

# Alva Community Council (Alva CC)

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

## Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Venue: Zoom

Lynn Cameron – Chairperson	LC	Anne Spruce - Treasurer	SR
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, GB, IC, BD, HC, GG,

Members of Community (MOC) 4

Local Councillors – Cllr Balsillie, Cllr Benny, Cllr Clark

Minutes – LG

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	<b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Housekeeping</b> Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
2	<b>Apologies</b> Kathrine gave apologies.	
3	<b>Declaration of conflict of interest -</b> None	
4	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting –</b> Proposed by IC seconded by AS	
5	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes –</b>  Item 8.2 Review of the Scheme of Establishment for Community Council's – Linda has contacted Lesley with the proposal to change the minimum number of Alva CC members to six members, but this info has not been recorded in the Draft Summary of responses, but I have sent the request again.  Item 9.1 Email sent to Clack Council for a key to the bus stop display board - We should be able to get access to the info board. CC representative will be in touch when he finds out how to access the display boards.	LG  LG
6	<b>Police Report – Community Police Officer Report Attached</b>	

<b>7</b>	<b>Office Bearer reports</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	<p><b>Education &amp; Environment opportunities –</b></p> <p>LC explained the need for an environment &amp; education convener – the conveners will report anything of local interest to the CC at meetings. Graham Gilmour volunteered for the environment convener position. Holly Craig agreed to be the education convener.</p> <p>GG reported that the bins at the North entrance to the cemetery have been removed. Cllr Benny said she would find out why. Discussion took place re the future use of the Back Road</p>	MB
<b>7.2</b>	<p><b>Secretary’s Report – LG</b></p> <p><b>Micro grants</b> – An annual summary has been sent to EDF. We have awarded two micro grants since May last year. One to Guid Reads for shop signage which is on hold due to Covid19 lockdown. Another to ACRT for maintenance to the River track system. I will send Graham updated versions of the Micro grant forms for the website &amp; Facebook.</p> <p><b>Sub committees of Alva CC funding &amp; spending procedures. –</b>  <b>Funding</b> -For subgroups of Alva CC to be proactive in their activities, they will need to have a term of reference from Alva CC. The terms of reference will include terms for raising funds for the group’s activities. These terms are not about restricting funding opportunities for sub committees but to stop the possibility of subgroups competing for funding. Funding organisations usually stipulate that they will allocate one grant per organisation. All Community Councillors present agreed that all sub committees will have a “Terms of Reference” &amp; that the specific terms for “Funding” will be the same for all Alva CC sub committees.</p> <p><b>Spending –</b> Alva CC uses cheques to distribute funds which can sometimes be problematic when purchasing goods. When subgroups come to spending their funds, all agreed to discuss how this is done with the Alva CC Treasurer to ensure safe, suitable &amp; straight forward financial transactions. All community councillors present agreed.</p> <p>These procedure’s will be reviewed annually or as &amp; when required.</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>All</p>
<b>7.3</b>	<p><b>Treasurer Report – AS</b> <b>March 2021</b></p> <p><b>Ordinary account</b> Expenditure IT hosting £57.60 BALANCE £2915.55</p> <p><b>Special Events Account</b> Receipts EDF Christmas lights 2021 £2500.00 EDF Events 2021 £2500.00 EDF ACRT Covid Response £1370.00 Round Table ACRT £200.00 Microgrant ACRT £250.00 Interest £4.40</p> <p>Expenditure Cycle path benches £3950.00</p>	

	<p>Gordon Electrical £387.60  Microgrant ACRT £250.00  BALANCE £36,063.61</p> <p>Ring fenced.  Lights £10,230.17                      Microgrants £2,020.00  Action Plan £3,146.56                      ACRT £1,820.00  Events £2,500.00</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Convenor Reports</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<p><b>Planning &amp; Licencing – IC</b></p> <p>There is an application for a change of use of Alva Motor Company to become a retail/store premises.  The work is nearly completed for Norton Street carpark and pre site work should be starting on 10 March on the old Alva Glen site.  It's reported that work should be starting on Stirling street start of April.</p>	
<b>8.2</b>	<p><b>JCCF Report - AS</b></p> <p>February 25<sup>th</sup></p> <p><b>1.</b>We were joined by Scott Walker from Waste Services. He spoke about the anti-social behaviour concerning the glass recycling bins. There have been many complaints about noise, other rubbish and broken glass.  Next year a deposit scheme is being introduced. Shops will sell bottles with the deposit added and will have a recycling point whereby the deposit is returned. This might be a voucher. This should take away 90% of the problem. 1 recycling point will remain in each town.  There was no consultation on the textile recycling bins because of Covid but these are well used and serviced regularly by the Salvation Army. The size of the bins may be reduced in the future when there is less demand.</p> <p><b>2. Website Accessibility statements</b>  There was a discussion as to whether we were a public body. Some thought we were, but Lesley is not convinced. Tillicoultry have already attached a statement, and this is being used as an example to others. Ewart McCauslane will circulate this to every group. The statement does not need to be attached to the facebook page.</p> <p><b>3. insurance</b>  The paperwork has been sent out for the basic insurance but Ewart has only received this back from 1 CC. Needs to be completed and returned so it has time to be approved.  Flood Group insurance. James from Menstrie is sending out details of what they have. I argued that the Council should pay the insurance for the Flood Group, but as other areas already pay their own, we will have to do this too.</p> <p><b>4. Co-opted CCs</b>  I pointed out that the scheme said "Co – opted members do not count for minimum operating numbers" and therefore we would still struggle to hold meetings. Other groups were in the same boat. At present the Council has decided not to suspend CCs which do not meet minimum numbers. Lesley advised every group should discuss this and report back. The scheme is in the process of being revised if required. There will be a special JCCF meeting to discuss this on March 11<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Discussion took place regarding the co-opted members not counting towards minimum operating numbers of community councils. Anne will propose a change to this part of the review of scheme of establishment of community councils at the meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>5. Asset management and consultation.</b></p>	<p>LG GB</p> <p>LG AS</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>AS</p>

	<p>Tillicoultry were frustrated that the Council own property but that no one knows about it until it's put up for sale. There is no consultation about the sale. They wanted to know if there was a register of property and land. The asset register can be found on the Council website and it's updated every 6 months.</p> <p><b>6. Info exchange.</b> Dollar, Tillicoultry and Menstrie galas are cancelled. Tillicoultry may hold a Community Week in August. Clackmannan asked if everyone would sign the petition to extend the railway to Dunfermline. The Leisure Bowl was also mentioned in the hope it would be replaced.</p> <p><b>Next meeting, Thursday, May 13th</b></p>	
<b>8.3</b>	<p><b>IT – GB</b></p> <p>There are no current major issues with our website or social media. Facebook continues to be our main source of communication with 1,699 likes and 1909 followers. (data from 28/02/2021) Traffic (visitors) to our website remains quite low by comparison albeit important for non-social media users. Our web C-Panel hosting subscription was renewed on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2021 at a cost of £57.60.</p>	
<b>9</b>	<p><b>Sub – committee reports –</b></p>	
<b>9.1</b>	<p><b>Alva Community Resilience Team – GG</b></p> <p>Things progressing well for the team, and we are starting to find our feet. As you will be aware, the weather has not been kind to us late January and into February, although thankfully there have been no serious consequences. Once again, apologies for the length of the report, but we have covered a lot of ground since January.</p> <p><b>SEPA and Met Office Alerts</b> We have had around 5 alerts from either SEPA for flooding or from the Met Office for heavy rain. The snow fall in early February caused concern as we had seen reports that there was in excess of 3 feet of snow lying on the hills in places. When the thaw came, we did start to see raised levels in the burns, but the majority of this had cleared and water levels returned to a lower level before we had any significant rain fall. Had the snow melt coincided with the heavy rain, things could have been very different. There were two occasions, on the 26/27 January and again on the 23 February when heavy rainfall saw members of the team actively out checking and clearing blocked drains at a number of points around the community.</p> <p><b>Safe Store</b> The safe store has now been sited and the stock has been gradually built up so we now have a number of resources available to us to assist us with managing flooding events. The majority of the kit is now in place, but there are still some more items expected.</p> <p><b>Flood Pods</b> A new flood pod is expected to be sited in the area around Grodwell Drive. This will be stocked with various items that would allow team members to quickly access tools or other items in the event of any flood issues around that part of Alva.</p> <p><b>Training</b> Several members of the team took part in an online training course organised by the Scottish Flood Forum with the RNLI on the dangers of cold water immersion. This was a very valuable course for the team, as although it had been designed with the dangers of falling into sea water, fresh water can be considerably colder, and even relatively shallow fast moving water can cause anyone caught in it</p>	

	<p>being potentially swept off their feet, and becoming at risk from hypothermia. An online meeting has also been arranged by SFF and Clackmannanshire Council with all the flood groups in the area. This is primarily to be a networking session, but we are also looking to address the issue of insurance cover for flood group members taking part in any event.</p> <p>Bryan Denny completed an online first aid course, and some other members are looking to take this course too.</p> <p><b>Funding</b></p> <p>The team have successfully applied for and been granted two awards in particular: • We received an award of £200.00 from Alloa Round Table for general purposes. • We received an award of £1370.00 from Foundation Scotland toward COVID specific PPE items (face masks, sterile wipes, gloves, eye goggles, etc) We have also applied for just over £3,600.00 from the EDF Burnfoot fund which will allow the team to purchase general purpose PPE (waterproof clothing, wellingtons, personal radio's, head torches, first aid kits, etc). We will not hear if we have been successful with this application until around May.</p> <p><b>RiverTrack</b></p> <p>The RiverTrack monitoring system on the Alva Burn is back up and running with a new sensor unit. There was an issue from last December with radio interference that was causing the old unit to malfunction. After some rigorous testing, a new unit has been delivered with some custom modifications to address this interference and allow the unit to be able to continue to send its updates even when the interference is present. A further investigation on site will be carried out to try and identify the source of this radio 'noise' which only seems to be present in Alva. Menstrie has a similar RiverTrack system but is not affected by the issues found in Alva.</p> <p><b>Terms of Reference –</b></p> <p>Discussion took place regarding the adoption of the terms of reference for the Alva Community Resilience Team. All community councillors in attendance agreed to accept the terms of reference subject to the outcome of the meeting with Clackmannanshire Councils Flood Officer regarding the insurance of local flood groups.</p> <p>ACRT will send Alva CC the outcome of meeting. Insurance for ACRT will be on the next CC agenda.</p>	ACRT LG
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Events</b>	
	Anne will cancel the Alva CC Funday booking with Cochrane Hall & Park Lynn will organise hanging baskets for the street.	AS LC
<b>10</b>	<b>Items for discussion -</b>	
<b>10.1</b>	<b>EDF Burnfoot Hill Community Fund –</b>	
	Some suggestions were put forward for the next round of Burnfoot Community Fund – kids' equipment at gym, Bicycle repair site, E-bikes. A list will be stored for reference & ways to invite the community to help decide will be discussed.	All
<b>10.2</b>	<b>See Agenda Item 8.2. 4</b>	
<b>10.3</b>	<b>Community Action Plan –</b>	
	There is money in the CAPlan budget which could help to fund some street furniture if required when the Stirling street works are complete. It was agreed to keep the next Action Plan on the agenda.	

<b>11</b>	<b>Clackmannanshire Councillor reports –</b>  Councillor Balsillie spoke about the Budget being frozen for 2021, Clackmannanshire showing high levels of Covid19 cases. Covid 19 testing station coming to Alva. The schools have been deep cleaned. The Chief Medical Officer will announce procedures for public safety whilst voting in the Scottish Election on Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> May.	
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**Next Ordinary Alva CC Zoom Meeting – Monday April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 7.30pm**

**Members of the Alva community are most welcome at all meetings and can request to join a meeting by emailing [info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk](mailto:info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk)**

**Please make your request to join the meeting 2 clear days prior to the meeting date.**

# **APPENDIX 1**

## **POLICE REPORT**

**08/03/2021**

### **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](mailto:James.Miller@scotland.pnn.police.uk) and [Catherine.Lawson@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Catherine.Lawson@scotland.pnn.police.uk).

Police Scotland recorded 15 crimes in the last month for Alva. Of these, 12 have been detected and the other 3 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, they are as follows;

On 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at Stirling Street, Alva, a male was found in possession of a small amount of controlled drugs which were seized. He has been issued a recorded police warning.

On 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021 at Stirling Street, Alva, a male was found to wasting police time and was charged with same. He has been issued a recorded police warning.

On 21<sup>st</sup> February 2021 at Greenhead, Alva, a male was found in possession of controlled drugs amongst other offences. He was arrested and appeared at court from police custody.

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at Parkgate, Alva, a domestic incident resulted in the arrest of a female. Investigation was carried out into the two offences reported but there was insufficient evidence to take any further action.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 at West Johnstone Street, Alva, a male was charged for threatening an abusive behaviour and will be reported for this and numerous road traffic offences which resulted in the seizure and uplift of his vehicle.

Overnight from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at a residential dwelling at Dalmore Drive, Alva, a group of 5 persons were traced within in breach of COVID regulations. The householder was charged and the visitors issued fixed penalty notices.

#### **VANDALISM**

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

On 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 at Dalmore Drive, Alva, a car windscreen was intentionally smashed. The male responsible was traced and issued a recorded police warning.

Overnight from 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021, a car was covered in manure in Southcroft, Alva. Enquiries are continuing to identify the person responsible.

## **VIOLENCE**

There were 3 recorded incidents of violence in the area over the last month, they are follows;

On 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at the Cochrane Park, Alva, a disturbance occurred between youths which resulted in one female being dealt with for an assault to injury. Further enquiries are continuing regarding other offences.

On 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at Brookfield Place, Alva, a male youth was found in possession of a knife. This has been diverted to Early and Effective Intervention.

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at Craighorn Road, Alva, a male was arrested after assaulting others with a BB gun, being in possession of a bladed article and vandalism. He appeared at court from police custody.

## **ACQUISITIVE CRIME**

There were 3 recorded incidents of acquisitive crime in the area over the last month, they are as follows;

Between 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 and 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at Brook Street, Alva, a male was subject to extortion. The person responsible has been charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 at Craighorn Road, Alva, a residential dwelling was broken into and a quantity of jewellery was stolen. This appears to have been an opportunistic crime and suspects have been identified.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 at Stirling Road, Alva, a female was subject to an attempted fraud by means of electronic contact. Enquiries are continuing.

## **ROAD TRAFFIC**

There was 1 recorded road traffic incident in the area over the last month, it is as follows;

On 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 at Parkgate, Alva, a male was found to be driving unsupervised with a provisional license only and with no 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**

Police Scotland continue to deal with reports of breaches of the COVID regulations. Police Officers are having to expose themselves to potential risk from this deadly disease so we would encourage all to abide by the rules and regulations to help protect all.



## **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.

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, PS 378 Scott Thomson who is Alloa Police Office.