

Avonbridge & Standburn Community Council
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting - Thursday 12th April 2018 at 7.15pm
Avonbridge Community Hall

I. Present

G. Addison, N Cochrane, E. Chappell, J. Hirst, H. Kidd, D. Goldie, PC Todd, Cllr J Kerr, Cllr G Hughes and six members of the public.

Apologies

D. Cameron, I. McGillivray, J Hunter, A. Frerichs, S. Perkins, H Perkins, C. Sharples.

2. Police Report –

Since the last report (07/03/18) there have been 43 calls made to police relating to the village of Avonbridge. Those consist of the following call types:

Road Traffic Matters (largely re volume & speed of traffic)	Domestic Incidents
Assaults/Disturbance (1x familial, 1x locus in another area)	Neighbour Dispute
Thefts (1x familial, 1x of oil from insecure container)	Noisy Music
House Fire (blocked chimney)	Abandoned/Silent 999
Lost Animals	Missing Person
	Youths on Off-Road Motorbikes

5 crimes have been recorded in Avonbridge since the date of the last report in relation to
Theft (of approx. £200 of oil from insecure oil drum within curtilage of a property)
Fail to Report Road Traffic Collision/No Insurance
Theft (of child's purse and around £10 cash from same – familial)
Assault & Vandalism (familial) Breach of Court Order

For the village of Standburn there have been 3 calls made to police in relation to
Public Assistance Speeding Vehicles

There are no recorded crimes in that time within Standburn.

ASB, VIOLENCE & DISORDER

None this month

DRUG DEALING & DRUG MISUSE

None this month

ROAD SAFETY

There have been numerous reported road traffic matters in and around both villages since the last meeting largely in relation to the increased volume and speed of traffic passing through as a result of the Avon Gorge closure. We are aware of the ongoing issues and will continue to work with partners to monitor, taking action and pro-active measures whenever possible. As a result of increased speed-checks and patrols of the area during this time several motorists have been issued warnings and Fixed Penalties (£100 + 3 points) in relation to speeding in the 30mph and 20mph zones in both villages, as well as various other road traffic offences being detected and Vehicle Rectification Scheme notices being issued which all reduces the speed and increases the safety of vehicles on the road. We will continue to do this whenever possible, especially at key times.

DISHONESTY CRIMES

There have been no reported housebreakings or theft of vehicles since the date of the last report. Of the two thefts reported in the area one relates to a familial issue and the other relates to oil stolen from an insecure drum.

Issues raised at the meeting:

1. Off road motorbike regular occurrence Muiravonside Country Park
2. Speed of the traffic going through Candie is a cause for concern for walkers/dog walkers/horse riders etc – Speed limit on the road is 60mph which shocked residents PC Todd welcomed calls from the community re concerns with speeding traffic, call 101.
3. J Hirst- raised problem of fly tipping and what the police response would be if photographic evidence was produced. It was confirmed 2 witnesses are required and PF is unlikely to take action.

4. N Cochrane requested information re: incident in Maddiston PC Todd advised it was a stabbing within a household.
5. Cllr Kerr indicated Falkirk Council are aware of 3 areas that require scrutiny in the area Fly tipping, Housing and anti-social behaviour.

3. Approval of Minutes from meeting held on Thursday 8th March 2018

Proposed by ?

Seconded by ?

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting

Revised ASCC Constitution 2017-2021 – to be completed & distributed by Chair

5. Community Safety Team Report

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

Period: 01/03/18 – 31/03/18

EAST-Grangemouth, Bo'ness, Braes 36

Investigations: Period 01/03/18 – 31/03/18

ASB Concern	No of reports
Dog Fouling & Control of Dogs	24
Litter & Fly Tipping	8
Youth related disorder	2
Other	2

We have no reports of Litter, Dog fouling or Fly Tipping within your area.

Contact Us

Phone	01324 506070	FREEPHONE 24/7
Email	community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk	
Online	Falkirk Council Website	www.falkirk.gov.uk/do-it-today

6. Chair's report & Correspondence

- a) Small Works Team will progress next week with the final phase of path network improvements in the Avonbridge Park (Adjacent to Avonbridge Primary School) as part of on-going wider park improvement works. The path works are programmed to take up to 4 weeks to deliver and the area will be closed at times to allow construction.
- b) #CelebrateCCs - sharing information about Community Councils Initiative.
More information available on website: <http://www.communitycouncils.scot/celebrate-community-councils.html>
- c) Email from Lynn Sharp - Community Council elections of November 2017 complete and all constituted CC's have now met and elected office bearers. Hoping to meet all Conveners and share information and best practice.
- d) Xmas Lights update – Meeting agreed a lit tree for each village would be reasonable and an application will be made to Foundation Scotland for £3,000.00 to achieve this.
- e) Letham Moss Methane i.e. fracking – the meeting agreed to support the campaign for an Equal Right of Appeal in the Planning Bill currently being debated in the Scottish Parliament.
- f) Foraging Trips – these are being organised by the Avonside Inn who are happy to work with and support ASCC.
- g) 100 Years RAF – Celebration Day Sat 26th May in Grangemouth – 1.30pm at the Spitfire. All welcome Cllr Kerr confirmed all schools invited.

7. Treasurers Report

Current Bank Balances:

ASCC Account = £ 315.00

Burnhead Moss Wind Farm Fund = £ 2,647.82

The 2017/18 Accounts have been submitted for auditing to French & Duncan LLP Accountants.

Micro grant applications submitted this month –

- Drumbowie Park £150.00 for fuel for grass cutting Approved.
- Avonbridge Messy Play group £150.00 set up costs Approved in principle form awaited

- D. Goldie noted the Drumbowie Park Pagoda is in need of refurbishment but this will necessitate an application directly to Foundation Scotland for a larger sum.

8. Planning and Online Update/Report

No new planning applications have been validated since last time. But most applications lodged earlier in the year have now been decided.

Facebook Page update:

No statistics available this month.

Link to Falkirk edevelopment site to review planning applications

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

9. IT & Communications

Broadband - Councillor Kerr reported that Falkirk Council do not have a representative dedicated to tracking the progress of Superfast Broadband in our area. The target month for Superfast in the Avonbridge exchange remains at August 2018. Still no response from Digital Scotland to 3 residents in regard to their application to become Community Champions.

Website - A simple holding page has been posted at www.aandsc.org.uk. The plan is to replace it with a simple bulletin board style website for review in April.

10. Avon Gorge Road Closure Issues

Concerns were raised over the prolonged closure of the Avon Gorge and the impact on the villages. Chair indicated the police and Council had been proactive in providing crossing equipment and speed controls. Deterioration of the road surfaces is an issue and class C roads are being used as shortcuts.

Jason McKay is the area roads engineer request for him to come down and see the roads

The case needs community support and the Chair requested every one photograph problem areas and send to the council or register on the Council website, very effective tool available to report road defects.

Ed Chappell raised consideration for signs being put up "local access only" for the duration of the road closure to avoid use of minor roads.

JH suggested the speed limit be reduced between Bowhouse and Avonbridge similar to the one imposed by West Lothian between Avonbridge and Westfield.

11. Avonbridge & Standburn Recreational Initiative

A small constituted group has now formed of 5 members which has opened an independent bank account to develop the recreation grounds in both villages.

Meetings instigated with members of Falkirk Council. Formal written approval is required from landowners before we can go any further, issues such as insurance, public liability and maintenance need to be considered.

Possible funding partners need to be identified to establish budgets.

Master plan needs to be drafted for consideration.

After the above is complete it will be possible to consult with children and residents in respect of equipment choices. ASRI will report back when more information is available.

12. General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

New rules in force across the EU as of 25th May 2018.

As holders of personal data ASCC are legally obliged to ensure we don't share it with others without consent.

This means we should blind copy all email addresses when sending out any information such as minutes or agendas. It may be necessary to register with the Information Commissioners Office – JH will progress.

13. A.O.C.B

- Defibrillator – maybe able to get this for free, requires electricity supply and costs. GA is progressing this.
- Participatory budget – D.Park raised this referring to the results of the Community Consultation. It was suggested we should use it to our advantage in 3 main areas. He will follow up and forward his feedback to ASCC.
- DG showed the meeting a book a 'Historic tour of the Parish of Muiravonside' as an interesting local history aid, HK confirmed the libraries also have a copy of the book available.

- Muiravonside Park –FCT are proposing parking charges - £1 charge Jo and Doreen intend to draft a letter opposing this in support of Maddiston CC who are also objecting.
- Fly tipping - Residents in the Candie area are getting together to clear debris from various areas. Cllr Hughes advised he will get back to JH in relation to pick up by Council.
- Ribbon of Poppies initiative– ASCC bought 50 packs of seeds to distribute across the area £25.00 cheque required to cover cost see <http://www.ancresommeassociation.co.uk/ribbon-of-poppies/4594129440>

14. Date of Next meeting

Thursday 10th May 2018 in Drumbowie School, Standburn at 7.15pm

Useful Links:-

Burnhead Moss Windfarm – Grant applications

<https://wwwFOUNDATIONSscotland.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>

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;

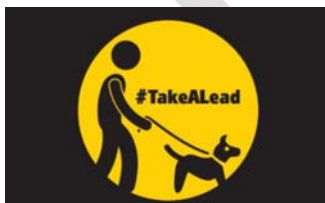
www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts



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>

Community Engagement and Reassurance



Livestock Worrying Campaign

A National Livestock Worrying Campaign has been launched in conjunction with partner agencies which includes a video on our Social Media which is available for viewing and sharing with family, friends, neighbours and colleagues. It contains important safety advice for all dog owners and outlines the distress caused to sheep and consequences of allowing uncontrolled dogs near sheep/ livestock.

Remember:

- Be a responsible dog owner
- Keep your dog under control and on a lead if walking in the countryside, rural locations or near the edge of town and near sheep or livestock
- Be aware of the distress and serious injury a dog can cause sheep. A dog's natural instinct is to chase.
- Livestock worrying is a crime and will be dealt with by the Police. Farmers also have a legal right to shoot dogs engaged in livestock worrying.
- If you witness or have any information on a livestock / sheep worrying incident please call Police on 101 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 if you prefer to remain anonymous.