

Stepps & District Community Council

Minute of Meeting

Thursday 1 September 2022

at 7.30pm

Stepps Cultural Centre, St Andrew's Way

Present: Councillors Alice Morton (Chair), Sameeha Rehman (Secretary), Campbell Provan (Treasurer), Gerry Campbell, Craig Cowan, Tom Forrester **and Sheila Stuart.**

Lorraine Kerr, Stepps Parent Council

Diane Delaney, Stepps Parent Council

PC Calvin Lake

Elected Members: Cllr Cairns

Cllr Williams

Apologies: Councillors Eddie Ceresa, Marvyn Mackay and Ken Maxwell

Andrew McPherson, North Lanarkshire Council

Public: 21 persons

1.0 Opening Remarks/Introductions

1.1 Chair Alice Morton welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance to the first meeting after summer recess.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above.

3.0 Minute of Previous Meeting

3.1 Amendment: add Tom Forrester to present names. Proposed by Gerry Campbell. Seconded by Campbell Provan.

4.0 Executive Reports

Alice Morton reported that with the full approval of community councilors, Sheila Stuart is deemed a continuing community councilor with Stepps and District Community Council. Sheila will receive a copy of all forthcoming Agendas and Minutes and all other correspondence in order that she may raise any issues or add

any matter as required. Sheila will also be included in any decision making and voting that takes place.

The approval was minuted.

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Campbell Provan

I have received a bank statement dated 29 July 2022 in the amount of £3862.16.

The North Lanarkshire grant of £791 was deposited on 13 July 2022.

Since then, four cheques have been issued.

- Hire of church hall £25.00
- Website and domain name subscription £62.86
- NL for room lets £23.20
- Printer ink £38.99

Leaving an amount of £3712.11 of this £998 is Mining Memorial money.

5.0 Invited Guest: Malcolm Close - Steps/Les Marches Twinning Exchange Visit

5.1 Malcolm Close noted that there is a forthcoming visit from Les Marches to Steps from Friday 28th to Monday 31st October 2022. This year is the 20th anniversary of the twinning, the first stage of which took place in 2002. There will be a civic reception as part of the visit on the Saturday of the visit, and they will look for community council representation at this. In total, there are 34 people visiting. The party will be picked up on Friday at lunchtime in Edinburgh, taken sightseeing and then arrive that evening in Steps for a welcome at St Joseph's Hall around 6.30pm.

Saturday will be spent with the hosting families. Sunday will be a sightseeing day in Glasgow and a ceilidh in the evening which is open to all (subject to numbers).

On Monday, the party will return to Edinburgh to spend a couple of days before returning to France.

6.0 Police Scotland

6.1 PC Calvin Lake reported: There were 80 calls over the past month. 17 of these calls were duplicate incidents or abandoned. 2 were faulty alarm calls. 6 calls were related to the motorway. Of the 55 calls dealt with, 13 crimes were recorded for the area. There was a van stolen and theft of a couple of cars in St Fillans Road in Millerston. Residents were advised to keep cars and homes secure and locked. Police officers have been working with the Co-op to charge a woman stealing from the Co-op. 7 enquiries are still ongoing and 3 people have been charged.

Alice reported that there are concerns with graffiti in the area, particularly at the back of the Pharmacy car park and it was suggested that weed was being smoked there. PC Lake confirmed that extra patrols have taken place there.

A resident noted that there are speeding concerns on Mount Harriet Drive in the evenings and coming out of Cardowan Drive in the mornings. PC Lake will arrange speed gun checks. Sameeha asked the position on electric scooters. Both Sameeha and Craig reported issues with children using electric scooters on Honeywell Drive and Dewar Road. PC Lake said there is no legislation around this currently and scooters cannot get insured.

ACTION: Anyone with crimes to report should email Alice or Sameeha for the shared Community Police mailbox.

7.0 Actions arising from previous minutes

7.1 Environmental Report

Cllr Tom Forrester provided the attached report.

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 to be carried out in late June. 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.

No activity seen so far although I have been told that workmen were seen working on one side of Whitehill Avenue.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Parking restrictions near the schools have now been introduced as a child safety measure.

LOCH ROAD

This has now been reopened to traffic.

WEED GROWTH ON A80 CENTRAL

RESERVATION

This has now been attended to.

DOUBLE PARKING ON CUMBERNAULD ROAD

I surveyed this twice a day for a week to ascertain the size of the problem particularly near the shops but I did not find any major problem other than when shop deliveries were being made which accounted for only a short period of time on delivery days.

COLLAPSED FENCE IN WHITEHILL FARM ROAD

I reported this to Caledonian Estates at the request of a resident. It has since been examined and found that the mesh wire had in fact been cut by persons unknown. Caledonian Estates will consider whether or not to replace the wire.

SELF SEEDING TREES IN WHITEHILL FARM SITE

Caledonian Estates have confirmed that these have been scheduled to be cut back

DERELICT LOCK UP IN WHITEHILL FARM ROAD

I received a call from Richard Haggart of Galbraith to tell me that the derelict asbestos lock up in Whitehill farm Road has been listed for demolition on receipt of estimates which have been asked for. A fence will be installed in its place.

7.2 Stepps PS and Stepps Cultural Centre

At the Northern Corridor Community Board, Andrew McPherson gave an update on this but it was difficult to hear as the online sound was very poor. Diane provided an update that had been shared by Andrew McPherson. Diane will share this response with the community. Diane also provided information regarding The Hayward Review, a survey for parents and carers to undertake regarding the new national qualifications for schools. This will be shared on the Community Council website and social media channels.

8.0 Planning Matters

- 8.1 - Change of use to film studio at Buchanan Business Park.
- Application for single storey dwelling at land at rear of 8 Whitehill Farm Road.
- Application for new dwelling at land on West Avenue.

The North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan - Adopted

Following a long period of consideration, the Scottish Ministers confirmed in a letter dated 5 July 2022 that the Council can proceed to Adopt the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan with no subsequent Direction to make any further alterations from what was submitted by the Council in March. The Plan is now duly operative and will be formally published later in July 2022. Please note Planning Legislation affords no opportunity to make further representations, but aggrieved parties may seek to challenge only points of process and law to the Court of Session during a six-week period from the date of the formal Notice appearing

in the local press. Paper copies of the Plan are not being made generally available beyond a reference copy at each NLC library.

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 on Wednesday 7th September at 7pm in Auchinloch Community Centre.

11.0 Cumbernauld and North Locality Consortium

11.1 The next meeting will be held on Thursday 8th September 2022.

12.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing

12.1 Cllr Williams reported that she has been dealing with a lot of issues related to bins.

Cllr Cairns reported that he too has been responding to complaints with regards to bins. NLC carried out a review of the public bins and this has now been completed. The purpose of this was to see if there was a need for more bin capacity in places of frequent littering. It was noted that commercial shops are putting a lot of their waste in public bins and this needs to be monitored. A resident reported that the war memorial area is very messy and work needs to be done to maintain the area around it.

13.0 AOCB

13.1 **Auchengeich Miners Memorial Service** on Sunday 18 September 2022 as the community remembers the 63rd anniversary of the Auchengeich Pit disaster. The remembrance service will commence promptly at 1pm and last for approximately 50 minutes. Tea and light refreshments will be available to all in the Miners' Welfare afterwards.

13.2 **North Lanarkshire Covid Remembrance** Two artists John Martin Fulton and Russell McGovern have been appointed to hold community art workshops and eventually come up with a sculpture for Strathclyde Park new sculpture park. They are looking for anyone in the community who may have an interest in participating. Two workshops lasting 2 hours each would consist of the following:

- Drawing for Everyone - No experience required. Use charcoal to express yourself with no such thing as mistakes.

- Painting Made Simple - Enjoy colour and create a Landscape. (Even if you think you can't paint.)

13.3 **Community Defibrillators** – Message from resident who works in cardiology department in Glasgow Royal Infirmary. *I'd really like to start fundraising for two defibrillators to be installed locally. In my role as a cardiology technician, I am acutely aware of how essential a defibrillator is at a time of emergency. I feel that we would benefit from two of these devices placed on the main street and also in Cardowan – possibly Dorlin Road. I'm looking for advice on how I would raise funds for this.*

Action: Move to the next meeting for discussion

13.4 Filming with **Planning Democracy** took place:

- To provide footage for work to inform Equal Right of Appeal.
- EU – Aarhus Convention access to justice in environmental matters.

13.5 The council will provide **festive decorations including trees** within the eight town centres for the coming year, any festive decorations or trees within communities out with town centres will require to be self-funded by the local community.

To ensure the service can undertake the necessary procurement, testing and planning etc. for the work it is important that notification of proposals relating to festive decorations and trees are forwarded by the end of September. All requests or queries should be sent to Roads@northlan.gov.uk with the subject heading **FESTIVE QUOTATION**

13.6 Next meeting to be held on **Thursday 6 October at 7.30 pm**

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.