

Bonnybridge Community Council



Minutes of Meeting –30th April 2019 Bonnybridge Community Centre

Welcome and Apologies

Committee

Ian McGregor
Lee Gillies
Fiona Russell
Derick Ramsay
Brian Hastings (W.a)
Paul Cortopassi (W.a)
Catherine Spicer
Lynn Love

Councillors

Cllr. D. Grant (W.a)
Cllr. N. Coleman (N.a)
Cllr. W. Buchanan (W.a)
Cllr. P. Garner (N.a)
Cllr. F. Collie (N.a)
Cllr. J. Blackwood (N.a)
Cllr. N. Harris (N.a)

Police

PC Lauren Gavin

Absent, with apologies (W.a)
Absent, no apologies (N.a)

Residents Attending:

Community Council (CC)
Falkirk Council (FC)

Police and Community Safety Team Reports

Police Report:

PC Lauren Gavin read the police report, then spent some time with residents discussing what had happened in the village since our last meeting.

A fight outside the Bridge Inn had been reported, but was resolved before the police arrived. "Sneak ins" had occurred where opportunists had entered houses through an unlocked door. She advised residents to be vigilant and keep doors locked at all times. It was agreed to post this information on the Bonnybridge Community Council Facebook page to reach as many residents as possible.

The majority of calls made last month were about anti-social behaviour and concerns regarding vulnerable people. Anti-social behaviour had been reported at Roman Road, and a resident

mentioned youths had been taking a short cut through a garden at Mount Bartholomew to the Ford Road.

Youths had also been seen with air rifles and it is the view of the community council and residents that anti-social behaviour is not taken seriously enough and there is little deterrent.

Residents went on to discuss the closure of the canal bridge and had concerns about an emergency vehicle that had been seen having to turn back when faced with the closed road. It was thought there had been a breakdown in communications and a lack of knowledge regarding local issues due to centralisation.

The lack of parking spaces at the Toll continues to be an issue. Cars parked on the zig zags at the crossing is illegal and is a matter for the police. Cars parked on double/single yellow lines should be reported to the council.

Community Safety Team:

Team not available and report not received. If you have any information for the Community Safety Team you can Email: community.safety@falkirk.gov.uk or Tel: 0808 100 3161.

Matters Arising

Railway Bridge 52: Broomhill Road

Convenor Ian McGregor has written to the council about the ongoing pigeon dropping issue on the pavement under the bridge, but to date has had no reply.

Toll Signs

As requested by the community council, the Toll signs have now been cleaned. The railings on the bridge over the Bonny have not been cleaned.

Broomhill Road

The pavement is now being cleaned by the council but Central Demolition will use their sweeper if it gets bad.

Jenny's Park Update

Before Christmas CC Lee Gillies & Fiona Russell had a site meeting with FC and it was agreed that the remainder of the park would be completed by Easter. As Easter has now passed and the finishing touches to the park were not completed CC Lee Gillies contacted FC and requested they expedite the remaining work which includes:

- Painting the swings
- Installing the inclusive swing seat
- Finishing the log edging
- Putting a fresh layer of bark over the old bark
- Installing a picnic table
- Putting a bin near the swings

CC Lee Gillies is pleased to report that FC have now started work on these finishing touches.

Reinstate Bonnybridge Railway Station

The group are pleased to welcome a new member to the board who has a vast knowledge of transport and council procedure. The pre-appraisal will go to full council in October.

Correspondence/Planning/Finance

Correspondence

Anti-social Behaviour – Final Report Scrutiny Panel – March 2019: The panel which undertook the Scrutiny Review consisted of Councillor Binnie, Councillor Blackwood, Councillor Grant and the Depute Provost. While Councillor Coleman did not sit on the panel, he proposed an amendment to the recommendations.

To take part in Falkirk Councils Housing & Planning consultation, which ends on 31st May visit: <https://say.falkirk.gov.uk/development-services/sg-10-education-and-new-housing-development/>

Fracking: The Scottish Government are now running a third consultation. A legal opinion published by Aidan O'Neill QC now suggests that the Scottish Parliament has the legislative competence to pass a fracking ban. This advice said that doing so would be less likely to result in successful legal challenges from companies with an interest in the industry than the present policy approach. To take part in the Scottish Government's consultation, which ends on 25th June, visit: <https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/unconventional-oil-and-gas-sea/>

Planning

Nothing to report.

Finance

No change.

Any Other Business

Toll Ground Improvements

CC Lee Gillies asked if there were any objections to her trying a different approach via Brian Pirie (FC) with regards to the community council making improvements to the areas near the Toll Roundabout that had been planted in the past.

Falkirk Council Flowers

Convenor Ian McGregor will contact the council regarding the availability of flowers for communities/community groups to plant. Falkirk Council have plants in their nursery, but due to budget cuts will not be planting any of them.

Bonnybridge Community Council Planters

The planter at the Scotmid car park has now been cleared ready for replanting. The CC will also be installing four planters on the bridge railings this year.

Master Plan

CC Lee Gillies was contacted by Elspeth Forsyth, a Senior Planning Officer – Landscape, Planning & Environment in Falkirk Council. CC Lee Gillies, CC Fiona Russell and FC Elspeth Forsyth had a site meeting at Jenny's Park. Lee enquired about the purpose of the site meeting. Elspeth stated that she was tasked with doing a "Master Plan", but wanted to know how the community used the space. Lee enquired about the point of the master plan since FC has no budget to implement any of the ideas. Elspeth stated that the master plan would be what FC would potentially like to do, maybe 10 years down the line. Lee suggested that FC review the Bonnybridge area as a whole and gave Elspeth a tour of some areas around Bonnybridge which would benefit from investment in trees, flowers and biodiversity. Lee suggested that FC review their budgets as a whole and also

suggested FC departments work together and with community groups to make small incremental improvements in the short to medium term as well as their long-term master plan.

The Community Council look forward to seeing you in the Community Centre on Tuesday 28th May 2019 at 7.30pm