

**Avonbridge & Standburn Community Council**  
**Monthly General Meeting**  
**Held on Thursday 22nd June 2017 at 7pm**  
**Avonbridge Community Hall**

Meeting chaired by Jo Hirst

**1. Present**

Jo Hirst, Doreen Goldie, Dave Cameron, Ed Chappell, Cllr McLuckie, Cllr Kerr and 3 members of the public.

**Apologies**

J Hunter, J Anthony, A Wallace, I McGillivray, J Young, P.C. Towler, E Lipski, S Kantorowich, M Montinaro, J Singh, Cllr Hughes

**2. Local Police Update (None supplied for the meeting)**

It was noted that no Community Officer has yet been appointed for this area to replace PC Wallace. Concerns were raised about who to contact for current issues

- Pedal for Scotland
- Speeding through villages
- Drumbowie Park

JMcL is aware and has enquired at the Grangemouth office – contact PC Towler or the Community Sergeant at Grangemouth to report any issues of concern (Craig.Towler@scotland.pnn.police.uk).

**3. Community Safety Team Report – None received this month**

We have received an email enquiry regarding usefulness of the written reports and whether we would like to see an attendee at CC meetings. Discussion concluded:-

Yes, but could we just see the details for our immediate locale (e.g. the Upper Braes).

Yes please, an attendee would be good to highlight local concerns; bi-monthly would be fine.

JH is meeting the team on site to pursue a fly-tipping issue.

JMcL asked that any contact with Community Safety should be cc'd to Franca Cianni (franca.cianni@falkirk.gov.uk)

**Contact Us**

<b>Phone</b>	0808 100 3161	FREEPHONE 24/7
<b>Email</b>	community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk	
<b>Online</b>	Falkirk Council Website	<a href="http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today">www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today</a>

**4. Approval of Minutes**

One addendum proposed and agreed. Proposed Ed Chappell seconded D Cameron.

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

None.

**6. Chair's Report**

1. **Email received from Gordon Jack:** a request to participate in a focus group to consider public perceptions of youth crime and youth offending for a PhD study. Those present indicated they had insufficient knowledge of the subject to participate.
2. **School food – Conference invite to School Food and Feeding the Mind:** Opportunity, Encouragement and Education - Edinburgh | Tue 12 September 2017 | 10.00 - 15.00 – tickets available  
For further information please contact: Sabena Blackhall  
[sabena@holyrood.com](mailto:sabena@holyrood.com) | 0131 285 1690
3. **Mark Ruskell MSP email – 20mph member's bill:** link <http://www.parliament.scot/gettinginvolved/104723.aspx>  
JMcL contributed on the approach in Falkirk Council and that average speed surveys could be requested by CCs... his general observations were that measured speeds tend to be around 29-31 mph; some believe reduced speed limits can contribute to driver frustrations hence could increase the risk of accidents. – **Agreed not to subscribe.**
4. **Festive lighting offer** to purchase or hire – agreed to pass this on to Avonbridge hall committee.
5. **Falkirk Community Planning Partnership Summer Holiday Club Fund** – offering grants of up to £1K to help with summer holiday clubs. General surprise at such short notice, only 2 weeks before end of term but general agreement that this might be a good thing for Parent Councils and the Kids Clubs to look out for next year, information has already been forwarded to Avonbridge Hall Committee.

6. Resident's concern about reduction in green bin collection to monthly cycle: the question was raised as to who voted for this. JMcl indicated the decision was taken by the previous Labour Council Executive and recently reinforced by the new SNP Executive.  
DG noted in principle that the UK lags behind the rest of Europe in recycling waste. JMcl highlighted how kerbside recycling relies very much on educating people about dos and don'ts of e.g. contamination and how the 'quality' of recycled waste could vary by neighbourhood.

## **7. Treasurers Report**

### **Current Bank Balance:**

ASCC Account = £ 196.80

Burnhead Moss Wind Farm Fund = £1202.20

### **Micro grant applications this month**

- a) **Drumbowie PC** - £150 for Gardening Club to buy mini-greenhouse etc. – Approved.
- b) **P3 Kids Club** – £150 for Art and Craft consumables – Approved.
- c) **P4-7 Kids Club** - £150 for games and equipment – Approved.
- d) **Community Café** - £150 for grills, coffee-maker plus equipment – Approved.
- e) **Sandy Trimmer Standburn** – £150 Printing costs for Drumbowie Park signage (already vetted by police) – Approved.
- f) **N Crawford** - £150 for CCTV to evidence / deter fly-tipping at Candie End Concerns were raised regarding possible legal issues re. CCTV use and acceptability as evidence. JMcl suggested applying to deploy equipment available through Community Safety team; JH to enquire at her site meeting with them – Deferred.
- g) **Avonbridge Community Garden** – Due to drop-off in volunteer effort, £150 for membrane and mulching materials to reduce maintenance required. JMcl suggested contacting Mary Hamilton about using effort from Community Service team to help clear area. Lee Morton, who already maintains a portion of the area himself, offered to co-ordinate and take this idea forward & CC expressed their appreciation - Approved.

## **8. Planning and Online Update/Report including Broadband Provision**

1. Planning – 3 applications received this month:-

- a) 2 houses on Land to the North East of Standburn Villa Falkirk  
Ref. No: P/17/0309/FUL | Received: Tue 16 May 2017 | Validated: Thu 25 May 2017
- b) Erection of agricultural building. Drumbroder Farm Falkirk FK1 2HN  
Ref. No: P/17/0351/AGR | Received: Fri 02 Jun 2017 | Validated: Mon 19 Jun 2017
- c) 4 houses on Land To The North East Of Broadhead Falkirk  
Ref. No: P/17/0368/FUL | Received: Tue 13 Jun 2017 | Validated: Thu 15 Jun 2017

– Concerns from residents in Candie about effect of this development on an already difficult traffic situation i.e. Passing places and visibility. Both Councillors present indicated individual objections to the planning department are most effective and at all times local Councillors should be made aware of the objections/concerns. JH to respond to residents.

Observations:

- Copy of planning weekly-list is not being sent routinely to ASCC.
- All three current Braes councillors are on the planning committee, therefore unable to discuss individual cases in detail.
- Ed Chappell routinely monitors the planning website.
- Councillors tend to 'call-in' those applications that are queried by Community Councils for closer scrutiny.
- JMcl advises anyone objecting to an application to copy all three Councillors so that they are aware that there is an issue and can discuss with planning officers.

2. ASCC Facebook – no. of views unavailable 10 articles posted; 3 shares.

3. WWW domain name is now registered and hosted on FastNet... now need to determine content of A&SCC website – suggestion to contact Sandy Trimmer who has offered quality photographs of the area.

4. Broadband Fibre – no update on date coming online, still shown as July to December 2017. Update indicates orders, or was it expressions of interest, will be taken from 30-Jun for Avonbridge but nothing on the horizon for Standburn.

## **9. Community Consultation Plan Update**

DC reported that the Consultation period was almost complete, finishing 26<sup>th</sup> June. 60+ responses received before the drop-in sessions; quite good attendance at the drop-in at Avonbridge; JH reported few at Standburn. 14 local groups identified and best efforts made to interview them. Good response from Braes High, who gathered 11 students for a discussion with the Consultants; 7+ students have offered to form a focus group. Some discussion of common themes but these will become clearer once the consultants present their report. Next steps will be for the ASCC working group to review the draft Community Plan; we have reserved £900 to cover printing, and dissemination of the final version, timescale end-August.

## **10. Fracking and Unconventional Gas Scottish Government Consultation**

We have received a copy of a detailed joint submission from local politicians to the Scot Gov't Talking Fracking Consultation. Summary stance is firmly against. Request that this be made available to view on Web / Facebook link if possible.

## **11. Pedal for Scotland update**

JH indicated reps from WMP had been invited to the meeting but declined to attend.

WMP have forwarded an information sheet detailing road closure information planned for the event – 10<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017 together with a map indicating how residents can egress their properties but not access them if located on the route.

A specific resident query was raised with Councillors re: the European Convention of Human Rights (Article I, Protocol I; Marckx v Belgium 1979 2 EHRR 330) allowing residents' peaceful enjoyment of their property.

The Cllrs declined to comment indicating they would take advice.

DG: Event has grown too big, counter comment suggested the event had reduced in numbers but JMCL relayed official figure of 11,000 participants last year.

JMCL indicated elected members are in a poor position – some residents are very pro; some very anti.

Discussion of possible return to one-lane closure but as now regarded as a national event it is subject to Scot Gov't and Police Scotland policy; rolling closures only appropriate for small, local events, like parades.

WMP (event managers) advise anyone with concerns to make direct contact with them: [info@pedalforscotland.org](mailto:info@pedalforscotland.org) or phone **0333 300 3485**.

## **12. Burnhead Moss Wind Farm update**

JH attended a progress meeting with Blackridge & Limerigg reps, EDF and Foundation Scotland; Slamannan reps were unable to attend; DC attended the latter part of the meeting.

The main purpose of the meeting was to assess the progress of the Education and Training fund and check how many other awards made to date.

Education & Training Fund – 28 applications made to date, 22 awards made, 3 in progress, 2 withdrawn, 1 ineligible.

As at 18.06.17 £28,366.78 awarded to date, £23,633.30 remaining.

The applications are spread across the 3 communities but are not equally split across the 3 communities as follows:

Blackridge (48%), Avonbridge & Standburn (40%), Limerigg & Slamannan (22%)

Agreed a more focussed meeting on 5-Jul to review and hopefully streamline the application process, particularly for short courses.

As regards main fund projects Blackridge have made a number of awards and have a Community Plan in place, Limerigg have just completed their Community Planning process and have a core working group to take projects forward, Avonbridge & Standburn are in the process of completing a Community Consultation at present and have made a number of awards to date.

JMCL indicated Slamannan appeared to be a step behind but JH and DC confirmed their understanding Slamannan already had a Community Plan in place; this was also the understanding of Foundation Scotland who has been dealing with each group directly.

## **13. ASCC AGM 14-Sep 2017 – Community Councillors and office bearers required**

Brian Pirie, Falkirk Council is finalising the Community Council election schedule.

In principle, nominations will open in September 2017; anyone who wishes to stand as a Community Councillor must be over 18 and resident in the Community Council constituency they wish to stand in. Their name must appear on the electoral register and 4 people must countersign the nomination – those counter signing must also be resident in the area and on the electoral register.

## **15. A.O.C.B**

Agreed that ASCC would meet again in closed session to consider and reply to H Konkol's email, dated 22-June-2017.

## **14. Next Meeting Date**

**Thursday 14th Sept 2017 in Drumbowie School, Standburn at 7pm**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE AGM; Please make every effort to attend.**

## **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>

**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)

**Advanced planning searches for planning applications**

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