

# Alva Community Council (Alva CC)

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

## Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### Venue: The Cochranes

Lynn Cameron – Chairperson	LC	Bryan Denny – Vice Chair – Alva Community Resilience Team (ACRT)	BD
Anne Spruce - Treasurer	AS	Linda Greig – Secretary – Micro Grants	LG
Graham Burt - IT	GB	Iain Craig – Planning & Licensing	IC
Katherine Graham - Health	KG	Holly Craig - Education	HC
Graham Gilmour – Environment – Alva Community resilience team (ACRT) – Joint Community Council forum (JCCF)	GG	Mary Dalrymple (suspended for the full term of this Community Council)	MD

#### In Attendance:

Community Councillors - LC, BD, GG, AS, LG,  
Members of Community (MOC) -  
Local Councillors -

#### Minutes - LG

Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action by
1	<b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Housekeeping</b> AS reported that there will be an ecumenical service for the celebration of Her Majesty the Queen - 20th September 2022.	LC
2	<b>Apologies</b> – KG, HC, Councillor DB	
3	<b>Declaration of conflict of interest</b> - None	
4	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> – Proposed by Iain Craig Seconded by Bryan Denny	
5	<b>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes –</b> <b>Christmas lights</b> - LG LC & AS meeting with company on Wednesday. <b>Funding for cycle repair station</b> – LG has not yet applied to EDF for funding as we would need to do more research on which station would be best and how to manage the maintenance of the repair station including the cost. <b>Co-op community fund</b> – Co-op community fund is by application to the co-op. <b>Brackets to be removed from shop fronts</b> – List to be sent to joiner. There are 54 hanging baskets. A meeting is needed with representatives from Clacks Council to discuss how the plants for the baskets will be paid for as Alva CC have received funding for 24 baskets previously and there is now more than double that amount.	LG, LC, AS           LC

	<b>Art for Alva</b> – The Art for Alva project which will be funded by the Public Art Fund monies held by Clackmannanshire Council. The structure will be designed to incorporate the past, present and future of Alva. GM Welding Services Artistic Ironworks Ltd in cooperation with their artist will be working with Alva CC to design a suitable structure that the community can enjoy.	BD All																																
6	<b>Office Bearer reports</b>																																	
6.1	<p><b>Chair report -LC</b></p> <p><b>Special meeting</b> - Alva CC held a special meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> August. Reason for the meeting and meeting note - AS To discuss what action should be taken following Mary Dalrymple who is suspended for the full term of this Community Council, sending Clackmannanshire Council an email signed as a Community Councillor from a fraudulent Community Council email address.</p> <p>Various suggestions were put forward and a discussion took place ranging from prosecution to asking for advice. It was clear that everyone agreed that something should be done as she was bringing the Community Council into disrepute, and she was guilty of false representation.</p> <p>It was decided that Lynn would contact both the Police and the legal department at the Council to ask for advice and make both parties aware that the other had been contacted.</p> <p>Alva CC are communicating with Clackmannanshire Councils legal department.</p> <p><b>Civic Pride benches</b> – LC asked what had happened to the benches removed from the Glentanna site by Clacks council – Cllr Fiona law will find out.</p> <p><b>Promoting Alva business on completion of street works</b> – Alva CC are hoping to create an advert for the local shops in the local paper with support from Clackmannanshire Council.</p>	LC  LC, GB, AS																																
6.2	<p><b>Treasurers report – AS</b></p> <p><b>Ordinary Account</b></p> <p><u>Income</u></p> <table style="width:100%; border:none;"> <tr> <td>Reimbursement for use of Cochrane F.</td> <td style="text-align:right">100.00</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Expenditure</u></p> <table style="width:100%; border:none;"> <tr> <td>Donation To Cochrane Foundation</td> <td style="text-align:right">100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stationery expenses</td> <td style="text-align:right">59.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Data Protection</td> <td style="text-align:right">40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Games medals</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>48.59</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accounting gift</td> <td style="text-align:right">30.00</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>BALANCE</b></p> <p>£1888.03</p> <p><b>Special Events Account</b></p> <p><u>Income</u></p> <table style="width:100%; border:none;"> <tr> <td>EDF microgrants</td> <td style="text-align:right">2000.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EDF events grant</td> <td style="text-align:right">2500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T/S from ord acc. (wordfence)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>83.56</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fun Day</td> <td style="text-align:right">2799.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Light boxes</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>141.26</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interest</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>6.97</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Reimbursement for use of Cochrane F.	100.00	Donation To Cochrane Foundation	100.00	Stationery expenses	59.67	Data Protection	40.00	Games medals		48.59		Accounting gift	30.00	EDF microgrants	2000.00	EDF events grant	2500.00	T/S from ord acc. (wordfence)		83.56		Fun Day	2799.39	Light boxes		141.26		Interest		6.97		
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	Donation 3.00 <b>Expenditure</b> Fun Day Expenses 2431.65 Microgrants (ADT & AGHT) 500.00 Barrels 151.86 Gordon Electrical 175.20 <b>BALANCE</b> £34,757.03 <b>RING FENCED</b> Lights 10,194.66 Action Plan 2,552.47 Microgrants 4,770.00 Events 630.55 ACRT 843.88	
6.3	<p><b>Secretary’s report – LG</b></p> <p><b>Interim elections</b> – email from Lesley with the following, As the nation is now in a period of mourning, we cannot start an election process next week, so your forthcoming interim elections will have to be postponed. The Elections Team are still hoping the election can be held this side of Christmas and they are working on a new schedule for your interim elections now. We will send it to you as soon as it is ready.</p> <p><b>Alva CC meeting venue</b> – I have been trying to get the library to be our main venue again, for our monthly meetings. We have been offered the Academy, but we know that isn’t suitable. Cllr Balsillie made enquiries on our behalf via a Councillor enquiry. The responses we have had from different departments have been inconsistent. Matter is ongoing.</p> <p><b>Alva Food Larder</b> - is currently open to anyone who could benefit from help with food, kindness, and signposting towards services in order to recover their lives with dignity. we will now be continuing as a long-term project, open to the public every Friday from 12 - 3pm. Donations can be dropped off at Alva Parish Church on a Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday 10.30 - 12, or Friday 12 - 3pm.</p> <p><b>Police Community Officer</b> - PC Lawson has moved on to a new role and is no longer the Community Officer for Alva. Her replacement won’t take up her position until the summer of 2023. PC James Millar is our Community Police Officer.</p> <p><b>Sauchie Tower</b> – email from a representative from Community Enterprise, <i>I work for a charity called Community Enterprise. We have been appointed by Clackmannanshire Heritage Trust to produce a business plan for the restoration of Sauchie Tower. We will be undertaking some direct consultations with the community but are also very keen to gather views from groups who are active locally. The local Community Councils would be key groups that we would want to consult with. Is this something you might be willing to discuss? I would be happy to speak either to representative of the Community Council, or a</i></p>	Clacks Council                    LG

	<p><i>wider group.</i> A discussion took place regarding the importance of the Tower for Clackmannanshire, but no individual Community Councillor has the time to be involved in the project. LG will send apologies.</p> <p><b>Half barrels for planters</b> – Half barrels were placed at the Primary School these are being looked after by the nursery group and teachers with support from Alva CC. Two at the Dalmore centre, these will be looked after by a resident with support from Alva CC. We have three to put at the bridges when that area is completed by the contractors.</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>LG LC</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Convener reports</b>	
7.1	<p><b>Health – KG</b> KG sent apologies.</p>	
7.2	<p><b>Planning &amp; Licensing - IC</b> No report.</p>	
7.3	<p><b>Education - HC</b> sent apologies. AS reported that she met Iain Sneddan, Principal Teacher at Alva Primary School. He has a remit for “Communities and partnerships” and in the past has worked with ADT, the Cochrane Foundation and the Church. He wants to work with the community to set up a community kitchen and larder and a uniform bank. I pointed out that the Church is already running a food larder and suggested he contact Jim McNeil to see if they could work together. I advised him to apply for a microgrant and to look at EDF funding for bigger projects which might benefit the community.</p>	
7.4	<p><b>Environment – GG</b> <b>Climate Change Forums</b> - There will be five forums, one in each of the ward areas of the Council, which will provide a space for dialogue between businesses, young people, residents and the Council in order to shape local environmental targets.</p>	GG
7.5	<p><b>IT - GB</b> There are no current major issues with our website or social media accounts. My apologies for not being so active on our social media in the last month due to the death of my Father, being away for a short break last week and my Mum being admitted to hospital 8 days ago just 4 days after my Dad’s funeral. Many thanks to fellow Alva Community Councillor Bryan Denny for helping me out. Our ever-popular Facebook page continues to be the main source of interaction with the community of Alva.</p>	
7.6	<p><b>JCCF – GG</b> <b>Notes on items discussed -</b> <b>1. Policies and Procedures required for events.</b> This is not particularly an issue affecting CCs, but rather community groups who are unaware of things they need, like hiring the park (yes you do need to arrange that), Public Entertainment Licenses and other admin. A brief discussion was held, but there will be a specific single</p>	

	<p>Item JCCF meeting to discuss this at Alva Academy on 29 September with Stuart Crickmar, Strategic Director (Partnership &amp; Performance).</p> <p><b>2. Local Place Plans.</b> CCs are being encouraged to review these and update where necessary. Alva last updated in 2015 when many responses addressed state of Stirling St, which has now been the subject of ongoing works. We might not want to do a new survey until the dust settles (no pun intended).</p> <p><b>3. Information on new Community Councillors</b> Discussion on whether CCs should be able to see the statement given by prospective new CCs after they have been elected. This might reveal skills that might benefit the CC, but is not about vetting them. It is still being discussed by the Elections Team. The statement is not mandatory for the applicant to complete.</p> <p>It was also discussed if the CC should know when a new Councillor is elected if they have any requirements for adaptations to allow them to do their role. This could equally apply to existing Councillors who may have changes in their lives which make changes necessary.</p> <p><b>4. Information packs sent to new Community Councillors.</b> Discussion around how much we need to send to new Councillors. Should it be everything, or just the highlights. CCSs are being asked to give some comments.</p> <p><b>5. Kilncraigs Reception</b> Communications have already been sent on a consultation on the reception, and what it might look like in future. During the pandemic, some reception staff have retired, and many council staff now work from home. Ideas are being sought about who needs to access the reception and why. Also, could these things be done in other ways? For instance, there is an internal mail system that could mean people could drop things off at the Access Point, rather than travel to Alloa. Other suggestions discussed were how those without access to internet could access digital services that might replace the reception? Should we issue a survey of the community?</p> <p><b>6. Information Exchange</b> 202 bus service to Kinross has now received funding from Perth and Kinross Council who have requested it now be re-routed via Blairingone and Rumbling Bridge, so it now does not go via Muckhart. This means there is no service now from Hillfoots to Muckhart.</p> <p>Clackmannan has now also lost bus services.</p>	
8	<p><b>Subgroup reports – Alva Community Resilience Team</b> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Alvacommunityresilience/">https://www.facebook.com/Alvacommunityresilience/</a></p> <p><b>Flood alerts from SEPA</b> Since the last meeting, we have had 5 Flood Alerts issued by SEPA covering the Central area. These were on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24 June,</li> <li>• 25 July,</li> <li>• 13 August,</li> <li>• 3 September,</li> <li>• 7 September.</li> </ul> <p><b>Near Hit</b> During the early hours of 16 August, members of the team had to deploy to visually check the Alva Burn for potential flooding. Heavy persistent rain had started in the late evening of the 15<sup>th</sup> August,</p>	

leading to a rapid rise in the water level. At around 2:00 am, the signal from the RiverTrack sensor was lost with the last level recorded around 560mm. This was noted at around 3:00 am, and with the heavy rain continuing, a visual inspection was made. This showed that the burn was still safely within bank. With the rain beginning to ease off, levels were monitored for a short time after, and were also starting to drop. There was still sufficient room below the bridge parapet for the water to flow unhindered.

It was later found that the reading from the burn had peaked at 693mm (community alerting level is 670mm) and seen a rise of 586mm over a period of 9hrs and 15mins.

The team carried out further inspections of the watercourses around Alva in daylight the following morning with no issued to report.

#### **News Coverage**

Following the near hit, the news of the teams response was carried in the Alloa Advertiser. Regular updates from the team on Facebook, and subsequent reposting by Alva CC on their own feed continues to maintain the profile of the team.

#### **Drainage clearance**

A small team of volunteers carried out clearance work at the Carnaughton Burn on Saturday, 3 Sept, removing accumulated silt, small stones, litter and other debris, and also clearing back some of the overhanging bushes. This will help prepare for the autumn leaf fall and make further clearances more easy to complete.

In addition, over the course of the past few months, team members have made regular small interventions around Alva to ensure drainage channels are kept clear.

#### **Park Repairs**

It has been noted that the channel walls of the Carnaughton Burn have been repaired around the wooden bridge. These were in poor repair and had been reported to the Council. When the burn is flowing heavily, there was some escape which caused flooding to the surrounding area. This should now be resolved.

#### **Road Closure Policy**

The policy allowing the team to close Henry Street to traffic for a deployment of the WaterGates has been agreed with the Council and Police Scotland. In the event of an imminent risk of the Alva Burn overtopping the bridge at Henry Street, the team have the authority to close the road and deploy the gates without waiting on the Police attending. We will still have to inform them of the action we have taken, but this will help keep the surrounding community safer from the threat of flooding.

There is now also a second pod at Henry Street to store the cones, sandbags and road closure signs that would be required if we did have to deploy the barriers and close the road.

#### **Funding Report**

We are preparing the report to EDF for the second and larger grant which will be submitted shortly. There is some underspend, but this will be addressed by purchasing spare PPE (jackets, boots, etc) for potential new members. We are also looking to purchase a new set of radios that will operate over a greater range than our existing ones. TiDeCo are also looking at a similar model to our new ones, so there is the possibility both teams could establish contact if there was a significant event in both communities.

#### **Training**

A training event had been planned for Sunday 4 September to deploy the WaterGates at Henry Street to allow team members to get familiar with the kit in a 'dry test'. The Police and Scottish Fire and Rescue Service had been due to attend so they could see the barriers in action. However, this was postponed due to the planned closure of Stirling Street to all traffic over the weekend, and as Henry St had become an

	<p>unofficial diversion route for traffic heading west. A new date will be planned for this. There will still be a planned exercise to do a 'wet test' of the barriers at Alloa Fire Station later in September.</p> <p><b>Team Meeting</b> The first in person meeting of the team took place at the No.5 on August 8. Well attended by many members, it was a chance to get updates on the teams' activities, and also to have a more social aspect. The meeting was attended by Shona Sloan from Scottish Flood Forum and Robert Walsh from The Conservation Volunteers, as well as by Stuart Cullen, Principal Roads and Flooding Officer from Clackmannanshire Council who joined via FaceTime.</p> <p><b>Events group</b> – Christmas Fayre will be on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022</p>	
9	<p><b>Clackmannanshire Councillor reports</b> – Cllr FL reported that the latest bus timetables to reflect the street works have been placed on the bus stops. Fiona has given GB up to date information to deliver via our Facebook page re buses and bin collections.</p>	
12	<p><b>AOCB</b> – at the discretion of the Chairperson.</p> <p>BD thanked Alva CC for the EDF micro grants that helped enable the Alva Glen Heritage Trust illumination event to go ahead this year. The biannual event was a huge success. <a href="https://www.alvaglen.org.uk/">https://www.alvaglen.org.uk/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/AlvaGlenHT">https://www.facebook.com/AlvaGlenHT</a></p>	
<b>NOTE</b>	<p>If you would like an item, put on an Alva Community Council meeting agenda, please email <a href="mailto:info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk">info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk</a> or contact the Alva Library at least 10 days prior to the meeting.</p>	

**Next Alva Community Council meeting – Monday October 10<sup>th</sup> 2022 7.30pm at The Cochranes**