

**Avonbridge & Standburn Community Council**  
**Monthly General Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7pm**  
**Avonbridge Community Hall**

Meeting chaired by James Anthony

**1. Present**

James Anthony, Doreen Goldie, Ann Wallace, Harry Broadley , Ian McGillivray, PC Wallace, Cllr Hughes, Cllr Murray, Danny Thallon (Falkirk Council), Alfred Okoro (Scottish Bio Solids), Debbie Neely (Scottish Anglo Bio Solids (James McCaig Farms)) and 8 local residents.

**2. Apologies**

Jo Hirst, Dave Cameron

**3. Community Safety Team Report**

Community Safety Representative unable to attend – no report received.

**4. Local Police Update**

**ASB, VIOLENCE & DISORDER**

There have been 2 minor incidents relating to ASB within the village of Avonbridge over the previous month, these relate to two charges of Threatening & Abusive Behaviour.

There have been no incidents of ASB in Standburn.

For the village of Avonbridge, there has been one Serious Assault over the past month. This occurred in a private house with no risk to the wider public. One male was arrested and charged in relation to this incident. There have been no Robberies and no minor Assaults reported in the past month.

There has been no crime of violence in the village of Standburn.

**DRUG DEALING & DRUG MISUSE**

Specifically for the Avonbridge and Standburn, there have been no Drug Search Warrants enforced in the past month.

**ROAD SAFETY**

Over the past month, 3 hours of speed checks have been carried out across the Upper Braes by the local Community Team, resulting in 2 people being charged with speeding and 3 people being warned.

**DISHONESTY CRIMES**

Specifically for Avonbridge and Standburn, there have been no housebreaking offences to residential houses and there has been no Theft of Motor Vehicles.

There are no other local policing issues or local events to report on.

**Additional reports from residents during the meeting:-**

Trail bikes have been using the path between Standburn and Maddiston, police are aware of who they are and are monitoring.

Lin Mill Road and Avonbridge Road – parked cars by non residents, police aware but unable to action as not illegally parked.

**5. Approval of Minutes**

The approval of the minutes from the ASCC meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were held over till March meeting pending amendments

**6. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Blackston Road – Scrapyard – Falkirk Council Planning Department dealing with the situation.

Community Council Website – white paper submitted for discussion.

Avonbridge Playing Fields – ongoing flooding issues – HB will monitor.

EWOS plant, Westfield – SEPA – no update.

Darnrigg Moss – ongoing.

## **7. Chair's Report**

### **Correspondence**

Muiravonside Country Park – Maddiston Community Council are involved with the Community Growing Project and have asked for support from A&SCC in their application for funding – they aim to work with Drumbowie, Avonbridge and Maddiston Primary Schools and Muiravonside Country Park with growing areas.

No Men Nevis Event – email from Cllr Hughes – to raise funds for Mental Health Support – ladies only event to climb Ben Nevis on 2 dates due to uptake, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2016.

Insp Christopher Stewart – during a blind test of Licensed premises in the upper braes areas, it was confirmed none of the premises sold alcohol to an underage person conducting the testing.

Sewage Sludge Review Final Recommendations – Scottish Parliament Website – published on the Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of February available online.

<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2016/02/7034>

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/GettingInvolved/Petitions/sewagesludge>

## **8. Treasurers Report**

Current Bank Balance = £ 205.44

## **9. Muiravonside Country Park – Community Growing Project**

Covered in correspondence

## **10. Open Space Strategy**

There is an online survey available on Falkirk Council Website which closes on 29<sup>th</sup> February. Copy of presentation will be forwarded to CC. Paper copies of survey were handed out to some local residents. Suggested to reduce the number of open spaces over the whole of the council area, and to carry out improvements on the remaining sites. All play areas will be assessed and possible improvements suggested, making areas viable for Toddlers, 4 to 12 year olds and teenagers. Feedback requested from CC and residents in attendance.

## **11. Scottish Anglo Bio Solids**

Debbie Neely and Alfred Okoro attended the meeting from Scottish Anglo Bio Solids, and advised that SABS intended holding a 3 month trial period where a solid pellet form of sewage sludge would be supplied to local farmers. They have advised that they would inform A&SCC when, where and how much was to be used.

The local residents were sceptical of how this would differ from previous sewage sludge spreading in the local area and the long standing problems associated with this practice.

Proof was requested as to what recourse will be taken by the company if the odour or other issues arise again.

Some confusion was apparent when questions were asked as to who supplied and stored the sludge pellets and how they differed from liquid sludge. It was agreed to ask Scottish Water to attend a future meeting or supply information on the sewage sludge pellets.

Confirmation was given by the company that at no point would they be storing the product, they only collected from supplier Scottish Water and deliver to farmer/s.

Spreading of product is to be undertaken by the company directly unless the farmer has been assessed as being able to carry out the task to a prescribed level. DH and AO were asked for proof that the soil

samples previously taken were independently audited as it was felt there was a conflict of interest in SABS taking the soil sample and sending it for analysis.

All information requested by CC will be assessed. No decision was made by DH or AO as to when they would commence with sewage pellets.

### **12. A.O.C.B.**

- **B825** numerous very large potholes from Bowhouse Roundabout to Boxton Road junction. They have been reported to Falkirk Council.
- **A801** loose chips still not cleaned up causing damage to car windscreens.
- **Dummies Road** covered in muck – request to be made for sweeping to be carried.
- **Linmill Brae** banking is slipping and encroaching on carriageway making very narrow and dangerous for pedestrians as HGV having to mount pavement to pass each other.

### **Next Meeting Date**

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Drumbowie Primary School, Standburn at 7pm.