



MILNGAVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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Draft minutes of the Milngavie Community Council (MCC) meeting which took place on Wednesday 11th January 2017 (also published on MCC website: www.milngavie.org).

1. Sederunt

In attendance: Mr A Ainslie, Mr C Marwaha, Mrs T Allen-McIntyre, Mrs C Diaz (Secretary), Mr G Johnson, Mr J Goodall, Mrs L Edwards, Mr I McAllister (Chair), Mrs M Prentice, Councillor E Gotts, Sgt J Connolly (Police) on behalf of Constable I Leeson

Apologies: Mr D Hamilton, Mr M Reynolds, Cllr M Hendry, Cllr J Gibbons

Also in attendance: Mr W Blakey (MCDT), Mr W Briody (MCDT)

No new members had been found for the Community Council

2. Approval of minutes of 7.12.2016

The minutes were approved, proposed by Mr J Goodall and seconded by ?.

3. Police Report

Sergeant J Connolly spoke to a report on behalf of Constable I Leeson. It was noted that crime levels in Milngavie remained low, generally but that there had been an increase in crimes of dishonesty, e.g. fraud and theft, over the Christmas and New Year holidays. It was noted too that there were indications that bogus calling might be on the increase in the area. An event was being planned to bring this concern to the attention of local residents and to highlight what can be done to protect oneself in the event of such calls. A member of the Community Council supported the need for this as a relative of theirs had experienced such a call recently.

It was noted that investigations into the recent incident in Achray Place were continuing.

6. With the agreement of the members of the Community Council present, Item 6 on the agenda, 'Lennox Park/MCDT', was taken next.

Papers on this matter, circulated for the December meeting of the Community Council, continued to refer. Members should note that these papers do not, in themselves, constitute a master plan for Lennox Park.

Mr Blakey and Mr Briody outlined the background to the formation of Milngavie Community Development Trust (MCDT). It was noted that the creation of a master plan for Lennox Park was a key objective of MCDT. They also outlined the context set by the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015; the nature of a participation request was noted as was its significance in the context of the trust determination to produce a master plan for the park; a participation request would ensure that the trust and other interested local organisations could engage positively with East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) in all matters relating to the park.

While a participation request had been presented to EDC it would not be actioned in any sense until the Scottish Government had published further, final guidance on participation requests; this guidance was expected at the end of January of this year. A public meeting in relation to the park and its future development is to be held on the 21st of February 2017, in the Fraser Centre to take further comment from the community, generally, and community-based organisations.

MCC indicated that it would be happy to support MCDT in submitting and seeking support for this participation request. It also indicated that it would be seeking comment from EDC about any plans it might have to improve the existing skateboarding provision and also lighting in the park.

Mr Blakey and Mr Briody were thanked for their attendance and for their contribution to the meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report

It was reported that the Administration Account contained £4,980.44 and that the Community Account contained £1473.15. Some expenses claims remained to be charged against the former account. A small grant to the local Junior Chess League had still to be charged against the latter account. A letter had been received from the Junior Chess League thank the Community Council for its grant.

5. Councillors' Report

The report expressed "shock and horror" at the recent events in Achray Place, mirroring the concerns of members of the Community Council.

It was noted that permission had been granted by EDC for next steps in the development of a new primary school, as yet un-named, on the site of St Andrew's Primary School to go ahead.

It was noted that EDC would be meeting on 12th January 2017 to discuss the Scottish Government's financial settlement for the local authority for 2017/1018. A brief, general summary of the settlement, based on a paper produced by EDC's Chief Finance Officer for its councilors, indicated that a significant budget shortfall could be anticipated, a shortfall in the order of £10/£11m. This was the context in which EDC's decisions about next year's budget would have to be made.

7. Planning

There was a wide-ranging discussion of McCarthy and Stone's proposals for a development of sheltered and affordable housing on part of the Fire Station Field on Craighdu Road. It was noted that representations to-date had led to little or no change in the developers' proposals. Concerns continued to exist about the quality and character of the proposed development. It was agreed that Objections to the proposal should be presented formally to EDC before the Planning Board meeting on 26.02.17 so that the Board would have to examine the proposals formally and take account of relevant objections. Objections would need to be lodged by 12.02.17 and would need to be grounded in the provisions, criteria, etc. set out in current Planning Law.

It was noted that there was a current Scottish Government consultation on Local Housing Strategy 2017-2022. It was agreed that comments should be prepared by the Community Council and submitted in due course.

It was noted too that EDC had approved its Local Development Plan taking full account of observations, etc. received by one of the Scottish Government's Reporters.

8. Getting About Milngavie

It was agreed that a sub-group of the Community Council should meet on 25.01,17 to prepare a paper for consideration by the Community Council as a whole in due course.

The sub-group would be composed of: Mrs T Allen-McIntyre, Mr J Goodall, Mrs L Edwards, Mr I McAllister (Chair) and Mr M Reynolds

9. Boundary Changes

There was a general discussion about proposed changes to the boundaries of parliamentary constituencies; The Community Council would not be submitting any comments on these.

10. My Place Awards

It was agreed that nominations should be made in respect of Milngavie Football Club and Milngavie in Bloom.

11/12 Current Matter/ Up-Dates from Sub-Groups not covered already/ AOCB

Youth Centre – public toilet and other developments; it is expected that these developments will be completed by March/April 2017 although it is possible that minor planning considerations may prolong the development.

Stalled spaces – there will be a report next month on developments in this connection.

Litter, e.g. cigarette ends outside public houses; it is agreed that contact should be made with EDC officers responsible for licensing to see if they could bring any influence to bear on this matter.

Public noticeboards – systems here are working well.

Correspondence received about possible housing developments on ground belonging currently to Clober Golf Club had been dealt with; no planning application(s) had been received by EDC but, under the terms of the newly approved Local Development Plan, such proposals could be considered in the future.

Next month's meeting of the Community Council might not be able to be held on the first Wednesday of the month due to competing demands for accommodation at the Fraser Centre.