

Alva Community Council (ACC)

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Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday January 11th, 2021

Venue: Zoom

Lynn Cameron – Chairperson	LC	Anne Spruce - Treasurer	AS
Linda Greig - Secretary	LG	Kathrine Graham	KG
Graham Burt	GB	Iain Craig	IC
Bryan Denny	BD	Holly Craig	HC
Graham Gilmour	GG	Mary Dalrymple (suspended indefinitely)	MD

In Attendance:

Community Councillors – LC AS LG KG IC - Co-opted Community Councillors BD GG HC

Members of Community - 6

Elected Councillors – Cllr DB Cllr MB Cllr HL

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome & Introductions – Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting & introduced those attending who applied for co-option to Alva CC.	
2	Apologies - GB	
3	Declaration of conflict of interest - None	
4	Minutes of Previous Meeting - Proposed by AS Seconded by IC	
5	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes -	
6	Police Report – Community Police Officer Report was unavailable at the meeting but was sent by email. Report Attached	
7	Co-opting of Community Councillor applicants – LC went through the process for Co-opting Community Councillors. The process has changed temporarily due to the postponement of Community Council elections due to the Covid19 pandemic. Our understanding is that – <i>Clackmannanshire Council agreed not to exercise its power to invoke suspension of a community council that does not comply with co-option provisions while we can't run elections due to COVID-19 if co-option is the only way to ensure that the community council has enough members to continue to operate. The agreement not to exercise the power and the co-option of Cllrs beyond the co-option ratio are temporary measures in response to the particular circumstances of COVID-19.</i>	

	<p>You can find the full rationale in the meeting archive on our website https://www.clacks.gov.uk/document/meeting/1/1021/6757.pdf or this link should take you straight to the paper. https://www.clacks.gov.uk/document/meeting/1/1021/6757.pdf</p> <p>All Alva Community Councillors voted unanimously to co-opt Bryan Denny, Graham Gilmour & Holly Craig on to Alva CC. Bryan & Graham are active members of the Alva Community Resilience Team & Holly is a student in Alva & has volunteered with Alva CC at community events.</p>	
8	Office Bearers Reports.	
8.1	<p>Treasurer Report – AS</p> <p>January 2021 Ordinary Account Income Admin Grant £600.00 Balance £2973.15</p> <p>Special Events Account Expenditure Micro Grant-Guid Reads £250.00 Donation ADT £1000.00 Robertson Tree Care £192.00 Balance £33,826.81</p> <p>Ring fenced. Lights £8117.77 Action Plan £3146.56 Microgrants £2270.00</p>	
8.2	<p>Secretary’s Report – LG</p> <p>Email from LB re Support for People programme re latest lockdown for Covid19 Pandemic. The Council's arrangements for contacting people who have been told to self-isolate will be in place from Monday 11th. Council Officers will proactively contact people identified through 'test and protect' to make sure they have any help they need to stay at home. Lesley reminded Alva CC that as Council Officers are working out -with their normal duties that there would likely be a delay in any correspondence with Alva CC.</p> <p>Review of the Scheme of Establishment for Community Council’s – Alva CC have agreed to propose that the boundary staying the same for the moment. Maximum of 14 Councillors & Minimum of 6. Linda will contact Lesley with the proposal to change the minimum number. The next stage of the review will likely start after Easter.</p>	LG
9	Convenor Reports	
9.1	<p>Planning – IC</p> <p>Iain has responded to the Public Consultation regarding the Proposed Residential Development and infrastructure – Land North & South of A91 to the West of Alva on behalf of Alva CC. Members of the community 7 local councillors also responded. Some of the responses include concerns regarding the following.</p>	

	<p>Some of the concerns raised & considerations requested, should the development go ahead included.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding • Sewage and drainage • The effects on local infrastructure such as health and education • The increased volume of traffic • Traffic calming measures • The impact on local wildlife • Loss of green belt areas • Pedestrian access to Alva town • Design options made available for consultation with the community including style, size of property • Two-bedroom properties • Community enhancements • Cycle path links <p>Discussion took place regarding the online public meeting on Thursday 7th January 2021 between 4-6pm which was advertised at the last minute which meant not many people could attend.</p> <p>Some hard copies of the proposed development will be put in the window of Higgilty Piggility on Stirling Street. A request will be made to ask for a key to the bus stop advert board for Alva CC to use as a notice board.</p> <p>Alva CC will continue to post any updates on our social media & website.</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>GB</p>
<p>9.2</p>	<p>IT Report – GB gave apologies.</p>	
<p>9.3</p>	<p>JCCF Report - AS</p> <p>Meeting held on 3/12/20.</p> <p>The following topics were discussed.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consultation on the Scheme. About 18 replies were received. Lesley Baillie will look at these and prepare a presentation. The second stage of the consultation will be in 2021. 2. Roads Service- Clackmannan CC reported the new development is not to plan. Speed bumps were used instead of speed tables. 86% of residents asked were not happy with the traffic calming measures. LB said that there has to be an investigation as to whether the views of the community have been ignored or whether the Council are unable to carry out the community wishes because of safety or budget restraints. She said it was important to make sure all meetings with the Council or other bodies are minuted. Community Empowerment doesn't seem to be happening in Clackmannanshire. Maybe a JCCF rep. should go to the planning meeting/ place committee. 3. Muckhart, 60 houses planned but the LDP for the area had said 35 houses. The Council supported Muckhart but the decision was overturned by the reporter. 	

	<p>4. Information exchange. Remembrance Sunday was mentioned, just to report what happened in each area.</p> <p>5. Annette McAnney is leaving. She sets up all elections. No interim CC elections.</p> <p>6. Next meeting February 2021- possibly an extra meeting will be arranged with Audrey Marsh (Police Commander) in January. She was unable to join this meeting because of technical problems.</p>	
10	Sub Committee reports	
10.1	<p>Alva Community Resilience Team - GG</p> <p>It has been a busy time for us since the last report, so I will try and keep things as brief as possible.</p> <p>1st Team Callout! On the 4 December, the Team were called into action for the first time, responding to actual and anticipated flooding events that threatened the community.</p> <p>The area had its first falls of snow on Thursday 3rd December. Prior to this the area had been generally having a lot of rain. The Alva RiverTrack system had only recently been installed (22nd November) and the Alva Burn was being continually monitored to gain experience of the system and how water levels changed. Continuous heavy rain was forecasted for Friday 4th Dec by the Met office. No SEPA bad weather alert warning was issued.</p> <p>Throughout the day on Friday, the team carried out visual inspections of all the burns in Alva and monitored the levels on the Alva Burn visually and via the RiverTrack system and kept in touch via our WhatsApp chat group.</p> <p>By the evening, the team were called out to two locations, Henry Street, and to a property on Back Road, Glen Affric, just opposite the North-West entrance to Cochrane Park, where water had breached the lower retaining tank of the silt trap there and was flowing down toward Grodwell Drive. Sandbags were delivered to both locations, and at Back Road, used to direct the water down into the park, and away from potentially flooding properties on the South side of Back Road and on Grodwell Drive.</p> <p>On the Saturday morning, we were advised that flooding in the Cochrane Park, at the old cricket pitch had breached the flood defences there and water had entered two properties on Wharry Road. One of these properties was quite severely affected and was being pumped out by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service.</p> <p>Full details of the events and actions have been documented, along with a list of lessons learnt, and are available upon request, but given that this is a large document, has not been fully added here.</p> <p>New Store Clackmannanshire Council are in the process of kitting out a metal container to be used to store items useful to the team, and this will be placed at the yard at the corner of Queen Street and George Street in due course.</p> <p>Flood pods</p>	

Locations for flood pods, which will store smaller items that could be needed to deal with incidents of flooding are being identified, and hopefully will be placed soon.

Response to proposed development to West of Alva

The Team have produced a document in response to the consultation on the proposed development. The main points of the response are:

To split the proposed development into three areas:

- Area 1 - the area south of the Back Road and to the north of the A91.
- Area 2 - the area to the south of the A91 and to the north of the new cycle path / old railway line.
- Area 3 - the area to the south of the cycle track and north of the River Devon.

All three areas have been designated by SEPA as between a medium and high risk from surface water flooding which may affect between 10% to 30% of the land. Area 3 is also designated as to be at risk from river water flooding.

We have made mention of historical flooding on these fields, and also on the housing to the east of Area 1.

Our concerns also list the ability of the Alva Sewage Works to cope with existing flooding events, and that we would like some attention to be given to ensure that the new flood defences enhance these defences, and do not make the situation any worse.

Likewise, we have also requested that the flood defences do not push any potential flooding issues westward towards Diageo or Menstrie.

We have also requested, as part of any proposed flood defences, that flood pods and a flood store be located within the development. This will allow volunteers to quickly access any essential items to prevent or reduce the risk to properties.

Social Media

The Team now has set up its own Facebook page, and this has been used to inform the community of our work, and at times warn of expected heavy rain forecasts. The page now has over 100 followers.

Membership

Following the events of the 4/5 December, we had an article highlighting our efforts printed in the Alloa Advertiser. This coupled with the Facebook page being launched has led to a number of new members coming forward and joining us.

RiverTrack

RiverTrack was installed before the events of 4 December and did prove very useful at the time. However, we are experiencing issues with interference with the radio signal which are currently being investigated, and this means that the live feed is not working at the moment. The team will continue to monitor the levels visually however as would always be the case until the problems are re-solved.

Fund Raising

The Team are looking at a number of opportunities to raise funds to pay for essential equipment as highlighted by the events at the start of December. This includes things like PPE (face masks, gloves, and hi-vis

	<p>tabards/jackets) and tools. We have had some discussions with Ann Spruce regarding the matter that ACRT does not have its own bank accounts, and possibly using ACC accounts to create ring-fenced ones. We have also asked the team in Menstrie how they have over-come this problem. These discussions are still at an early stage.</p> <p>Our next meeting is Monday 18 January via Zoom</p>	
10.2	<p>Events group – LG</p> <p>The Christmas light displays were fabulous around the town. Some photos were taken but due to the weather the pics did not do the displays justice.</p> <p>Alva CC have optimistically! provisionally booked Cochrane Hall for our community events in 2021.</p>	AS
11	<p>Temporary Closure of Alva Post Office – LG Post Meeting Note</p> <p>Some information for the community from a Post Office representative received on 09.02.2021.</p> <p>Our field team has been working hard to try and find a suitable solution for the community. Currently, we are working with two potential new operators. However, both have yet to come to any final decision. As you mention setup costs can be an issue. These vary from premises to premises depending on what enabling works need to take place. Pre-COVID-19, we may have been able to assist with some of this. However, the impact the pandemic has had on our business has limited our ability to do so. We are working to see what we can do to help with these.</p> <p>In the meantime, the field team have been looking at what alternatives could be deployed whilst we work to find a solution. They have managed to move some locations around between the Kippen and Cowdenbeath mobile routes and free up some space on the Kippen mobile. We would therefore be able to have the Kippen mobile call to Alva. This has only been confirmed yesterday, do I can't tell you which days it will call. This will hopefully provide some access to services to Alva.</p> <p>We will continue to work with those interested in taking on the branch full-time.</p> <p>As soon as we have fuller information on the mobile, we will, of course, let you know. It would be our goal to have this operational within the next two weeks.</p> <p>I hope the above is helpful.</p>	
12	<p>Elected Councillor Reports –</p> <p>CLlr Donald Balsillie reported that.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clacks has 225 cases of Covid19 per 100 thousand. • Council staff are working in the front line during the pandemic supporting Track & Trace, food banks, homeless projects, processing government grants to businesses & allocating PPE. <p>CLlr Martha Benny reported that the Primary School when fully open will be at full capacity which gives concern when considering a new housing development.</p>	

13	AOCB A member of the community asked if there were plans for electric chargers to be placed at the car park at Cochrane or Johnstone Park, no plans yet. Discussion followed on the potential for the Glentanna site to be redeveloped in the near future & to look out for a public consultation.	
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Next Ordinary Meeting March 8th, 2021.

ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

08/02/2021

INTRODUCTION

The community police officers for Alva are PC 247 James Miller and PC 245 Katie Lawson and 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 and Catherine.Lawson@scotland.pnn.police.uk.

Police Scotland recorded 16 crimes in the last month for Alva. Of these, 11 have been detected and the other 5 are currently undetected, most of which are still under investigation.

PRIORITIES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There were 8 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area over the last month, they are as follows;

On 16th January 2021 at the Woodlands Park Car Park, Alva, two males were found to be in possession of Cannabis whilst Police were on mobile patrols. Both males were issued Recorded Police Warnings.

On 16th January 2021 at Greenhead, Alva, a local male was found to have multiple other people within his home address, contravening the Coronavirus Regulations. The male was arrested and charged with Culpable and Reckless conduct, and a report will be submitted in relation to this incident.

On the same date at this address, an additional 3 fixed penalty notices were issued to local individuals who were found within, contravening the Government guidelines.

Between the 25th January and the 1st of February 2021 at Caroline Crescent, Alva a local male had been failing to comply with his set bail conditions. The male was arrested, charged and appeared at court the following day for this offence.

On the 26th of January 2021 at Courthill, Alva a local female was also arrested and charged with failing to comply with her set bail condition in that she does not enter Alva. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

On the 31st of January 2021 at Southcroft, Alva a local resident has a glass bottle thrown through her window as she was sat within the room. There are no named suspects as of yet, but Police enquiries continue.

VANDALISM

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

Between the 15th and 16th January 2021 at Guidreads, Stirling Street, Alva, damage was caused to the front door of the premises by unknown means. Police enquiries continue into this.

On 25th of January 2021 at Southcroft, Alva damage was caused to a local resident's Ring doorbell. There is no named suspects for this incident and Police enquiries continue.

VIOLENCE

There was 4 recorded incidents of violence in the area over the last month, it is as follows;

On the 17th of January 2021 at Stirling Street, Alva, a local male had assaulted his partner, whilst also breaching set bail conditions not to approach or be in contact with her. The male was traced, arrested and charged before appearing at court the following day.

On 17th January 2021, at The Wynd, Alva there was a report of a domestic assault whereby the suspect had pushed the victim, and had also caused damage to her living room door. The suspect was arrested, charged and appeared at court the following day for these offenses.

On the 23rd of January 2021 at Craighorn Road, Alva a local male had assaulted two females. The male was arrested, charged and appeared at court the following morning for these offenses.

On 25th of January 2021 at Alva Academy, Alva a local pupil had assaulted another by kicking him and spitting at him. The youth was warned by Police and was issued a restorative warning from his teachers.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

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

On 14th January 2021 at the Co-Op, Stirling Street, Alva a local male stole a quantity of food stuffs. He was traced, charged and reported for this theft.

Between the 27th of January and the 1st of February 2021 at The Nethergate, Alva there was a theft of ladders from the roof of a local resident's work van. Police enquiries continue.

ROAD TRAFFIC

There were no recorded road traffic offences.

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

During the evening of the 24th of January 2021 at Stirling Street, Alva a female was sexually assaulted by an unknown male. The victim had never met the male before, and extensive enquiries are ongoing to ascertain who the suspect is. There is CCTV footage of suspect whilst he walks along Stirling Street, and this is being used to help identify the him.

ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

Community officers have continued 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.

Illegal and dangerous parking continues to be an issue in Alva, especially in Stirling Street and Queen Street with regular offences being detected in bus stops, disabled bays and double yellow lines. Police would encourage all residents and business owners to adhere to and regulations and encourage others to do so.

PC Miller attended at a meeting with Clackmannanshire Council in November 2020 regarding the forthcoming upgrades to Stirling Street, Alva. The implementation of these changes, which are due to start this month, will hopefully provide a permanent solution to driving and parking issues in Stirling Street and Queen Street, Alva.

The possibility of a new CCTV system as part of this upgrade was also discussed and is being looked at as part of these improvements.

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. One drugs search warrant was executed this month.

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.