>Alva Community Council (ACC) is made up of volunteers from Alva, currently 8 of us, who have a genuine interest in the wellbeing of the community. ACC have 10 public meetings per year, the next one is on Mon 9 September, 7.30pm in Alva Library. We note the recent interest from some members of the community who would like to save Glentana Mill and would like to clarify that ACC, first and foremost, exists as a link between the Alva Community and Clackmannanshire Council and as such we would be interested to hear any ideas on saving the mill. Whilst ACC have listened to what Clacks Council have planned for the Glentana site this does not mean we agree or disagree with plans. Any comments made by individual ACC members during an informal chat with members of the public does not constitute a statement from ACC.</p> <p>ACC have a sub-group, Community Action Plan (CAPlan) Group, made up of community councillors and members of the public who in 2015 produced the Alva Community Action Plan. It was from this group that Alva Development Trust (ADT) was formed and are now a separate constituted group. ADT have a 3-year lease of Cochrane Hall pending Community Asset Transfer. As well as liaising with ACC with ideas for Glentana we would suggest also speaking to ADT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Donald Balsillie commented on the post to clarify the Clacks Council position <p>Firstly, NO Council decision has been made on the future of the Glentana Building and its use.</p> <p>However- The Council has declared the building surplus to its requirements primarily due to ongoing problems of damp largely within the flat roofed part of the building. Site investigations into the damp issues have remained inconclusive as to cause! While empty the building has unfortunately been subject to vandalism including fire damage.</p> <p>The Council declaring Glentana surplus to its operational requirements is the first formal stage in the Council considering the buildings future and that of any surrounding land the Council own.</p> <p>This represents an opportunity to consider how this area around the Park could be best used in the future for the benefit of Alva and people of Clackmannanshire.</p>	

In the local Plan the area is currently zoned for Tourist / Commercial / housing. Previously a Planning consents in this area was given to Mrs Tilly for a factory/ visitor centre. This consent was not followed through).

The Council is at a very early stage of considering the future of the Mill building and surrounding land.

Councillors are aware of the very real pressures of an elderly population and growing specialist care needs of members of our community. Hence this site next to the park, Parklands centre, shops and bus stop is a good location for this type of use. This use has been discussed with the Community Council and is one of the more favoured in the mix of uses for consideration in any redevelopment of the site.

Council Officers are awaiting further information on the historic/ architectural significance of the building and are in the process of gathering information on the potential redevelopment of the site to take back to the Community Council and Council.

Facebook is a very difficult medium to respond to all the issues involved so I can only advise that anyone or any group who have concerns and those wishing to contribute to discussions on the future of the building and surrounding area do this in the first instance through the Community Council as they are a statutory consul-tee of the Council.

Individuals or groups can of course contact the Council directly to the Planning Service or our Economic Development service if they have specific projects they wish to take forward.

- Email from Lesley (Community Planning Advisor) re Glentanna

I have had a lot of enquiries about Glentana Mill so I thought I should tell you what I know. Clackmannanshire Council is proposing to demolish the building and re-develop the site. As far as I know, it hasn't been sold yet and it is not up for sale. There is an application for it to be awarded listed status pending.

We have received enquiries from several community / voluntary groups about the building but no formal CAT requests. It has been vandalised and internally is unsafe and in very poor condition.

I don't have any other detail but if Alva CC has any questions, please contact me again.

If you know of any community groups who want to enquire under the provisions of the Community Empowerment Act about the building (or any other Council building), please advise them to make specific reference to the Act so we can make sure the enquiry is dealt with promptly. The generic email is assettransfer@clacks.gov.uk

- A member of the community who volunteers locally asked

Clackmannanshire Council for permission to clear up the land around the Glentana building and although he would be working in conjunction with a volunteering organisation, who have all the necessary insurance and know-how to effectively carry out the task the council have refused, stating that it would not be safe or appropriate to do the work because it is to be demolished.

This member of the community and some others who are part of a group to save Glentana Mill building were at the meeting and explained how they would like to save the building for use for all in the Alva community.

Alva CC were asked to write to the CEO of Clackmannanshire Council to find out the timings for future plans for the building it was felt that hopefully a reply would solve the problem of conflicting information given so far.

Alva CC agreed to write to the CEO.

LG

<p>7.2</p>	<p>Secretary's Report – LG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Internal email - Linda reported that she had been concerned about not getting replies to some emails she sent during April and May 2019 and that it has since been confirmed that Alva CC had issues with their email. Alva CC emails seemed to be sent but were not. This has led to some outstanding tasks which will be attended to in due course. ● Councillor Clark enquiry - Councillor Clark sent an email to Alva CC on June 18th asking for clarification on the following allegations against Alva CC made by a correspondent. Councillor Clark asked, "Could you please advise me of the truth of these allegations". "Firstly, the correspondent alleged that the report which I compile and submit to the Council is never read out that the public be made aware of the issues". <p>Alva CC's suggested reply to Cllr Clark - Alva CC don't deliver those parts of Councillor's reports where content is not informative to the business of Alva CC, or when content is politically biased. Where items are not reported at a CC meeting, or the item is identified as part of a private conversation, they are not recorded in the minutes. This practice is applied to all Elected Councillors reports.</p> <p>Secondly, Cllr Clark said the correspondent alleged that "there was a clear bias towards other political parties other than his own".</p> <p>Alva CC's suggested reply to Cllr Clark - Alva Community Council is objective in its considerations and aspires to be representative of the local community. As such, during CC business, the interests of any political party are not promoted. To our knowledge, the Community Council operates under this premise. The allegation made is rather vague, and, if there is a specific example, we may be better able to respond to the allegation. Alva CC meetings are held in public so any thoughts on the Community Council being biased can be raised at any public meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed to reply to Cllr Clarks request for clarification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Council leaders' e-newsletter - Clackmannanshire Council Leader Ellen Forson has published an e-newsletter for local residents, businesses and partners. The newsletter can be accessed on Clackmannanshire Council website where you can subscribe for updates. 	<p>LG</p> <p>LG</p>
<p>7.3</p>	<p>Treasurer Report – AS</p> <p>Unfortunately, I am unable to give a full report because the account books and invoices are still with CTSi for checking. However, I can give balances on each account.</p> <p>Ordinary Account £1746.24 Special Events Account £23704.19</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Convenor Reports</p>	
<p>8.1</p>	<p>Environment – LG None at this time.</p>	
<p>8.2</p>	<p>JCCF – LC</p> <p>next meeting 12th Sep 2019</p>	

8.3	<p>Planning –IC</p> <p>Harvieston Brewery Alva application for carpark access and erection of new fence.</p> <p>All local planning applications can be seen by visiting Clackmannanshire Council website https://www.clacks.gov.uk</p>	
8.4	<p>IT – GB</p> <p>There are no current major issues with our website or Social Media. We did have an issue with our mailing system last month due to changes in their system which required me asking Phil to help with. Fortunately, our email service quickly returned to normal.</p> <p>Our ever-popular Facebook page continues to be the main source of activity. Our likes and followers have risen again. To date we have 1153 followers up 37 from 1116 and we have now reached 1075 likes, also an increase of 37 from 1038.</p>	
8.5	<p>Alva health centre patient group – KG</p> <p>None at this time.</p>	
8.6	<p>Education – <i>Update from Sheona Craig rep for Clacks national Parent forum Scotland</i></p> <p>There are two in service days next year 1st and 8th May 2020.</p> <p>Macmillan coffee morning is on 27/09/2019 at Alva Academy.</p> <p>Alva Academy Head Teacher has conducted robust assemblies since a knife possession was detected at the school.</p> <p>Sheona proposed a big thankyou to Alva Primary staff, Fire service and pupils and staff from Alva Academy during and after the incident at Alva Primary. All agreed to pass on their thanks to the swift and professional contributions to all concerned.</p> <p>NPFS are hosting an event in Perth on 5/10/2019 where parents can ask educational questions of John Sweeny.</p> <p>Exam results for Alva Academy have improved.</p> <p>Alva academy no longer to have head girl/boy but leadership team made up of S6 pupils who had to undergo an interview selection.</p> <p>National Improvement framework event highlighted good practice in Clackmannanshire and areas that will be concentrated on going forward.</p>	
8.7	<p>Public Partnership Health Forum – KG</p> <p>None</p>	
8.8	<p>Micro Grants – LG</p> <p>Alva CC allocated two EDF micro grants in May 2019 one to Alva Swifts and the other to Wee County Crafters. We are waiting on the grant reports.</p>	LG
9	<p>Events update – Events group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was agreed to set a date for next meeting • Alva Parks Clear-Up, Saturday 7 September 2019 <p>A member of the community recently approached Alva Community Council to ask what could be done about the poor state of the play areas in the towns Johnstone Park and the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in Cochrane Park.</p> <p>Alva Community Council supported the lady and helped organise a clean-up day for Saturday 7th September and were delighted with the response from the community as over 50 volunteers of all ages turned up in perfect weather conditions to help wash play equipment, hoe weeds, riddle and rake sand, collect litter, sweep paths etc. The nearby cenotaph was also cleared of weeds and litter (see the before and after photos)</p>	ALL

APPENDIX 1

POLICE REPORT

09/09/2019

INTRODUCTION

The community police officers for Alva are PC 247 James Miller and PC 492 Steven Carrie, who are both stationed at Alloa police office. You can contact them by calling 101 or by e-mail at James.Miller@scotland.pnn.police.uk or Steven.Carrie@scotland.pnn.police.uk.

Police Scotland have recorded 20 crimes in the last month for Alva. Of these, 10 are detected and 10 are currently undetected, some of which are still under investigation.

PRIORITIES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There were 7 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area over the last month, they are as follows;

- On 14th August 2019, a male behaved in an abusive manner in The Nebit, Alva and was apprehended and appeared at court from police custody.
- On 18th August 2019 at The Nebit, Alva, the same male failed to comply with police undertaking conditions and was apprehended and appeared at court from police custody.
- On 20th August 2019 at The Nebit, the same male was apprehended for failing to comply with bail conditions and was apprehended and appeared at court from police custody.
- On 30th August 2019 at Alva Academy, two youths were found to be in possession of knives and dealt with accordingly by the Schools Based Officer.
- On 5th September 2019 at Greenhead, Alva, the Community Policing Team executed a drugs search warrant and recovered supply quantities of controlled drugs. A male will be reported for the relevant offence.
- On 5th September 2019 at Alva Primary School, a wilful fire raising occurred which resulted in the school being evacuated. A suspect has been identified and enquiries are continuing.

VANDALISM

There were 3 recorded incident of vandalism in the area over the last month, they are as follows;

- On 24th August 2019 at The Wynd, Alva, a window was smashed as part of a domestic disturbance. The male responsible was apprehended and appeared at court from police custody.
- On 28th August 2019 at Brook Street, Alva, a window of a caravan was smashed. Enquiries are continuing to trace the youths responsible.
- Overnight from 1st to 2nd September 2019 at Dalmore Drive, Alva, a window was smashed at a domestic dwelling. Enquiries are still continuing to identify the person responsible.

VIOLENCE

There was 1 recorded incident of violence in the area over the last month, it was as follows;

- On 21st August 2019, a series of domestic offences were reported some of which occurred in Dalmore Drive, Alva. A male was apprehended and appeared at court from police custody.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

There were 6 recorded incidents of acquisitive crime in the area over the last month, they are as follows;

- Overnight from 15th to 16th August 2019, a theft of plant occurred from the roadworks at Brook Street, Alva. Police are following a positive line of enquiry.
- On 22nd August 2019 at the Co-op, Stirling Street, Alva, a considerable quantity of alcohol was stolen. The suspects have been identified and are being actively sought by police.
- On 26th August 2019 at the Co-op, Stirling Street, Alva, a further theft of foodstuffs occurred resulting in the male responsible being apprehended and appearing at court from police custody.
- On 28th August 2019 at a residential dwelling in Johnstone Street, Alva, a sneak in theft occurred during which a set of keys were stolen. All enquiries are now complete with no suspect being identified.
- On 3rd September 2019 at several commercial premises in Alva, a stolen bank card was used fraudulently to obtain stolen goods. Police are following a positive line of enquiry.
- Overnight from 5th to 6th September 2019 at Dalmore Drive, Alva, an insecure men's mountain bike was stolen from a common close. Enquiries are ongoing to recover the bike and identify the person responsible.

ROAD TRAFFIC

There were 3 recorded incidents of road traffic offences in the area over the last month, they are as follows;

- On 15th August 2019 at Stirling Street, Alva, a collision occurred on the pavement resulting in damage to signage. Enquiries are ongoing to trace the driver of the vehicle.
- On 20th August 2019 at West Stirling Street, Alva, a collision occurred between two vehicles after which the driver of the offending vehicle made off. Enquiries are ongoing to trace the driver of this vehicle.
- On 3rd September 2019 at Southcroft, Alva, a male was apprehended for various road traffic offences and appeared at court the following day from police custody.

It should be noted that other traffic offences are routinely detected and dealt with by police without the need for them to be recorded.

OTHER INCIDENTS OF NOTE

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.

ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

Community officers will continue to address parking and driving issues in Alva including Alva Primary School and Nursery, and Stirling Street. Numerous tickets and warnings have been issued and will continue to be issued where appropriate.

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 089 Cathy Sharkey. Both are based at Alloa Police Office.