

Avonbridge & Standburn Community Council
Monthly General Meeting
Held on Thursday 12th February 2015 at 7pm
Avonbridge Community Hall

Meeting chaired by Jo Hirst

1. Present

Jo Hirst, Doreen Goldie, Ann Wallace, James Anthony, PC Wallace, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Murray, Jane McKenzie (SW), Brian Duff (SW) and 19 local residents.

2. Apologies

Cllr McLuckie, I McGillivray, S Whyte, D ?, H Konkol, E Lipski.

3. Local Police Update – PC Derek Wallace

Since the inception of the new police control room I can only confirm that since Tuesday 28th January 2015 there have been 10 calls made to the police from the village of Avonbridge. Those calls consist of the following.

1x Abandoned 999 calls, 1x Public Assistance Request Call, Intruder Alarm Call, Road Traffic Incident, Suspicious Persons (False call with good intent), Assault and Civil Incident

In relation to the village of Standburn there have been no calls made to police

Antisocial behaviour

There have been no reported crimes of Antisocial Behaviour in either Avonbridge or Standburn

Vandalism

There have been no reported crimes of vandalism from Avonbridge or Standburn.

Acquisitive Crime

There have been no reported crimes of Housebreaking in Avonbridge or Standburn.

Speeding/Road Traffic

There have been two crime files raised in Avonbridge for Road Traffic related offences, none for the village of Standburn.

Violence / Disorder

There has been one crime file raised in relation to assault in Avonbridge, none for the village of Standburn.

Stirling Police control room closed at the end of January all police calls are now controlled and despatched from Bilston Glen, Edinburgh

Finally a resident reported that on Boxtton Road cars are parking early evening again, PC Wallace will monitor.

4. Approval of Minutes

October Proposed by JH Seconded by DG

November Proposed by JH Seconded by DG

January Proposed by AW Seconded by JA

5. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting

B825 – Planning Application for new build house with garage had been withdrawn. Resubmitted with change to access, CC has lodged an objection and also asked Gordon Hughes to call the application in as it contravenes all the guidelines for development in the countryside.

Sewage Sludge Campaign – MSP Margaret Mitchell is now assisting us. SEPA, Rural Affairs Minister, Adam McLeod, Scottish Water will be attending the next meeting, date to be confirmed.

BT poor broadband service – JA will deal with this on behalf of the CC.

6. Chair's Report

Correspondence

A801 Torphichen Bridge – structural works to be carried out so the road will be closed for 5 weekends, traffic diverted through Standburn, Avonbridge and Westfield. The CC has requested additional signage also we have suggested HGVs stay on motorway till next exit to alleviate heavy traffic. Work starts 27th Feb.

B825 – Culvert repairs – traffic lights from 4th to 11th of March at Avonbridge end of Standburn.

BBC Radio Scotland Big Debate Fri 13th Feb Falkirk Town Hall– JH will be attending to represent the CC, 3 questions have been submitted.

Scottish Government Letter received– confirming a moratorium on fracking in Scotland.

Avonbridge Community Hall – letter received from Brian Mulgrew thanking the CC for the £50 donation for children's Christmas Sleigh and presents.

7. Treasurers Report

Current Bank Balance = £ 211.23 –further annual funding application is now submitted.

8. Scottish Water

Statement – emailed

Sewage – Brian confirmed he had delayed replying to our letter until after the meeting to allow him to answer all relevant points. Issues raised by residents were odour, vehicle movements and times of access, sludge stockpiles, muck spread on roads from vehicles and roads not cleaned.

Scottish water are notified in advance of spreading, with as much notice as farmers are able to provide to contractor. Stock piles and bunded areas are monitored by SW, maximum time for stock piling is 6 months on farmers land if unable to spread at the time.

A reduction of 14% since last year of untreated sludge is now being transported as being lime treatment is taking place at source.

Any specific sites, activities of vehicles to be passed to Scottish water on 0800 0778778 for the attention of D Petrie as a matter of urgency.

Sewage Back Up – Avonbridge

The Pub has had issues with sewage and waste water backing up into ladies toilet and sewage flowing through the back door into the kitchen area from the external side drain.

This is a known issue as the main drains to treatment works are not coping with the local housing volume.

SW advised a Drainage Impact Assessment is ongoing and results will be shared with the CC. Temporary short term measures are being put in place.

Asset Manager Eric Macquarie will contact the pub owner direct to discuss. The business plan for 2015 – 2021 has just been approved with a large pot of money to be used for flooding issues, the projects this will be used for will be customer driven.

Craigbank Road Avonbridge Ring Main –

This ring main is old asbestos pipe and perished and has burst on the boundary between the properties 21 & 23. Localised tobies are faulty and individual properties unable to isolate water mains, two additional tobies have been put in place at either end of Craigbank Road to allow this section to be isolated but means whole section have to be notified if any work is being carried out by properties.

Fracking – SW statement on Fracking will be emailed to CC.

9. Burnhead Windfarm

This site is now going ahead; a community fund is being set up with £1000 per megawatt produced to be allocated for local projects. CC will push contractor EDF to raise the amount as some wind farms are putting aside up to £5000 per megawatt JH to make contact.

10. Local Path Network

CC will contact Chloe Hunter from FC Development services regarding funding. Footpath from B825 to Bowhouse R/A possibility in the future, any requests on possible paths from Standburn to be passed to Angus Duncan at FC who has the lead on the path network.

11. A.O.C.B.

- **DG has set up an online petition with the Scottish Government and we are hoping to get as many signatures as possible. We will be promoting the petition on facebook and twitter but please sign up asap - <http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/GettingInvolved/Petitions/sewagesludge>**
- **Drumbowie Playpark Standburn**– recently a local resident had been schooling a horse in the park and stopped when asked to do so. It was suggested we should request prohibitive signage from Falkirk Council parks department to discourage further incidents.

Next Meeting Date

Thursday 12th March 2015 in Drumbowie Primary School Standburn at 7pm.

DRAFT