

Avonbridge & Standburn Community Council
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - Thursday 11th January 2018 at 7.15pm
Drumbowie School Standburn

I. Present

D. Cameron, E. Chappell, J. Hirst, G. Addison, H. Kidd, D. Goldie, P.C.Todd, Cllr J McLuckie and four members of the public.

Apologies

E Lipski, J Hunter, H Fowler, J Singh, A. Frerichs,

2. Police Report –

This report covers activity over the last 2 months.

Since the last report (08/11/17) there have been 32 calls made to police from the village of Avonbridge. Those consist of the following call types:

Drugs Intelligence	Alarm Calls	Sudden Death	Public Assistance	Police Generated Activity
Domestic Abuse Incidents	Anti-social Behaviour/Disturbance	Theft		
Abandoned/Silent 999	Missing Persons	Concern for Person	Road Traffic Matters	

9 crimes have been recorded in Avonbridge since the date of the last report which relate to crimes of the following types

Drugs Possession	Thefts (x2)	Disorder Offences	Road Traffic Matters
Domestic Assault	Breach of ASBO	Vandalism	Possession of Knife

For the village of Standburn there has been only one call made to police which was in relation to a road traffic accident in the Edinburgh area. There are no recorded crimes for Standburn in that time.

ASB, VIOLENCE & DISORDER

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

DRUG DEALING & DRUG MISUSE

There were one call of this type in Avonbridge which was added to our intelligence picture. There were no calls of this nature in Standburn since the date of the last meeting. There have been no drug related police operations in either village. One person was found in possession of a Class B drug in Avonbridge and was subject of a Recorded Police Warning.

ROAD SAFETY

There have been no reported road traffic matters in either village since the last meeting although we are aware of the ongoing issues and will continue to monitor and take action and pro-active measures whenever possible. One driver was apprehended for drink driving in that time and was also found to have no licence and no insurance.

DISHONESTY CRIMES

There have been no reported housebreakings since the date of the last report. There was a theft of car batteries from a garden and a theft of cash committed by a family member of the victim however, both in Avonbridge.

Consultation on the Disposal of Unused Police Premises

Local residents are urged to comment and request these facilities remain open and operational. As many people as possible should comment online.

Police Scotland is currently holding a public consultation in relation to the disposal of unused police premises. The main platform for this is via the online portal Citizen Space at <https://consult.scotland.police.uk/consultation/estate> and is open until 31 January 2018.

This is particularly important in respect of the police premises in Maddiston although these premises are not included in the current consultation.

Please email any feedback etc to Sgt James Dougall (james.dougall@scotland.pnn.police.uk)

3. Approval of Minutes from meeting held on Thursday 14th December 2017

Proposed by HK, seconded by EC.

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Neighbour Watch report indicates a number of local burglaries so ongoing vigilance is required especially on Blackstone Road.

5. Chair's report & Correspondence

None at present

6. Treasurers Report

Current Bank Balances:

ASCC Account = £ 72.75

Burnhead Moss Wind Farm Fund = £3,397.82

DG confirmed thank you letters were received from the schools in respect of the grant for the nativity costumes, Christmas presents and prizes at the Christmas parties.

Grateful thanks were recorded and offered to DG for all her hard work over the last 8 years.

DG confirmed she had handed all the files over to JH.

Bank forms are now available for the addition of new signatories to be added.

Micro grant applications this month – None received this month.

It was confirmed as the result of a query at a previous meeting that applications to the Micro Grant fund were restricted to 4 times per years (i.e. quarterly) for any one organisation/individual.

7. Planning and Online Update/Report

2 applications have been received this month:

1. Avonside Lodge – temporary accommodation.
2. Avonpark, Avonbridge – 3 dwelling houses.

An application for housing on land to the NE of Standburn Villa has gone to appeal.

Afton Lodge, Candie application for 2 properties is due to go to committee in 2 weeks.

Wester Greenhill Farm Wind turbine application – withdrawn and re-submitted over the Christmas period. JH to submit an objection on behalf of the ASCC due to the impact of shadow flicker.

DC confirmed the ASCC discussed this issue a year ago, planning prospector companies are carrying out wind turbine applications by stealth and offering no benefit to the community.

This situation needs to be addressed, it is not a new thing and we rely on our Councillors to protect our interests and notify the community.

It was agreed individual turbines should be opposed unless community money is forthcoming and there is no impact on residents in the area.

Link to Falkirk edevelopment site to review planning applications

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

Broadband update: No change to the final connection date posted on the scotlandsuperfast website. It is still shown as December 2017. I have discovered that there is an invitation on the site to become a “Community Champion”. I have applied already and can supply a link to anyone who would like to apply themselves, especially residents in Standburn. <https://www.scotlandsuperfast.com/where-when/the-programme/community-champions>

ASCC Facebook:

Details unavailable at present.

8. IT & Communications

EC presented the meeting with a proposal for a web hosting package to provide an email system for ASCC.

All those present approved of the proposal and the executive agreed to take the details read and digest them and respond to EC.

GA thanked EC for his all his hard work and all agreed to respond in 14 days.

Possible website proposals were then discussed and EC confirmed we have web space so when the email system is established we can take matters further.

9. Future Planning – Gordon Addison

GA intimated the need for direction for the ASCC for everyone's benefit. It was discussed the local authority are able to do less and less due to funding restrictions therefore, we as a community must do our best.

- 1 year plan – agreed to continue our existing projects but ASCC members cannot do everything the community needs to come forward and help.
- 4 year plan – What we need to do in accordance with the Community Consultation and Outcomes. It is hoped that by Easter we should have aims to create a 4 year plan.

The following question was raised, 'what is the communication mechanism between Foundation Scotland and ASCC? It was confirmed DC & JH are the sub-committee members representing ASCC.

Current project proposals:

- a) Upgrade of the Play parks in Standburn and Avonbridge. This is an initiative already in progress led by Sarah Cameron and Jo Hirst. They are looking for support and are hoping to constitute a group in the near future.
- b) Extension of Core Paths Network to Avonbridge via Standburn – initiative by Dave Cameron to create a cycle link to Braes high. A proposal document is in place for discussion, £300K ball park figure for costs. Phased implementation – timescale Summer 2018 first spade in the ground. Standburn to Candie first stage 1.1km @ £140k. There are a number of possible funding partners and DC is now looking to recruit for a constituted group. Various concerns were highlighted regarding the varying surfacing proposals for paths versus partner funding requirements.
Cllr McLuckie indicated his support for the project and agreed to work with DC.

Cllr McLuckie then confirmed the changing rooms were to be removed from Avonbridge Park in the immediate future. Paul Finney in Falkirk Community Trust had agreed to legally transfer the ownership of the park back to Falkirk Council.

Richard Broadley is the team manager Cllr McLuckie will provide contact details.

10. Christmas Lights

Harry Fowlen a resident in Avonbridge has provided a proposal for Christmas lights in Avonbridge and is happy to pursue the proposal. All agreed this was a good idea to support and encouraged Harry to develop the idea.

It was agreed we would invite him to the next meeting to discuss.

Costs and storage are issues for discussion.

11. A.O.C.B

None

12. Date of Next meeting

Thursday 8th February 2018 in Avonbridge Community Hall, Avonbridge at 7.15pm

Useful Links:-

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

Community Engagement and Reassurance



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



All residents are encouraged to sign up to Neighbourhood Watch Scotland's ALERT system which is free and allows agencies including police to send out targeted information about issues including crime in specific areas. Sign up at

<https://member-registration.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/91/Join>