**Stepps & District Community Council**

**Minute of Ordinary Meeting following Annual General Meeting**

**7.30-9.30pm, Thursday 2nd June 2022**

**Stepps Parish Church, Whitehill Avenue**

**Present:** Community Councillors Alice Morton (Chair), Sameeha Rehman (Secretary), Campbell Provan (Treasurer), Gerry Campbell, Eddie Ceresa, Iain MacGregor, Paul Noble and Tom Forrester.

Lorraine Kerr, Stepps Parent Council

Andrew McPherson, North Lanarkshire Council

PC John Fleming

**Elected Members:** Cllr Cairns

Cllr McLaren

Cllr Williams

**Apologies:** Councillors Craig Cowan, Ken Maxwell and Sheila Stuart

Diane Delaney, Stepps Parent Council

**Public:** 14 persons

1. **Opening Remarks/Introductions**

1.1Chair Alice Morton welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance at the last meeting before summer recess.

**2.0 Apologies**

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above.

**3.0 Minute of Previous Meeting**

3.1 Proposed by Gerry Campbell. Seconded by Campbell Provan.

**4.0 Executive Reports** (as per AGM)

No questions raised.

**4.1 Treasurer’s Report**

The Community Council accounts were sent to Feely and Co, Wishaw, for auditing on 9 September. They were returned audited and certified as correct on 16 September.

Copies were signed and one copy returned to Feely for onward transmission to North Lanarkshire Council. The grant for this year will be processed by NL and sent to the CC bank account.

The accounts are audited to 31 March 2021. Since then, there has been further expenditure on the Heritage leaflets, display banners, the website and advertising and the bank account now stands at £2861.79 of which £988 is Mining Memorial money. Balance Sheet and Audited Accounts were made available to the meeting.

**5.0 Community Police**

5.1 PC Fleming reported that a youth action plan was being undertaken in the Glen and Bluebell Dell for extra patrols on Friday and Saturdays once schools close. Off-licence premises are being targeted with bottles being marked to find which shops are selling alcohol to children.

PC Fleming carried out a drop-in surgery in April, with the next being in Glenboig before returning to Stepps. There is potential for the officers to attend CC meetings beforehand for an open surgery.

A resident reported speeding on Mount Harriet Drive.

A resident reported overgrown grass at the junction between Cumbernauld Road and Hornshill Farm Road.

ACTION: Tom is to investigate and report on the grass.

**6.0 Invited Guest**

6.1 Andrew McPherson, NLC – Northern Corridor Community Champion

Andrew noted that it has been almost a year since he first entered his new role as Community Champion and attended a Community Board Meeting for the Northern Corridor. He notes there have been many successesincluding:

* The LOIP which has determined the priorities for the community
* Increased community partnering resources to provide additional assistance to communities
* Greater understanding of issues within the area including the cultural centre and the overlap between Lanarkshire and Glasgow health boards

Plans for the future include:

* The LOIP must be carried out and officers must be held to account on this
* An increased partnership approach between communities.

Plans are underway to return the two modular units to the library. A door will be created between the library, hall and multi-purpose room. The two community rooms will be returned with a plan to install external access to allow access during the day. Andrew reported that this would go to consultation over the coming weeks.

Lorraine Kerr noted that the capacity of the school was set to increase again in August. Alice Morton suggested that a report is created on the future plans for Stepps Primary. Cllr McLaren notes he has raised the various issues surrounding the school with council officers and has had no response. He asked Andrew McPherson to accelerate the response rate.

**7.0 Environmental Report**

7.1 Cllr Tom Forrester provided the attached report.

**LITTER BINS**

I reported a lack of litter bins in the areas of the War memorial, Frankfield at the play area and Loch Road at the public information board site. Still no response so far as I am aware

I also reported, at the request of a resident, an overflowing litter bin at Potters Court which appeared to be being missed at collection time. This has been attended to.

**LITTER AT “KEY STORE” SITE**

No further information. Have contacted NLC again expressing disappointment that I have not received the guidance and advice I requested from them regarding possible rodent infestation.

**POTHOLES**

Previously reported potholes in Whitehill Farm Road, Mount Harriet Drive and Church Avenue have been attended to although the surfaces still leave a lot to be desired. Have requested NLC to have another look at them.

**HIGH RETAINING WALL AT CO-OP**

I reported water seepage through the above wall and have received word that a works order has been issued for its repair. No further information to date.

**KERB AND GUTTER WEEDS**

Have reported fast growing kerbside and gutter weeds across the area with accompanying photographs taken in Whitehill Farm Road.

Lorraine Kerr reported on a bee nest affecting children near Stepps Primary School. Bees are protected so the Council was unable to get involved. A beekeeper came to see the area and reported that there was nothing that could be done with bumble bees, but the nest would not be present in the same place next season.

7.2 Loch Road works have been extended to the end of the month.

7.3 The grassed area at the Hockey Park has been reinstated.

7.4 Alice Morton reported that a very successful consultation was carried out with the eco groups in Stepps Primary and St Joseph’s Primary in relation to the improvements to Stepps Cultural pathway

**8.0 Planning Matters**

8.1 Cllr McLaren noted that the approval of a Lorry Park beside the Hornshill Roundabout was a blow to the community and we should find a way to seek an appeal.

**9.0 Northern Corridor Community Board**

9.1 The next meeting is to be confirmed.

**10.0** **Northern Corridor Community Forum**

10.1 The next meeting is to be confirmed.

**11.0 Cumbernauld and North Locality Consortium**

11.1 The next meeting will be held on Thursday 9th June 2022 at 11am and Thursday 7th July 2022 at 11am.

**12.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing**

12.1 Cllr Williams reported that she had delivered boxes for the Bluebell Dell.

Cllr Cairns reported that he had written to Taylor Wimpey to ask why the Loch Road works are taking so long.

Cllr McLaren reported that education has reversed the decision for MELM for Chryston but there are greater concerns for the use of MELM across the rest of North Lanarkshire. He notes that this needs to be scrapped and it is not fit for any school.

**13.0 AOCB**

13.1 There are weekend events taking place within the community to celebrate the Queen’s Jubilee.

13.2 Campbell Provan notes that the Community Council area boundaries do not include the Dunlop estate and does include part of the Crowwood area.

13.3 Next meeting to be held on Thursday 1st September 2022 at 7.30pm.

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions and wished them a restful summer recess.