



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MILNGAVIE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Held in St. Joseph`s Church Hall on 9th January 2013

1. Present

Community Councillors – Fiona Risk, Norman Peacock, Susan Lavrie, Donald Hamilton, Rona Hooper, Rona Miller, Michael Millerick , Elizabeth Crombie, Anne Hunter, Joyce Kerr, Marianne Prentice , Callum Christie ,Caroline Diaz

2. Attending

Lon Edwards, Cllr Henry, Cllr Gotts, Cllr Gibbons, Wilson Blaikie, David Lawson, PC Jim McLean

3. Apologies

Neil Weir, Jean Pentland

4. Convener`s Opening Remarks

It was noted that there was a full agenda and therefore we should try to be brief where possible

5. Police Report

PC McLean reported that the overall detection rate of 50% was fairly high. There had been no violent crime and no serious assaults. There was 1 bogus caller incident and 1 misuse of drugs act arrest. There were a few instances of antisocial behaviour. Shoplifting, some road traffic offences and 1 attempted housebreaking. Precinct traders were warned to be on the lookout for a male who steals cash from shops by appearing to be personable and engaging the shopkeeper in conversation. He moves between premises committing the same crime. The Police will be targeting metal thieves and also bogus workers.

6. Minutes of Meeting of 5th December 2012

These were agreed by all present subject to the amendments below:

Page 1 - Chairperson`s Opening Remarks – It was agreed that a planter should be sponsored in memory of Margaret Dunn. This would be done in consultation with Milngavie in Bloom.

Page 2 - Town Centre Proposals - Tree Preservation Order. The Milngavie Town Centre Steering group had suggested that a petition should be initiated by MCC.

Page 3 - Planning – 4 Highland Rd. There was poor visibility at the junction of Mugdock Rd. & Sinclair St.

7. Matters Arising

FR reported that she had been in touch with Milngavie in Bloom about the planter in memory of Margaret and awaited costs and no progress had been made with the proposed Fish Ladder notices because of the festive period.

8. Treasurer's Report

Marianne Prentice has agreed to take on the roll of treasurer. The signatories were agreed as the Chairperson, Treasurer and Rona Hooper.

It was explained that there are three accounts however these should be reduced to two. These are currently 1) Administration 2) Community & 3) Project Accounts.

There had been no change in their amounts since last month. The project A/C was created from the proceeds of the sale of a book sponsored by MCC & was put in a separate account to provide for a Heritage Centre which MCC now supports.

9. Town Centre Proposals

a) Heritage Centre- nothing significant to report

b) Public Toilets - Local Councillors and the Steering group have made representations to the Council asking them not to sell the site and therefore permanently lose the amenity of the public toilets. They are asked to consider leasing only and to consider options that will allow toilets to remain in situ. A further report will be considered by the Council after consultation with interested parties.

c) Tree Preservation Order- A draft petition was considered and some minor changes made. FR will contact organisations for their endorsement. It will be circulated to shops and groups with a planned return by the end of Feb.

10. Planning

a) Updates: The letter to the Council regarding the Waitrose application had been acknowledged.

Tesco- No further update

Kilmardinny – The Planning Board met in December and had been advised by their legal team that it was advisable to agree to changes in the conditions attached to the existing planning permission if they wanted to receive funding from the developers for the new Allander Leisure Centre. The Council has set up an Allanders Champions Group to advise on the new centre and its facilities.

It was noted that the planning appeal at 15 Baldernock Road had been refused.

A discussion took place on the requirement for a broader discussion on the future of Milngavie and the range of issues that need to be considered. It was agreed that there should be time given to this at a future meeting or perhaps a special meeting held and that this should take place soon.

b) New Applications: There were no new applications of significance.

11. Correspondence

- a) There were no minutes from Bearsden North and East Community Councils.
- b) A Christmas card from Jo Swinson MP had been received.
- c) The Glasgow Airport Community Newsletter was noted

12. AOCB

- a) There was no report from the Allander Champions group

b) EDC Primary Schools Estate Consultation

Councillor Gotts, the Convenor of the Education Cttee outlined the Council's reasons for the necessary review of the schools estate.

Several years ago the secondary schools had had significant investment however the 36 primary schools are in poor physical condition and many of them not considered suitable for the demands of the modern Curriculum for Excellence . This requires flexible spaces and outdoor space for physical exercise. The maintenance budgets are insufficient and the Council is also facing ongoing budget cuts . There are huge energy costs associated with having so many buildings open and there is an overall 37% underoccupancy rate in EDC primary schools.

The Council wishes to give the young people of the area the best start in life and send them to schools fit for purpose and therefore it is considering a mergers option which will close some schools and see new ones built on sites that have room for outdoor activities and good new facilities.

The Council only has 12 million available for repairs and refurbishment across the whole area. The capital receipts from the sale of sites will go into the pot and the Council can borrow £1.5 million from the Scottish Government for every £100,000 they can contribute from savings made through rationalisation of the schools estate. Milngavie Primary is in a restrained site and the proposal is to merge it with Clober and build a new school on that site. St Josephs Primary is to merge with St Andrews Primary in Bearsden and the children will be bussed to school there. Craighdu Primary will remain and Baldernock will close.

The options had been developed with stakeholders at workshops and consultation is now taking place with groups, parents and residents across the area. This will end on the 4th Feb however the Milngavie primary school parents action group have been given an extension to this as they are looking at wider options including Lennox park. In March/ April the Council will meet to consider a further report on the matter and agree on how to proceed. A statutory period of consultation will then take place for 8 months.

Cllr Gotts informed the meeting that projected school rolls have been taken into consideration and that this included the proposed development of 550 houses. Current rolls are : Clober 202, Craighdu 259, Milngavie 321, Baldernock 41, St Josephs 127. There is a commitment that no school will have a roll larger than 651. Milngavie Primary is currently 40% underoccupied. Cllr Gotts said that the first schools would open in 2016.

It was agreed that traffic was an issue that requires consideration .

Cllr Gibbons stressed the importance of listening to the community during this consultation period and Cllr Henry re-iterated that the Council is happy to consider any other ideas that may be suggested for potential mergers etc.

FR summed up with a few points for consideration by the Council:

There should be a school in the west and one in the east and this was agreed by MCC. Children should be able to walk to school and traffic movements must be considered. The greater impact on Milngavie must also be considered as at present parents and children use the precinct shops and can walk there in a safe environment. Other avenues for funding should be investigated and the proposals must be considered holistically for children and the community.

FR will circulate a submission for comments and individuals should be encouraged to make their own comments either on the forms or via the Councils web site.

It was noted that the Active schools coordinator for Milngavie is on maternity leave and no one is in the post currently. – Cllr. Henry agreed to look into this matter.

c) It was agreed to give St. Joseph's church a donation of £20 for the use of the hall for the meeting.

d) FR said she had received a large box of MCC papers from Margaret Dunn's family. She hoped it would contain a Minute Book. If not then a new book must be established.

13. Date of Next meeting

Feb 6th 2013