

Avonbridge & Standburn Community Council
Monthly General Meeting
Held on Thursday 13th April 2017 at 7pm
Avonbridge Community Hall Avonbridge

Meeting chaired by Jo Hirst

1. Present

Jo Hirst, Doreen Goldie, James Anthony, Dave Cameron, Ann Wallace, PC Derek Wallace, Ed Chappell, Cllr McLuckie and 7 local residents and one visiting consultant.

Apologies

Ian McGillivray, Jen Hunter, Nicola Cochrane and Maria Montinaro

2. Local Police Update

Since the last meeting there have been 19 calls made to police from the village of Avonbridge. These consist of the following

X 5 Domestic related calls	X 1 Police Generated	X 1 Silent 999 call
X 1 Police Information	X 1 Parking Issue	X 4 Road Traffic (Road Accident) – All connected to one call
X 2 Concerns for Person	X 1 Missing Person	X 1 Theft of Heating Oil
X 1 Assist member of the public	X 1 Animal call (Dog)	

For the village of Standburn there has been 1 call made to police which related to a parking issue

ASB, VIOLENCE & DISORDER

Specifically for Avonbridge, there have been 5 incidents (Domestic Incident) of ASB since the last meeting relating to a Noisy Music, Youth related call; Vandalism and Assault.

There are currently no repeat or priority locations in terms of ASB, Disorder and Violence.

For Standburn there have been no calls

Specifically for both villages, there have been no crimes of serious violence such as Attempted Murder, Serious Assault or Robbery.

DRUG DEALING & DRUG MISUSE

With reference to Avonbridge and Standburn there have been no reported incidents involving drugs nor have there been any drug related police operations.

ROAD SAFETY

Three such offences have been detected in Avonbridge those consist of Careless Driving, No Insurance and MOT

No such offences in Standburn

DISHONESTY CRIMES

There has been one such offence in Avonbridge that being Theft of Heating Oil.

No such offences in Standburn.

Specific Items raised in the meeting:-

Forthcoming Changes

Jim Dougall taking over as Community Sgt for Upper Braes area as Craig Heron is moving on.

PC Derek Wallace moving to Grangemouth acting up as Sgt after 6 years in Upper Braes this will be his last meeting but he will keep in touch and advise us of his successor for this area.

Hillhead, Avonbridge – recent problems experienced with brush fires being set by youths on bikes – PC Wallace advised comes under Lothian police, DC recorded the fact it took 2 hours for the fire service to respond and they had issues finding the location. It seemed they were unfamiliar with the C7 road location. It was highlighted this has been an issue since the introduction of Police Scotland.

Drumbowie Park, Standburn – advised CST and night shift are patrolling the area. It was suggested leaflets be printed advising on safe sex to be left on cars parked in the affected areas near the Park areas also agreed we should request DEAG to provide signage advising the public the area is being patrolled on a regular basis. H Konkol wished it known that she did not support this course of action.

Police Scotland is launching a new process for public consultation. The aim is to widen the existing consultation process by making the consultation survey available online and accessible all year round.

The survey can be found via the Police Scotland website; www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

3. Community Safety Team Report

Received by email

ASB Reports Please note, figures relate to the previous full calendar month.

Period: 01/03/17 – 31/03/17

Total ASB Reports Falkirk Council Area	Breakdown of 3 geographical areas		
173	EAST -Grangemouth, Bo'ness, Braes	WEST -Denny, Dunipace, Bonnybridge, Haggs, Banknock	CENTRAL -Falkirk North and South
	63	51	63

Hotspot Patrols

No such areas identified in ASCC area.

Investigations: Period 01/03/17 – 31/03/17

ASB Concern	No of reports
Dog Fouling & Control of Dogs	46
Litter/Fly Tipping	10
Youth related disorder	3
Other	4

Further Information

Dog fouling continues to be the number one issue throughout the area. Regular patrols on foot are carried out and FPN notices issued where appropriate. Dog bags are being handed out to any dog walkers we see in the area. We are currently dealing with a Control Of Dogs in the Avonbridge area.

Contact Us

Phone	0808 100 3161	FREEPHONE 24/7
Email	community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk	
Online	Falkirk Council Website	www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today

Reported in the meeting Blackston Road and Candie area – ongoing issue with fly tipping.

4. Approval of Minutes

Proposed D Cameron seconded D Goldie.

5. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting

Drumbowie Park – see section 3.

6. Chair's Report

Emails received this month

- **EDINBURGH AIRPORT CONSULTATION REGARDING FLIGHT PATH ALTERATIONS**

Hello

As you are aware we are currently going through the second consultation in our Airspace Change Programme.

We have arranged a drop in session in Falkirk Town Hall on Tuesday 18 April between 2pm-7pm. The drop in sessions allow residents to come along and speak to members of the team about the project, better understand any possible impacts on their area and speak with technical experts on issues like noise and air traffic control.

I have attached a poster detailing this; please could you help share the details with your local communities?

Kind regards

Gayle letsgofurther@edinburghairport.com

- **FALKIRK LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2 – MAIN ISSUES REPORT CONSULTATION**

In December 2016, the Council approved the Main Issues Report for LDP2, which is the first major stage in the plan preparation process. This identifies the key development issues facing the Council area, and the preferred options for tackling these issues, including preferred new sites for future development.

The consultation period will run from 10th February – 5th May 2017

Full information on the consultation, including all the documents, is available online at www.falkirk.gov.uk/ldp2

- **IMPROVING PARKING IN SCOTLAND CONSULTATION**

Hi all,

I hope you are well.

We have been asked by Scottish Government to share information about the consultation on Improving Parking in Scotland. We would appreciate if you could pass the information below to your community councils. We have also posted information about the consultation on the website (<http://www.communitycouncils.scot/improving-parking-in-scotland-consultation-launched.html>) and we will also promote it on our Twitter www.twitter.com/ScottishCCs.

The consultation explores how parking is managed across the country and invites views on delivering a consistent approach to managing and enforcing parking on public roads, including trunk roads, while improving accessibility for all. The consultation paper can be found here - https://consult.scotland.gov.uk/road-policy/improving-parking-in-scotland/user_uploads/improving-parking-in-scotland.pdf

The consultation closes on 30th June 2017 and any questions about the consultation should be sent to parkingconsultation@transport.gov.scot.

Kind Regards, Lynn **From:** Lynn Sharp [mailto:Lynn.Sharp@improvementservice.org.uk]

7. Treasurers Report

Current Bank Balance

ASCC Account = £ 657.56 – still outstanding is the cost of baby change unit for Avonbridge Hall (£262.80)

Burnhead Moss Wind Farm Fund = £1802.20

DG noted we had received a gift of £25 towards funds from Cllr Rosie Murray who will not be standing at the forthcoming elections, JH has emailed our thanks.

Micro grant applications this month

DEAG – James Wilson - £150 – fuel for maintenance machines for park – Approved

ASCC emails received

1. **Ultimate abseil for Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland** – this is an invitation to anyone wishing to Abseil down the Forth Rail Bridge in aid of Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland. Dates available Sunday 21st may 2017 or Sunday 15th October 2017 further details available here www.ultimateabseil.com

2. **Wester Jawcraig** – We are in receipt of a letter from FC Planning department in respect of a newly formed road in this area which does not have planning consent. We dispute the contents of the letter and will be responding formally.

8. Planning and Online Update/Report including Broadband Provision

1. Planning - No planning applications to report

2. AandSCC Facebook - 249 page views this month and 4 posts

3. Fibre – no update on date coming online, still shown as July to December 2017. The community broadband initiative may be a viable route to pursue to get fast broadband established in Standburn see <http://www.hie.co.uk/community-support/community-broadband-scotland/projects.html>

4. Digital Scotland Community Group – no reply yet

5. Melons Place – H Konkol enquired if anyone could remember when second mast was installed – E Chappell will check.

9. Possible Housing Development in Standburn

John Duff from John Duff Planning addressed the meeting and confirmed he is working with James Anthony in Standburn to explore the possibilities of creating 5 self build plots in Standburn, located on land to the south of the B825 behind the existing houses. Access would be provided by a 2 way road between 2 houses in middle of village with a swept edge access on both sides to assist visibility.

It was explained two of the properties would be for personal use by the Anthony family and the others would be available on the open market to encourage new families to locate to the village on an affordable basis.

Preliminary discussions with planning have taken place – Planning have advised they would exert strict control on the design of houses so they are in sympathy with the locality.

J Anthony suggested there may be local interest in the plots to allow residents to either upsize or downsize while remaining in the village thus freeing up properties for others. The intention is that no more than the 5 plots will be developed, with approximately a third of the remaining land being donated to the community with a pathway that connects with the Core Path Network. A plan will be put in the noticeboard showing the proposals with contact details for any residents' concerns.

Concerns raised by residents to date were the location of the proposed entrance as lies in a blind spot just below brow of a hill and congestion issues at school pick up and drop off times.

Cllr McLuckie advised not on LDP2 for consideration.

John Duff advised what they were looking for was to use the consultation period ending on 5th May to gauge community interest/concerns and have this added to LDP2 to start the process for consideration.

Residents wishing to make comment can do so at www.falkirk.gov.uk/ldp2

10. Sewage Sludge and Waste Campaign update

- JH confirmed she and DG had met with SEPA, Scottish Government and Scottish Water on Friday 7th April in respect of the proposals for An Integrated Authorisation Framework relating to the Better Environmental Regulation Programme. In short this is the amalgamation of all the existing law relating to waste management being incorporated into new legislation due to come into force in approx 2018/19 identifying SEPA as the sole regulatory body. It will also improve the powers available to SEPA to regulate the industry and ensure better practices across the board. This is a direct result of last 6 years of campaigning we have carried out.
- JH also confirmed she and DG had been invited to make a presentation regarding The Dangers of Sewage Sludge to the United Nations Special Rapporteur who visited the UK in January 2017 to investigate the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes. They met on 20th January in Edinburgh and the presentation was very well received. The UNSR report will be formally published in September 2017 and reference will be made to the concerns relating to sewage sludge and the impact on human and animal health experienced in Scotland.

JH & DG will continue their dialogue and campaign in respect of Sewage Sludge and waste controls with the various parties involved.

11. EDF Burnhead Moss Wind Farm update and Cares Grant Progress

- CARES Grant update (Community and Renewable Energy Scheme) – JH has accepted funding offer and submitted an Extension requested which was granted to 31st March 2018 – A list of possible consultants has been produced and 4 have responded to tender request.
- DC is managing the submissions for the Community Consultation Plan – one bid returned to date and a site visit from another company. DC confirmed the project team have a robust programme which is on schedule and the Plan should be delivered by end August 2017.
- DG confirmed for the benefit of those present a Community Consultation Plan will enable all the Community to contribute ideas as to how they wish to see the area develop over the next 5-15 years. A formal outline will be developed and published and hopefully volunteer groups will take matters forward to wisely use the Wind Farm money and other grants available to the Community.
- **It was emphasised volunteers from the Community are required and a self help approach will be required to implement the plan.**

12. Pedal for Scotland Update

A proposed route has now been submitted for approval by WMP the organisers of the event to the Roads Dept. Avonbridge and Standburn are being affected again this year – Full road closure in parts of Avonbridge and one side of the road closed in Standburn. JH confirmed she has responded to WMP and highlighted the need to maintain egress and access for residents on the route identified. WMP have been provided with a copy of the 1998 Human Rights Act which supports this position.

The Final route and closures should be confirmed in the coming month.

Cllr McLuckie noted that this is now regarded as a national-scale event; Falkirk Council, local police, etc. have very little influence on decisions.

13. Meadowbank Health Centre Car parking issues

Maddiston CC has requested support in dealing with car parking issues at the Health Centre. It is becoming increasingly difficult for patients to park when attending the clinic due to poor parking and the site being used by train commuters. The meeting agreed they had encountered problems and JH confirmed she would endorse the request.

14. ASCC AGM Sep 2017 – office bearers required

The current 4 year term of the Falkirk Community Councils comes to an end in September and new elections will take place. J Hirst and A Wallace confirmed they will be stepping down this year as Convener and Secretary, D. Goldie is considering her position as treasurer.

The meeting was asked to invite anyone interested in becoming a community councillor to come to the final few meetings this session and see what takes place.

It was agreed notices should be placed in village notice boards, on FB page and in the Falkirk Herald (Scott McAngus)

15. A.O.C.B

- Drumbowie Primary school & Avonbridge Primary School– breakfast clubs hopefully starting in August 2017
- Muiravonside Country Park – recent car break-ins have occurred at car park be aware and take precautions
- Stevensons Avonbridge Hard Standing – H Konkol asked Cllr McLuckie if concrete blocks are allowed to remain without planning permission – he advised her to contact J Milne – Senior Planning Officer for advice.
- Avonbridge notice board – H Konkol raised concerns regarding the deteriorating condition of the board, she will monitor.
- Remembrance Day – Cllr McLuckie asked if CC would be able to contact someone with regards to the laying of the council wreath at Avonbridge Memorial at the November service.

14. Next Meeting Date

Thursday 11th May 2017 in Drumbowie Primary School at 7pm

Useful Links:-

Edinburgh Airport Flight Path Consultation

<http://www.letssofarther.com/>

Burnhead Moss Windfarm – Grant applications

<https://www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/burnhead-moss-avonbridge-standburn>

Police Scotland - engagement survey

www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts

ASCC Facebook page –

[www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=avonbridge and standburn community council](http://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=avonbridge+and+standburn+community+council)

Fracking & Unconventional Gas Extraction

Voice your opinions on Fracking in Scotland, be part of the national consultation before 31st May 2017

www.talkingfracking.scot

Advanced planning searches for planning applications

<http://evelopment.falkirk.gov.uk/online/search.do?action=advanced>

FALKIRK LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2 – MAIN ISSUES REPORT CONSULTATION

www.falkirk.gov.uk/ldp2