

# Alva Community Council (ACC)

[www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk](http://www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk)

## Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Venue: @AlvaLibrary Brook Street Alva

Lynn Cameron – Chairperson	LC	Anne Spruce - Treasurer	SR
Linda Greig - Secretary	LG	Kathrine Graham	KG
Graham Burt	GB	Ewan Craig	EC
Iain Craig	IC	Mary Dalrymple (suspended indefinitely)	MD
Andrea Harkins	AH		
Community Councillors in attendance – LC AS LG IC GB EC AH Minutes – LG			

### In Attendance:

Members of Community (MOC) 6 Elected Councillors – Cllr Donald Balsillie Cllr Marth Benny

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	<b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Housekeeping</b> Lynn welcomed all to the meeting.	
2	<b>Apologies</b> Kathrine Graham.	
3	<b>Declaration of conflict of interest –</b> None	
4	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> - Proposed EC Seconded AS	
5	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</b> – some matters arising are included in Police Report & Secretary's report.  <b>Brown Bins</b> - Discussion took place regarding the charges now being applied for council tenants wishing to continue to use their brown bins, Council tenants are to contact Clackmannanshire Council to discuss their own preferred arrangements. Community Council put to elected councillors that it would have been preferable if all Clackmannanshire tenants had been given more sufficient notice of when charges would start as some tenants had been using their brown bins over the winter months but have decided not to pay the annual charge. Elected Cllrs were asked if arrangements could be made for one more free collection. Cllr DB said he would take the request back to council. Cllr DB suggested that tenants should keep their brown bins as the Scottish Government may in the process of time make it a statutory requirement for Councils to collect & dispose of garden waste.	Cllr DB

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**Police Report – Community Police Officer PC James Millar  
Monthly Report Attached.**

With reference to the concerns raised at the last meeting regarding game and pest shooting near to Boll Farm, Alva, I can advise that 2 people were identified as the persons shooting on this space and were contacted shortly after. They attended at Alloa Police Station the same day and had a meeting with the PS Sharkey in her capacity as the Community Sergeant, myself and PC Allen in his capacity as the Community Constable for Tullibody.

Several concerns were raised during the meeting including -

1. Reports of firearms being discharged in the general direction towards the path and housing in Alva.
2. Permanent signage being on show.
3. Males approaching walkers on a quad in an aggressive manner.
4. An elevated hide being on council land.

In relation to point 1, the two people reassured police that any rifle discharges would be in the general direction away from Alva as there is a natural earth embankment which would provide a resting place for the spent ammunition. With regards to shotgun discharges, they advised that they would all be up into the air targeting birds but did state that untargeted pellets obviously do have to drop back down but wouldn't pose a risk.

In relation to point 2 and until correct legal or operating regulations could be established for signage, it was suggested that the permanent signage remains but that a red flag system is implemented, similar to what the army use on their ranges. This would require the signage being updated to make pedestrians aware of the system. The two people agreed to implement this and display red flags when shooting is being carried out. It is of note

In relation to point 3, the concerns were raised about how they present when speaking to members of the public. They denied being aggressive in any way and advised that they normally video record any discussions to keep themselves right but also because of aggression displayed towards them by persons who disagree with them shooting.

In relation to point 4, they conceded straight away that although the legs of the hide were on Marshalls land, the hide rested against a tree on council land. They volunteered to remove it and recite it elsewhere.

It was also made clear to them that while making their way towards the private land for shooting, all firearms should be carried in cases. They agreed and stated that this was their normal practice.

We will continue to monitor the situation and any criminal complaints should be reported to police via the 101 number.

Discussion continued regarding concerns from members of the community who feel they are losing their usual walking route & some damage to surrounding trees.

PC James Miller stressed that to his knowledge there is no criminality taking place & that the shooters were cooperating with the Police regarding the community concerns. Members of the community said they appreciated that this was the case.

	<p><b>POST MEETING NOTE – Alva Community Council wrote to Mr Marshall out of courtesy to inform him of the discussions brought to the Community Council meeting &amp; the meeting between the Police and owners of the firearms.</b></p> <p><b>Mr Marshall informed the Community Council that he does not own the land referred to above as “near to Boll Farm Alva”.</b></p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Office Bearer reports</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	<p><b>Chairperson report – LC</b></p> <p>LC confirmed the closing date for Alva CC to apply for EDF funding is March 3<sup>rd</sup>. LC asked for ideas from the community of what &amp; where we could use EDF funding to benefit the Alva community.</p> <p>Ideas put forward included benches for the new cycle path in Alva &amp; fixing the jubilee clock. Access the clock could be an issue. Cllr Balsillie was asked if he could help with this &amp; he agreed to try.</p> <p>Funding from EDF has so far funded the outdoor gym, hanging baskets &amp; plants &amp; benches on the Alva to Tillicoultry leisure route. EDF also fund the sustainability of Alva Christmas lights.</p>	Cllr DB
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>Secretary’s Report – LG</b></p> <p><b>Outstanding issues</b> are as follows – Alva CC has had no luck tracing the winner of the soft toy at Christmas fayre so it will come along to next fayre.</p> <p><b>Notice board</b> – Alva CC has a new notice board on the library wall for Alva CC minutes. Thanks to Cllr DB for support with this. Alva CC &amp; Cllr Balsillie are looking at another notice board for community use.</p> <p><b>Benches</b> – have been delivered &amp; ready for installing on leisure route.</p> <p><b>Signs for Craigeith terrace house numbers</b> – Cllr DB will chase these up as have been in storage for quite some time. The problem with the signs is getting permission from property owners to place on external walls.</p> <p><b>Johnstone Park</b> strip of land has been utilised by new housing; Alva CC have had no further information on this.</p> <p><b>Flood group</b> – LG will contact the flood group contact at Clacks Council to find out if we can assist him set up a flood group in Alva.</p> <p><b>Communications -</b></p> <p><b>Ochil Youths Community Improvement (OYCI)</b> have invited us to a presentation of what OYCI has been up to and their exciting new youth led plans for our community When: Thursday 13 February 2020 at 12pm.</p> <p><b>Trustee of Hillfoots Community Trust</b> asked if they could attend a meeting to share their plans and progress by way of a short presentation to the Community Council to raise awareness and to receive community feedback. Alva CC agreed for meeting in March or April. LG will arrange.</p> <p><b>National Planning Framework 4 - Get involved</b> The Scottish Government are preparing a new National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and want to engage with the public, community, voluntary and private sectors, as well as academics, experts and professional bodies. Our local workshop session is being held on 28th February 2020 at The Barracks, Forth side Way, Stirling, FK8 1QZ, with a workshop between 10:00-12:00 and a drop-in session from 12:00-14:00.</p>	<p>Cllr DB</p> <p>LG</p> <p>LG</p>



8.5	<p><b>Micro Grants – LG</b></p> <p>Alva CC received two applications for an Easter event at the Cochrane Hall &amp; Park. Alva CC agreed to award £125 to each applicant for this event.</p>	LG
9	<p><b>CAPlan update – LG for CAPlan Coordinator Sandra Reese</b></p> <p><b>Last CAPlan</b> - meeting was on 21/1/2020 with council representatives &amp; CAPlan Coordinator Sandra Reese.</p> <p><b>Glentana site &amp; the Former Alva Glen site</b> - most probably being utilized for housing with care.</p> <p><b>Upgrading of Stirling street</b> - Plans are to have workshops/drop in sessions with the local traders prior to works starting. LG agreed to gather contact details for sending out info on the drop-in sessions &amp; then we would hand deliver invitations, but it seems most locals seem to prefer letters to email. Linda proposed that we get all info from Council representatives and put together a joint invitation that we could hand deliver. We could then build a contact list by getting contact details from those who attend or reply to the invite. All in attendance agreed. Linda will inform Sandra for discussion at next meeting.</p> <p><b>Next meeting</b> for the CAPlan group is Wed 26th February 2020.</p>	LG SR
10	<p><b>Events – Events group</b></p> <p>VE day celebrations are the weekend Friday 8th May to Sunday 10th May. Alva Community Council Fun Day is Saturday 30th May. Next events meeting to be confirmed.</p>	
11	<p><b>Elected Cllr reports – Local Development Plan</b> - Cllr DB recommended that the Community Council research and comment on the Local Development Plan, members of the community are encouraged to do the same. Representations on the MIR and associated documents can be made via Clackmannanshire Council online consultation</p> <p><a href="https://clackmannanshire.citizenspace.com/development-planing/copy-of-clackmannanshire-ldp-main-issues-report-20/">https://clackmannanshire.citizenspace.com/development-planing/copy-of-clackmannanshire-ldp-main-issues-report-20/</a> or submitted using the Printable Representation Form. The consultation is open between January 10th and March 6th, 2020.</p> <p><b>Clackmannanshire e-bikes</b> - Cllr DB discussed the e-bikes at Tillicoultry &amp; how the Forth Bike project has created an e-bike charge and hire station in Tillicoultry at Elistoun Drive with greener ways of travel surging ahead.</p> <p>More stations are planned for the Wee County in Alloa and Dollar while the scheme also has hire points in the wider Forth Valley region, including Falkirk, Bannockburn and Stenhousemuir. The £500,000 initiative is funded by Transport Scotland, NHS Forth Valley, SESTRAN, Clackmannanshire Council, Stirling Council and Falkirk Council.</p> <p>Find out more here..... <a href="https://www.forthbike.co.uk/">https://www.forthbike.co.uk/</a></p>	IC
12	<p><b>AOB at the discretion of the Chair –</b></p> <p>Member of the community spoke about the Alva Glen Illuminations event in September &amp; how they are looking for support with the electrics. Some local contacts were suggested.</p>	

**Next Ordinary Meeting – Monday March 9th, 2020 7.30pm Alva Library Alva.**

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **POLICE REPORT FEBRUARY 2020**

#### **ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**10/02/2020**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

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

Police Scotland have recorded 14 crimes in the last month for Alva. Of these, 8 are detected and 4 are currently undetected, most of which are still under investigation.

#### **PRIORITIES**

##### **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

There were 6 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area over the last month, as follows;

On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at a residential dwelling in Dalmore Drive, Alva, police recovered possession quantities of what were believed to be controlled drugs. These will be tested and owner will be reported for any relevant offences.

On 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Alva Medical Practice, West Johnstone Street, Alva, a male was apprehended for threatening behaviour and for being in possession of a knife. He was held in police custody to appear at court the next lawful day.

On 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at The Nebit, Alva, a domestic incident occurred during which a male was threatening. He was apprehended and will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 at Craighorn Road, Alva, a drugs search warrant was executed during which controlled drugs were recovered. A male was held in police custody and appeared at court for controlled drugs offences.

On 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at The Green, Alva, a road rage incident occurred which resulted in two males making off after committing disorder and road traffic offences. Police are following a positive line of enquiry.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 at Caroline Crescent, Alva, a female was arrested and held in police custody after being threatening towards a family member.

##### **VANDALISM**

There were 2 recorded incidents of vandalism in the area over the last month, as follows;

Sometime between 27<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020, a caravan window was forced and damaged at Balquharn Farm, Alva after which the inside was used but no property was stolen. No suspect has been identified and enquiries are continuing.

On 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the Johnstone Arms, Stirling Street, Alva, several windows were smashed at the front of the building and a car scratched at the rear. Police have identified a suspect who they are actively trying to trace.

## **VIOLENCE**

There were 5 recorded incidents of violence in the area over the last month, as follows;

On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Alva Academy, a male pupil was subject to a minor assault by another pupil. The Schools Based Officer investigated the incident and the matter was dealt with using the most appropriate disposal.

On 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020, a series of domestic offending and road traffic offences were reported at various loci in Alva and Tillicoultry. The male responsible was arrested and held in police custody to appear at court the next lawful day.

On 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 within a residential dwelling at The Nebit, Alva, a domestic incident occurred which resulted in male reporting that he had been assaulted by two others. One suspect is still outstanding and enquiries are continuing.

On 27<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at Alva Academy, three male pupils were dealt with by the Schools Based Officer for an assault on another pupil. Those involved have been reported for this incident.

On 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at The Cross Keys, Stirling Street, Alva, an altercation between male associates resulted in one of them being assaulted with a pool cue. Police are actively trying to trace the male responsible.

## **ACQUISITIVE CRIME**

There were no recorded incidents of acquisitive crime in the area over the last month.

## **ROAD TRAFFIC**

There was 1 recorded incidents of a road traffic offences in the area over the last month, as follows;

On 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at East Stirling Street, Alva, a driver was found to be driving without the correct licence or insurance. He was charged and will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

**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**

None

## **ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES**

Concerns raised regarding the authorised use of firearms at Boll Farm have been progressed by the Community Policing Team with PC Miller visiting the site and a meeting at Alloa Police Station with those involved. An email communicating the outcomes from this meeting was passed to the Community Council. PC Miller has also consulted with the Police Scotland's local Wildlife Officer regarding the reports received. Further communication will take place with the landowner and the authorised users of the land in this respect but no criminality has been identified at this time.

Community officers will continue to address parking and driving issues in Alva. 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. PC Miller has spoken with staff at Clackmannanshire Council who have provided an estimated start time of July for the planned streetscape enhancements to Stirling Street, Alva. This will hopefully address many of the parking issues including parking on the pavement and within the bus stop.

PC Miller has also requested the refresh of parking restriction lines within the ward area and this will commence over the next few months as the weather improves.

In relation to parking concerns raised at the last meeting, PC Carrie has attended at the commercial premises at the junction with Stirling Street and Queen Street with a view to raising awareness of these concerns and the actions that police will take.

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.

Facebook and Twitter – Community Messages can be placed on local Police sites via one of the Community Sergeants, who are PS 378 Scott Thomson and PC 089 Cathy Sharkey. Both are based at Alloa Police Office.