

Stepps & District Community Council
Minute of Meeting Thursday 15th February at 7.30pm
Stepps Parish Church

- Present:** Councillors Ken Maxwell (Chair), Campbell Provan (Vice Chair), Tracy Kennedy (Secretary) Muriel McDade, Paul Noble, Steward Donald Craig Cowan (Treasurer) Alice Morton Diane Delaney
- Elected Members:** None present
- Apologies:** Andrew McPherson, Peter McNally, Lorraine McGregor, Thomas Stones and Cllr John McLaren
- Public:** 9 attendees

1. Opening Remarks/Introductions

1.1 Chair Ken Maxwell welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above.

3.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

3.1 Proposed by Paul Noble Seconded by Muriel McDade

4.0 Community Police

52 calls in total from Stepps for the period

From these calls there have been 7 crimes recorded with the breakdown as follows

2 Road Traffic offences

2 Assaults

1 Vandalism

1 Attempted Extortion/ Access to computer offence

1 Breach of Bail conditions

Of these crimes 5 have been detected with 2 crimes still being investigated
No crime trends or patterns to be aware of. The attempted extortion offence related to internet malware/ hacking where persons could no longer access their account with money being requested to allow access.

5.0 Office Bearers Report

Ken commented local council are looking for feedback re double parking in Stepps and they will be looking for volunteers. This will be discussed at the next meeting

The proposal will also be discussed for approval at the next Northern Corridor Community Board meeting on 21 February, pending available funding for 2024-25 period.

Response shared from Peter McNally regarding Cardowan Green Gym.

The proposed facility would be an outdoor gym consisting of equipment such as steppers and health walkers. The proposal has been highlighted by Cardowan Community Meadow to support local people access physical exercise (free of charge) and would potentially be sited near the ash park and grass area at the end of Frankfield Road.

Treasurer

The bank has actioned the change in signatories. Mandate has been signed

£2,300.52 no cheques

£87 has not been claimed

3 cheques were administered today and will come off the balance. These were for the use of Stepps Church meeting room last year, waterproof defibrillator posters and the room in Stepps Church for the current meeting.

6.0 Planning update

Paul advised that currently all planning proposals are small extensions/garage conversions. Nothing of any significance.

RV Sales a request to be submitted to see if there is a change in service.

Stewart reported there will no longer be a car wash. There will just be a takeaway.

Buying and selling of RV's should not be happening. Stewart passed the contact details to Paul Noble. There has been no change in use application. Paul Williams is the contact.

Recommendation a letter/email be sent from the community council

Planning Democracy has an event on Tuesday 20th March at the Scottish Parliament re NPF 4. Focus is biodiversity Policy 3. 300 planning applications have been compiled into a report by community volunteers.

Re pollution of Bluebell Dell. Alice Morton has put slides together and will speak to this at the event. She will report back post event. Craig McLaren is the Community Improvement Officer

7.0 Environment Report

Burnt out car lay at the bottom of Lenzie Road near the roundabout

Fly tipping issues at Auchengree Farm and Nursery

Paul Mahoney NLC roads was to contact Ken for any updates on future major works

Millerston burst pipe. Resulted in a lot of traffic

No road markings at Comrie Road and no lines to indicate the right turn in

Road closure notices displayed on NLC Council website

Islands seem to be removed

Q Is there any input from the community regarding layout. **A** No there is no requirement for community input at present

Paul requested Stewart contact about resurfacing but it has been noted that resurfacing has been scheduled.

Update from Josh Cairns - Asked NLC to perform a traffic survey which will capture speed and volume

Diane Delaney from Stepps Parents Council advised additional measures have repeatedly been asked and was told there was no requirement. NLC have done an assessment and are satisfied no changes are required as there have not been enough serious incidents. School Children are concerned about crossing the road at this junction and the Children's rights group may set up a campaign around road safety and would link up with the community council

Concerns were raised that the children from the Crowwood estate still have to cross a busy road to get to the bridge

The congestion at the Bannatyne's roundabout is also an issue

When lights flash the speed limit is 20 mph but they don't seem to be activated yet. There are 4 sets in all directions around the school

Alice to give an update on the parking enforcement - the report is online. Enforcement is about pavement double parking and dropped kerbs. NLC will proceed with this in the spring. NLC requires the back office functionality at Glasgow City Council to be up and running. First month will just be notices issued. There is a national awareness campaign to address this. NLC will supplement with a local message.

In 6 months there will be a report. Private roads cannot be enforced it only applies to public roads and adopted roads.

Cycle lanes will be enforced and schools. NLC has said they will manage expectations. Alice posed the question - will they employ more traffic wardens?

There may be exemptions for emergency services. The report is available online.

It was suggested in Belfast street parking is organised in such a way that one week vehicles are parked on one side and the next week parked on the opposite side (this was in response to how difficult it can be to pass through streets like Whitehill Avenue).

Stewart has advised that he has located areas for agreed signage.

Concerns raised over local businesses potentially losing money if cars are not allowed to park on pavements and present car parking may not be sufficient.

Tom raised issues of getting along Whitehill Avenue if people don't park on the pavement. The road is very narrow and cars are parked on both sides.

It was highlighted that Monday is already a difficult day for disabled people as the bins are out on the pavement for collection.

Dog bags will be available at the library when it opens and Stewart will ask a few shopkeepers to also house them.

Reports of dog bags hanging on the hedge (resident pictures available).

Campbell has reported a fallen tree in Bluebell Park.

Wooden bench has been power washed in Bluebell park and there are still some improvements to be made.

The hedges at Whitehill Farm have had their annual cut.

The Dunalastair Play park contractor is back but there is no money to put in new drainage. As a result the park is waterlogged in the winter and summer.

Campbell advised in March they will upgrade electric cables in Whitehill Avenue. These works have already been done in Alexandra Avenue and Victoria Road. All of Stepps will be updated eventually where there are the old electrical cables.

Weatherproof defibrillator posters for display at the hockey pavilion.

The Community Council banner is missing from Stepps Coop. It will cost £73 approximately to replace, Campbell will enquire about a replacement.

8.0 Steps Community Facilities – Daytime Access

Alice, Stewart and Campbell will attend the Northern Corridor meeting and Ken advised anyone is welcome to attend

Update -Refurbishment works in the community hall and two GP rooms at the front of the school will be from 12th Feb to 27th Feb inclusive - 12 working days.

The works will involve all three phases previously proposed. It has been agreed with the contractor that any noisy work will be carried out after school hours at nights or weekends. The school secure bubble will remain intact throughout the works. Fob access will continue as normal. The 'Out Of School Care' Group (OOSC) will be relocated from the community hall during these works. There will be no community lets from 12th Feb to 27th Feb inclusive, these lets have been notified. The refurbishments works in the modular accommodation will be from 12th Feb to 14th Mar. The modular accommodation will have separate access from the school and should not affect any school operations.

9.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing Report

10.0 Community Meetings

- Northern Corridor Board (Chair Brandon Williams) Wednesday 21st February 7pm-9pm
Chryston Cultural Centre
- Northern Corridor Community Forum, 6th March
- Cumbernauld and North Locality Consortium, date of next meeting tbc

11.0 AOCB

British Heart Foundation applications available for defibrillators.

Defibrillator in Steps church does not have a location code showing on the front of the box. This is needed when calling 999. Ken to raise with Lorraine Robertson.

Christmas lights -Paul Noble spoke to Councillor McLaren how to go about reinstating Christmas lights in Stepps and what the cost would be. Original lights are in storage and would cost £3,000 to install and maintain. Paul has suggested two groups of people could go round the shops and businesses with a letter from the Community Council asking for funds. Volunteers requested to join a Christmas lights sub-committee. Paul Noble will lead on this

Buchanan Tower will be lit up with red on Thursday 22nd February to support World Encephalitis Day.

Printer to be purchased by the secretary and held at the Secretary's home.

Digital mapping of NLC Services East Dunbartonshire Council has an asset map.

Northern corridor is cumulatively larger than 3 towns. It consists of 30,000 people, which is a significant number.

Thanks to Chair & close of meeting.

Q. Lines at the roundabout before Dewar Road to be repainted as they are faded.

Q Are there any alternative parking at the shops.

12.0 Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 28th March at 7.30pm, Stepps Parish Church, Session Room.

Campbell Provan to chair meeting.