

Alva Community Council (Alva CC)

www.alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk

Minutes of Ordinary Meeting Monday September 9th, 2024

Venue: Eadie Hall Parish Church, Alva

Lynn Cameron – Chairperson	LC	Kathrine Graham- Treasurer	KG
Bryan Denny – Vice Chair & ACRT	BD	Linda Greig – Secretary & Micro Grants	LG
Graham Burt – IT & Website	GB	Graham Gilmour Graham Burt - Planning	GG GB
Anne Spruce – Health & Education	AS	Graham Gilmour – ACRT & JCCF	GG
Emma Osborne - Environment	EO		
		M Dalrymple (suspended for duration of this Community Council)	

In Attendance: Community Councillors – LC, AS, LG, GG, IC

Members of the community - 3

Local Councillors – Cllr Donald Balsillie & Cllr Fiona Law

Minutes - LG

Agenda Item	Minutes of Item Discussed	Action By
1	Welcome, Introductions & housekeeping	
2	Apologies – KG, EO, BD, 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 – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICO registration has been paid, waiting on certificate.• LC is talking with suppliers with the view to purchase new Christmas Street lights. Lynn will organise the next meeting re Christmas lights.• Cllr Law will be going round Clackmannanshire to get a picture of light timings.	LC
6	Police Report – Community Police Officer - Report attached.	LG
7	Office Bearer reports	
7.1	Chair Report – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A business owner has been asking for a Christmas light switch on. There is no safe area for a crowd to gather on Stirling Street for this event. Alva CC has considered this before. Such an event would require a lot of work, perhaps more than participated. LC will try to organise the Street lights to go on the week before Alva CC Christmas Fayre.• LC attended an Alva in Bloom meeting where it was discussed that Alva in Bloom would take over the upkeep of the large planters on Stirling Street. Alva in Bloom are happy to do this and all 5 Cllrs in attendance agreed to the transfer from Alva CC to Alva in Bloom. Alva in Bloom are a constituted group.• Hanging baskets – The hanging baskets on Stirling Street are still to be paid for. We are waiting for the supplier to get in touch with the invoice. Alva CC will pay for these this year but will not be able to sustain this going forward. Alva CC used to get money from	LC

	<p>Clackmannanshire Council are proposing to build a new Wellbeing Hub with a swimming pool in Alloa. As part of the planning application, all Community Councils were encouraged to provide input to the plans. On behalf of Alva CC, I submitted a document neither objecting or supporting the development, but raising or echoing existing concerns, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport to and from the site. It is not central in Alloa, and those using public transport may have to take more than 1 bus to reach it. Public transport within Clackmannanshire is already a concern • Footpaths and cycleways to the site are good, but in winter may be less attractive. • Flooding, although SEPA have not objected on the choice of site being next to the River Forth, they have indicated an existing culvert may need work or re-routing so as not to be under the site. <p>Discussion followed regarding Clackmannanshire Council introducing a cashless system for all their amenities. This could be a barrier for those who do not have the ability to pay by card.</p>	
7.3	<p>Education – AS The Macmillan Coffee morning will take place between 10 and 12 on Friday, September 27th at Alva Academy. All are welcome. In the meantime, there will be a duck race at Tillicoultry at 11.00am on September 21st and on the 22nd there will be a skiathon in the park. The Academy are looking for raffle, tombola and teddy tombola prizes which can be handed in at the school reception and cakes which can be handed in on the day.</p>	
7.4	<p>Environment – EO gave apologies</p>	
7.5	<p>JCCF – GG - Meeting was held 22 August 2024 at Alva Academy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Place Plans <p>The meeting welcomed Grant Baxter (Planning and Building Standards Team Leader) and Graeme Finlay (Principle Planner) from Clackmannanshire Council. They went over the background to, purpose of and key dates for the development of Local Place Plans. Key points addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timetable has slightly changed • LPPs are specific documents but CCs do not have to have to produce one and may still contribute to the Local Development Plan without one. • The LDP process needs to be simplified so it can be easily explained to the wider community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Community Plans • Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton and Devonside CC have produced one, and are about to produce a LPP and Town Centre Regeneration Plan • Dollar CC plan not yet underway • Muckhart CC are looking for funding to help produce one <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy and Sustainability Matters <p>Lawrence Hunter, Energy and Sustainability Officer, Clacks Council attended the meeting and informed us that there are two key consultations under way that he was hoping to get input from CCs on. He also stated that he would be happy to attend CC meetings to bring them up to date with these matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change Strategy – will be on Council website within the next few weeks • Pollinator Strategy, currently live on the Council website. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Quality and Communications with Clacks Council <p>Discussion amongst CCs about their experiences on engaging with Clacks Council and the ability to get work done by them. There was a lengthy discussion, but ultimately, it was resolved that many of these issues would be put to the Councils Chief Executive who is coming to the November JCCF meeting. It was also agreed that the new Strategic Director, Kevin Walls would be invited to a future meeting.</p>	

7.6	<p>IT – GB There are no issues with our Facebook or X accounts. There are issues on our Wordpress and cPanel that our website and emailing system that are often repetitive.</p> <p>I am often having to reach out to our ex-IT convener to check errors as I simply don't have enough knowledge to fix errors or problems. Sometimes they are too busy to answer.</p> <p>All our email is marked as Spam, at least it is when I get it.</p> <p>I therefore don't want to manage this any longer and would ask that we seek to get a qualified person as soon as possible to look after that side of it on a regular basis. I realise that will come at a cost if no member of the public can be found.</p> <p>I would hope we would be able to seek funding to cover the cost.</p> <p>I am aware that the minutes on the website are not up to date. This will be rectified as soon as possible.</p>	
7.7	<p>Micro Grants – LG We are in touch with Foundation Scotland to resolve the issue of when we get our next payment from them so we can re advertise the EDF micro grants.</p>	LG
8	Subgroups -	
8.1	<p>ACRT –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One incident on 19th August where the burn by Henry Street was high but water did eventually recede. ACRT have been approached by the Minister for Net Zero Scotland to be involved in a case study. 	
9	<p>Clackmannanshire Councillor reports – Cllr Law reported that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scottish water will reinstate the manhole at Carnaughton burn. The grass cutting suffered a bit in the area due to staff sick leave. <p>LG asked on behalf of a member of the community re email if there had been benches removed from the Cochrane Park and will they be replaced. Cllr Law will find out.</p> <p>LG also mentioned from the same enquiry that there is a lot of stagnant water at the far end of the park. Cllr Law will have a look.</p> <p>Cllr Balsillie reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clackmannanshire Council are starting the budget process. The Natural Burial Ground ceremony led by Provost Donald Balsillie, was held on Thursday 29th August at the burial ground, which is located south-west of Alva Woodland Park. The new burial ground, set in the stunning hillfoots woodland, offers an environmentally friendly alternative to a traditional burial, providing a peaceful space for families to experience a memorable and reflective end of life ritual. Information on the natural burial ground can be found via this link on Clackmannanshire Council website https://www.clacks.gov.uk/community/alvanaturalburialsite/ 	Cllr Law LG
10	<p>AOCB at the discretion of the Chair – discussion on how to report speeding traffic. Police Scotland on 101 and to report issues with roads, streets and pavements, please use our online Report It function, email customerservice@clacks.gov.uk or phone 01259 450000.</p>	
	<p>Next Alva Community Council meeting – November 11th, 2024 7.30pm Eadie Hall Alva Parish Church</p> <p>Alva Members of the Alva community are most welcome at all meetings. If you would like to contact Alva CC or would like an item placed on an Ordinary meeting agenda, 10 days prior to the meeting date, please email info@alvacommunitycouncil.org.uk You can also contact us via Alva Library.</p>	

APPENDIX 1

POLICE REPORT

ALVA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

09/09/2024

INTRODUCTION

The community police officer for Alva is PC 247 James Miller and he is stationed at Alloa Police Station, Kilncraigs, Alloa. You can contact him by calling 101 or by e-mail at James.Miller@scotland.police.uk.

[There were 13 incidents of criminality recorded in August 2024.](#)

PRIORITIES

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There were 4 recorded incidents of anti-social behaviour in the area over the last month. They were as follows -

Between 1st January 2024 and 25th August 2024, at Southcroft, Alva, a male was found to breaching the conditions of his bail. He was arrested and held in custody to appear at court.

On 2nd August 2024 at Beauclerc Street, Alva, a male acted in a threatening or abusive manner towards others. He was arrested and held in custody to appear at court.

On 26th August 2024 at Caroline Crescent, Alva, a male was found to be acting in a threatening or abusive manner during a domestic incident. He was arrested and held in custody to appear at court.

Overnight from 30th to 31st August 2024 at Stirling Street, Alva, a female sent abusive messages and was subsequently arrested. The female will appear at court at a later date.

VANDALISM

There was 1 recorded incident of vandalism in the area over the last month. It was as follows -

On 4th August 2024 at the Scout Hall, Park Street, Alva, 2 children below the age of criminal responsibility smashed windows there. Police have submitted the relevant documentation.

VIOLENCE

There were 2 recorded incidents of violence in the area over the last month. They were as follows -

On 1st August 2024 at Stirling Street, Alva, a female was assaulted to her injury by a male known to her. He was arrested and held in custody to appear at court.

On 6th August 2024 at Caroline Crescent, Alva, a male was involved in a domestic incident whereby several offence including assault were alleged. He was arrested and held in custody to appear at court.

ACQUISITIVE CRIME

There were 4 recorded incidents of acquisitive crime in the area over the last month. They were as follows -

Overnight from the 10th to 11th August 2024, at West Stirling Street, Alva, a quantity of tools was stolen from a parked and unattended motor vehicle. Enquiries have now concluded, and no suspect has been identified.

Overnight from the 21st to 22nd August 2024 at West Johnstone Street, Alva, a quantity of items was stolen from a parked and unattended motor vehicle. Enquiries are continuing to identify the person responsible.

On 22nd August 2024 at Coblecrook Place, Alva, a male attempted to steal items from a garden. The male has been identified, traced and charged and will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 25th August 2024 at a commercial premises on Stirling Street, Alva, an unknown male stole cigarettes and a vape. Enquiries are ongoing to identify this male.

ROAD TRAFFIC

There were 2 recorded incidents of road traffic offending in the area over the last month. They were as follows -

On 7th August 2024 at East Stirling Street, Alva, a male driver failed to comply with police road traffic procedures and by doing so, committed an offence. He will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 10th August 2024 at Stirling Street, Alva, a road traffic collision occurred, and the driver failed to stop and provide details or report the collision. Enquiries are ongoing to identify the driver.

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

Enforcement of parking restrictions will continue to be carried out so please park safely with consideration for others and abide by the local restrictions.

ANY OTHER COMMUNITY ISSUES

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 the Community Sergeant, currently PS 752 Alisdair Goldie who is based at Alloa Police Station.