

Alva Community Council (ACC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday 14th March 2022 7.30 pm

Venue: Zoom

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

In Attendance

Community Councillors - LC, BD, AS, LG, KG, GB, IC, GG, HC

Members of Community (MOC) - 7

Local Councillors – Cllr Donald Balsillie

Minutes - LG

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome, Introductions & Housekeeping Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting. Lynn acknowledged the sad passing off Willie Emslie. Willie was a follower of the Alva CC's work over many years. Lynn passed on condolences on behalf of Alva Community Council to Willie Emslie's family.	
2	Apologies None	
3	Declaration of conflict of interest - Conflict of Interest re Micro grant at item 7.2	AS
4	Minutes of Previous Meeting Proposed by GB seconded by BD	
5	Matters Arising from Previous Minutes - <ul style="list-style-type: none">Alva Public Art Funding – LC & BD will arrange a meeting with Council officers to discuss how Alva CC will access the funding. From there Alva CC will promote the fund & get ideas from local artists & the community. LG will send contact details to BD to arrange the meeting.Other matters arising can be seen in item 11 Cllr Balsillie's report.	LG BD
6	Police Report – Community Police Officer Report attached.	
7	Office Bearer reports	

7.1	<p>Chair report – LC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LC tended to the planters in front of the primary school with support from Alva in Bloom members. • The cheque from Alva CC to ADT for improvements to the toilet block has now been cashed • LC has contacted a joiner to remove some of the brackets from the business on Stirling Street, once we find out who wants to keep theirs or not the joiner will start. 	LC
7.2	<p>Treasurers Report - AS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ordinary Account No Change Balance £2836-84 • Special Events Account No Change Balance £31,760-38 Ring fenced Lights £10,369-86 Action Plan £2,552-47 Microgrants £3,270-00 Events £562-20 ACRT £1,467-63 <p>• AS delivered an EDF Alva CC Micro Grant to the meeting. The application is for the planting of tree whips in Alva by the Alva in Bloom group. Some members of Alva CC are members of the group therefore there is a conflict of interest. The following Alva CC members voted on the application criteria being met. The criteria is "To benefit the community" IC, AS, KG, GB all agreed to fund the application. GG abstained. Terms & conditions of the micro grant fund will be sent to Alva in Bloom for signing prior to payment of £250.</p> <p>The micro grant fund is intended to provide funding to the individuals and groups within the local area who can make a big difference with just a little helping hand. Provided there is a genuine community benefit, there is no restriction on projects. Some ideas to get you started might be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment and supplies for a craft group. - Plants for a community space. - Tea urns for a lunch club. - Travel costs for individuals to participate in event out with the area. - Insurance costs to start a new youth group. <p>For information on the Micro Grant fund & to tell us about yourself or your group please email info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk</p>	LG
7.3	<p>Secretaries Report – LG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LG renewed Alva CC membership with CTSi & asked for support with making website accessible to all. GG will put this forward for the next JCCF agenda to see if there is support available from other CC's. • Venue for next meeting – Cochrane Foundation Social Centre – all in favour of using this venue for the April & June meetings. • Member of the community asked for leisure route from Alva to Menstrie timescale. Cllr Balsillie confirmed the leisure route would be underway in the 2023 -2024 financial year. • Notice of local government elections Thursday 5th May 2022 has been given. Notice will be posted on our media. 	GG LG GB

8	Convener Reports	
8.1	Health – KG nothing to report.	
8.2	Planning – IC Alva West residential development planning withdrawn for the time being.	
8.3	Education – HC Alva Academy students are preparing for their exams.	
8.4	Environment – GG nothing to report	
8.5	IT – GB It's been a quiet month; I published the Jan 2022 meeting minutes and Police report on the website and continued to engage with the members of public on social media when necessary.	
8.6	<p>Joint Community Council Forum (JCCF) – GG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alloa Hub <p>Meeting was joined by Anthea Coulter from the newly formed Alloa Hub who are part of the wider Living Alloa Project that is redeveloping the vacant town centre site on Primrose Street in Alloa. They will create a community owned and run public facility in the heart of Alloa town centre that will promote active travel, local businesses tourism and heritage.</p> <p>The Alloa Hub will celebrate the rich heritage of Clackmannanshire by displaying the Andrew Crammy designed Clackmannanshire Tapestry. They aim to bring new visitors to Alloa to see this new attraction. The tapestry will be housed in the newly refurbished toilet block in Alloa, next to the car park.</p> <p>Part of the project invites local residents to participate and become part owners of Alloa Hub Limited by purchasing shares. It is hoped that those investments will see a return of 3% on their investment, which could be as little as £1. Shares are £20 each but there is a maximum to prevent any individual or groups having too big a say in the future direction. The share offer will open on Wednesday 9 March 2022, and close on Wednesday 27 March 2022. Details can be found on the Alloa Hub – Alloa First website, or by contacting Andy Davis, Community Development Officer, CTSI at alloahub@alloafirst.co.uk.</p> <p>It was questioned why the focus is on Alloa, and not the whole of Clackmannanshire, as the aim is to benefit the whole area. It was pointed out this narrow focus would probably alienate other parts of the County.</p> <p>Place Plans All CC's are being encouraged to review their Place Plans and that they are up to date. Alva CC was highlighted from having used the Place Standard Tool in the preparation of the regeneration of the main street. Current Place Plans are expiring this year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insurance <p>All CC's were encouraged to review and respond to Ewart at Tilly CC regarding their requirements for insurance in the coming year. Failure may mean CC's are not covered for some planned events.</p>	
9	Subgroup reports	
9.1	<p>Alva Community Resilience Team – GG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flood alerts from SEPA 	

	<p>There were no Flood Alerts issued by SEPA in the last month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident 20 February <p>Heavy overnight rain in the early hours of 20 Feb, combined with a rapid snow melt led to a sudden surge in the water level at the RiverTrack sensor. Concerns were raised by Bryan at around 07:00 who called Graham to alert him the levels were showing 790mm, well above our Red alerting level of 750mm. Graham and other members of the team deployed to check the Alva and Carnaughton Burns. Both were high, but were within their limits, although the Alva Burn was starting to hit the underside of the bridge.</p> <p>A decision was made to get the WaterGate barriers ready, but not deploy them as the rain was forecast to ease slightly. A full callout was also not initiated at this time for the same reason, although Police Scotland were advised by a 999 call, as per our standard operating procedure, that there was a risk of flooding. The level on the RiverTrack sensor did record a maximum of over 843mm at around 07:45</p> <p>The areas around Henry Street, and also at the Primary School were monitored for any signs of water escaping from the channel, but none was observed.</p> <p>Levels started to reduce, and with an improving forecast, the team members stood down and returned the barriers to the flood pod at around 09:00am. With some heavy rain due later in the day, the team continued to monitor water levels around Alva during the rest of the day, but no further deployment was required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage clearance <p>Team members have continued to keep the Carnaughton Burn flowing cleanly, especially after the incident on the 20 Feb when silt and other debris were obstructing the trash screen at the culvert under the main road. Members also cleared drains on Burnside Farm Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Closures <p>Team members alerted the Council that there were issues with the road flooding south from Brook Street toward the Devon, but no closure signs were being displayed. It was then noted that even when these signs were being displayed, drivers were still ignoring them. The management of these signs are the responsibility of the Police and the Council, and not part of the duties of ACRT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Press Report. <p>ACRT had favourable coverage, along with other flood teams in the Hillfoots for their efforts after they were all called into action on the 20 Feb in the Alloa Advertiser.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Kit <p>The team received two new wheelbarrows which will be very useful in helping to remove the debris from the Carnaughton Burn.</p>	
<p>9.2</p>	<p>Events Group – Alva CC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LC proposed the theme for the Fun day “a right royal fun day” all agreed. • A vote was taken as to whether to have a parade along Park Street to the Cochrane Park or whether to wait till next year when Stirling Street regeneration will be complete. There are a lot of permissions, paperwork 	

	<p>and Police time needed for a parade. The vote is in favor of waiting till next year when Stirling Street is complete.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alva CC will need volunteers for the fun day so will put a post on Facebook & use local business to advertise once we know what we need help with. • Alva CC to continue with events email address for preparation for events and add HC to the group. • HC will find out if we can have music from the Academy. 	<p>LG GB GB HC</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Items for Discussion – BD</p> <p>Alva Glen - Cascades Regeneration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BD seeking a contact within EDF to whom he can talk to about the cascades project. IC will pass on a potential contact. • There has been no more correspondence from BEEZR TV. • There is potential to get half barrels from Diego. • AGHT & Alva in bloom will help clean the area. • Waiting on info on Heritage funding • The project has the potential to be bringing some of our industrial heritage back to life again, improving Alva as a place to visit with a lovely attraction alongside our new sculpture trail. 	<p>IC</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Clackmannanshire Councillors reports</p> <p>Cllr Donald Balsillie –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council budget – Challenging times with Council tax & Council housing increase. No changes have been made to volunteer grants. • Covid 19 – continues to be a big issue in Clackmannanshire. Council is providing grants to help those in isolation. • CTSi – community groups can present wishes to google drive & companies can pick these up & offer support to groups. (More info required.) • Stirling Street regeneration bus stops – there is disappointment with the decision to have red bus stops instead of the black. There seems to be a problem of miscommunication in the decision taken by Council officers. • <i>Alva CC confirmed at this meeting they are disappointed in the way this decision was made. Cllr Balsillie will raise this at the next Council meeting.</i> • Alva Local Development plan is five years out of date. When it is being constructed members of the community will have the opportunity to express their views on issues such as housing. <p>Matters Arising from February meeting raised on behalf of Alva CC by Cllr Balsillie.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaint from member of public about sight lines in exiting George Street onto Brook Street- could a mirror dish be provided at this junction to assist exit? RESPONSE: No. Mirrors are not used in urban locations by the Roads Authority and only very rarely in rural locations. The Council would never put one of these in this location. • Complaint about passing arrangements for the two road bridges south of Alva. Could this be looked at to create clear signage and waiting lay-by to enable safe single car crossing of bridge? RESPONSE: We have the kerb and cycle wands in Forthbank depot to 	

	<p>put the road narrowings in place and to provide a safe cycling lane over each bridge. There are plans to improve this area and complete these works once the winter weather has eased as there will be new road markings required also.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When is timescale for completion of cycle path Alva to Menstrie and likely construction of Alva to Fishcross? RESPONSE: (a) 2023-24 (b) 2024-25 • Following road works at lovers loan / Allan water homes the road surface does not appear to be draining away due to camber of road can this and road surface be investigated with view to improving surface and drainage? RESPONSE: this refers to a new area of ponding at the A91 / Lovers Loan junction (just at the west most pedestrian dropped kerb). Although the work by AW was covered by the MRC issued by Gordon's team for the TM improvements on the A91, The Roads Service will now chase AW directly for work to reshape the surfacing here / reset the gully asap. We are aware of this issue, and it will be re-done, I will update you once this is underway. • Can more information be provided on the Council/ Ogilvie homes obligation from the housing development, on former Alva Academy site, in terms of percentage for art- what was the condition/ community benefit? Has it been fulfilled? pictures requested of artwork / concrete plaque? what is outstanding? Who had oversight of this obligation and implementation? What was community involvement if any? RESPONSE: I have previously confirmed that the condition was met by Ogilvie providing panels on boundary walls facing Park Street, which would be available for public art installations. (This itself was difficult to negotiate as Ogilvie had paid a "no further contributions" amount to the Council for the land). We have art money from Alva East and more to come from four houses on Brook Street, which could be used here if the community wish. We have contacted the Community Council about their thoughts on use of public art money and are awaiting a response. • Who has responsibility for completing short missing footpath link from Allan Water homes development to Greenhead footpath? RESPONSE: Council officer has spoken to Sliver Glen residents about this already. The section is Council land and has confirmed the Council will do this. Allan Water have taken the path to their site boundary, surfaced and lit. • The finishing of the road and footpath at Lovers Loan appears unsatisfactory in terms of road and footpath surface as well as drainage- is this work complete who has responsibility for its completion and suitability of purpose? RESPONCE; This relates to Road Construction Consent (RCC) assessment by the Council's Roads service and is being addressed by them. • Does Allan Water Homes have a requirement to notify the Council when all snagging works and suds scheme complete? Who must maintain this? RESPONSE; No. There will be continued liaison between the developer and Scottish Water on elements they will adopt. • what is status of Allan Water Alva west planning application- have revised flood plans and proposals been submitted to satisfy SEPA? 	
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	RESPONSE: Withdrawn and new application to be submitted following re-consideration of flooding assessment and further consultation.	
12	AOCB - Member of the community asked how to go about making a complaint regarding harassment towards women in an area in Alva. Advice was to contact the local community Police and the Licensing department at Clackmannanshire Council.	
	<p>Next Alva community Council meeting – April 11th, 2022</p> <p>If you would like an item, put on an Alva Community Council meeting agenda, please email info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk or contact the Alva Library.</p>	

APPENDIX I

POLICE REPORT

ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

15/03/2022

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, Kilncraigs, Alloa. 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 12 crimes in the last month for Alva. Of these, 5 have been detected and the other 7 are currently undetected, most of which are still under investigation.

PRIORITIES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There were 4 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area over the last month, they are as follows;

On 21st February 2022 at Alva Academy, Alva, a pupil was found to be acting in a culpable and reckless manner. The offence will be dealt with by the School Based Officer.

On 22nd February 2022 at Grodwell Drive, Alva, a male was found to be in possession of a controlled drug. He has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 11th March 2022 at Brookfield Place, Alva, a youth was reported to be acting in a threatening and abusive manner. The youth has been identified and the appropriate actions will be taken.

On 14th March 2022 at Beauclerc Street, Alva, a domestic incident occurred whereby a male was reported to be acting in a threatening or abusive manner. He has been identified and police are continuing efforts to trace him.

VANDALISM

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

On 11th March 2022 at the Cochrane Hall, Alva, 2 windows were smashed by youths. Police are following a positive line of enquiry.

VIOLENCE

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

On 23rd February 2022 at Alva Academy, a pupil was involved in a physical altercation with another. The offence will be dealt with by the School Based Officer.

On 24th February 2022 at Alva Academy, a pupil was involved in a physical altercation with another. The offence will also be dealt with by the School Based Officer.

On 8th March 2022 at various loci in Alva, a domestic incident occurred which resulted in numerous offences being reported including assault. The male responsible has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

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

On 24th February 2022 at Minto Gardens, Alva, a resident was the victim of a fraudulent scheme. Enquiries are continuing to identify the person responsible.

Sometime between 25th and 28th February 2022 at Alva Industrial Estate, Alva, an attempt was made to gain entry to a commercial premises. Enquiries are continuing to identify the person responsible.

ROAD TRAFFIC

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

On 18th February 2022 at Greenhead, Alva, a parked and unattended vehicle was damaged as result of a road traffic collision. The driver failed to leave details or report the incident. This incident is still under investigation.

Overnight from 19th to 20th February 2022 at The Green, Alva, a parked and unattended vehicle was damaged as result of a road traffic collision. The driver failed to leave details or report the incident. Police are following a positive line of enquiry.

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 continue to respond to incidents of youth disorder and anti-social behaviour at the Cochrane Park and at Alva Golf Course as well as other locations in Alva. Any criminality will be dealt with robustly.

The Clackmannanshire Community Policing Team continue to support Response Policing in the county while staffing is affected by COVID-19 abstractions.

PC Lawson's Road Safety Operation which will run from 22nd to 25th March to 2022 within the Hillfoots area. This will target ongoing traffic issues such as speeding, illegal parking, and the use of vehicles without necessary documentation such as insurance, a relevant license or a valid MOT. The areas mentioned previously by residents and CC members will be included and monitored during this operation as much as possible.

ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

Community officers have continued to address parking and driving issues in Stirling Street, Alva which has been more restrictive during the period of the road improvements due to the absence of the yellow lines. These will be re-instated at the end of the works. Please drive and park in a careful and considerate manner until these are complete.

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, currently PS 378 Scott Thomson and PS 752 Alisdair Goldie who are based at Alloa Police Station.