**Minute of Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council**

**7.30-9.30pm, Monday 18th November 2019**

**Stepps Cultural Centre, St Andrews Way**

**Present:** Councillors Ken Maxwell (Chair), Iain MacGregor (Vice Chair), Sameeha Rehman (Secretary), Campbell Provan (Treasurer), Gerard Campbell, Craig Cowan, Tom Forrester, Marvyn Mackay, Alice Morton, Carol Graham, Ewan Graham and Paul Noble

**In attendance;** Cllr Stephen Goldsack, NLC; Lorraine Kerr, Parents’ Council, Stepps Primary School.

**Public:** 56 persons

**Apologies:** Councillors Paul Brown and Sheila Stuart, NLC Cllrs Lynne Anderson and John McLaren, Problem Solving Officer, Police Scotland.

1. **Opening Remarks/Introductions**

1.1Chair Ken Maxwell welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the new community council and thanked them for their attendance at the meeting.

**2.0 Apologies**

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above

**3.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

3.1 Minutes of the previous meeting were approved with a minor amendment to item 10.7. Proposed by Tom Forrester, seconded by Craig Cowan.

**4.0 Craigendmuir Farm Pre-planning Application**

4.1 Ken Maxwell advised that SDCC community council has been an active participant in gathering community views and responding to a number of planning proposals over the past ten years. In 2016, an application was proposed at Gateside Farm which was refused by NLC but was allowed by the Reporter at the appeal. SDCC, working alongside with Save Stepps Greenbelt Sub-Committee, rejected the formal planning application and argued for a planning hearing which was refused and taken to a second appeal. Recently, it has been announced that the appeal was dismissed, which is another victory for SDCC/Save Stepps Greenbelt Sub-Committee in preventing developers from building on Greenbelt.

Gartcosh put forward a petitions committee to highlight the greenbelt sites that are being consumed by housing developments and the lack of community consultation. Fulton MacGregor MSP spoke at the committee and has agreed to organise a cross-party event to raise awareness of this situation in many local communities, such as Stepps.

The Local Development Plan in 2012 was proposed to contain an application for Craigendmuir but this was not included after the community council posed an objection. The new local plan has not been adopted as yet but there are no plans for allocation of housing on the site. Ken advised that the community council does not believe the land should be used for housing and this position will be taken forward.

4.2 Members of the community were invited to put forward their views and opinions with regards to the Craigendmuir proposal. A number of concerns were raised including:

* A member of the community has contacted Badger Scotland to inspect the land and provide information regarding the wildlife that would be affected by the developments
* The lack of infrastructure and services in the area to contend with an increase in population
* The benefits of greenbelt land for maintaining positive mental health
* The effect of such developments on the Seven Loch plans and flora/fauna within that area
* The issue of access to the proposed site, with likelihood of congestion on Cardowan Rd

Ken Maxwell assured the meeting that the community council is in support of the local people in Cardowan, understands their concerns and will be united in rejecting future planning applications for Craigendmuir.

**5.0 Stepps Primary School Temporary Move**

5.1 A member of the community reported that there are rumoured to be delays in the temporary move of Stepps Primary. Lorraine Kerr reported that there was no update provided by the NLC to the Parent Council.

Sameeha Rehman reported that despite trying to arrange a meeting of members of the community council with representatives of NLC, with NL Leisure and at least one of the local councillors in attendance, there had yet been no formal invitation received to attend a meeting. An action point was raised for Sameeha to contact the office of the Chief Executive of Education at NLC with regards to the lack of communication on this matter.

**6.0 Key Dates**

Miller Homes Public Consultation Event:

Tuesday 19th November 2019, between 3pm and 7pm, Garfield House Hotel

Next Community Council Meeting:

Monday 16th December at 7.30pm in Stepps Cultural Centre, St Andrews Way, Blenheim Avenue, Stepps.