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

**7.30-9.30pm, Thursday 3rd December 2020**

**Present:** Councillors Alice Morton (Chair), Sameeha Rehman (Secretary), Campbell Provan (Treasurer), Gerry Campbell, Craig Cowan, Tom Forrester, Iain Macgregor, Ken Maxwell, Paul Noble and Sheila Stuart

**Elected Members:** Cllr Anderson and Cllr McLaren

**Apologies:** Councillors Paul Brown and Marvyn Mackay

1. **Opening Remarks/Introductions**

1.1Chair Alice Morton welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance to the meeting

**2.0 Apologies**

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above.

**3.0 Ward 5 Councillors**

3.1 SDCC would like to adopt a new communication mechanism with the Ward 5 Councillors, for the benefit of both the community council and to the wider community. There is a mood of detachment between what the community council does and what work the elected councillors carry out. SDCC is not privy to what the elected councillors are doing on behalf of Stepps community and we would like to do more to share this commitment to representing residents against the issues we face. By doing so, we will promote mutual respect and improve cooperation. It would enhance the visibility of both SDCC and Ward 5 Councillors and hopefully bring about an improved representation of the work that we are doing. It can also bring more knowledge and expertise to SDCC in the matters we deal with.

Alice noted that this is an initial invitation to consider a new way of working and taking a fresh way of communicating between SDCC and the elected councillors. The collaboration between the people of Stepps, Ward 5 Councillors, SDCC and North Lanarkshire Council is necessary and would require thought and planning.

Both Cllr Anderson and Cllr McLaren expressed a positive outlook to this proposal. Cllr Anderson noted she would be happy to attend informal meetings to discuss specific matters of importance. Cllr McLaren stressed the difficulty of the current situation and how it is unfortunate that in-person surgeries cannot be carried out. He noted that an issue lies in the fact that as all Ward 5 councillors are on the Planning Committee, it becomes more difficult to be upfront about opinions on these matters at risk of losing the right to vote.

Alice suggested that a report could be distributed by the Ward 5 councillors and this could be shared on the SDCC social media pages and website.

Iain Macgregor welcomed the positive response from both councillors and that any dialogue between both entities should be simple, but effective.

Cllr McLaren noted he would like to see more of the community taking part in the Community Board meetings and fight for things for this area. Cllr Anderson noted that she has had little communication with regards to the Community Board meetings and it was unfortunate to see that there were more officials present at the meeting as opposed to members of the community.

Craig Cowan enquired whether there would come a time when these SDCC virtual meetings would welcome members of the public and to use the social media/website to connect with the community to request questions to pose to the Ward 5 Councillors. Cllr McLaren and Cllr Anderson were both happy for this to take place and to utilise these channels for the Community Board meetings as well to synchronise opportunities for the community to contribute.

Ken Maxwell expressed that the number one priority for the Ward 5 Councillors should be the issue with Stepps Primary School and the community facilities. Cllr McLaren stressed that the community rooms must be returned back to the community as soon as the remedial drainage works are completed.

Cllr McLaren said he would endeavour to join future meetings and asked the secretary to forward meeting invitations to him

ACTION: Cllr Anderson is to write to Des Murray on behalf of both herself and Cllr McLaren to find some answers as to the ongoing situation. Alice is to send the pertinent, specific questions that are required to be answered for Cllr Anderson to put forward in her correspondence. **COMPLETED**

ACTION: SDCC to form a sub-committee to put together a simple approach and process that allows for a joint communication strategy. **PENDING**

ACTION:Secretary to send future meeting invitations to Cllr McLaren

**4.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting – 5th November 2020**

Amend 7.1 from 28/02/2020 to 28/09/2020. Approval proposed by Tom Forrester and seconded by Ken Maxwell.

**5.0 Treasurer’s Report**

5.1 Campbell provided the written report as attached in the Executive Report.

**6.0 Appointment of Co-opted Member**

6.1 Eddie Ceresa would like to be a co-opted member of the Community Council. Proposed by Campbell Provan, seconded by Tom Forrester.

ACTION: Sameeha to email Catherine Johnstone/Pamela Prentice to confirm this and update the website with the new office bearers. **COMPLETED**

Alice to forward letter of confirmation to Mr Ceresa. **COMPLETED**

**7.0 Secretary’s Report**

7.1 Sameeha trialled a new Executive Report which encompasses the Chair, Secretary’s and Treasurer’s updates in one comprehensive document. This received positive feedback from the community council members, and it was agreed this can be used going forward. The full Secretary’s report is included in the attached Executive Report.

**8.0 Community Police**

8.1 PC Mark Smith has no crimes to report. There will be another update prior to Christmas.

**9.0 Actions/Matters arising from previous meetings**

9.1 Stepps PS overcapacity & requisitioning of community facilities

See above action regarding Alice emailing Cllr Anderson.

9.2 Remedial drainage works, compound area and access from hockey fields

Cllr McLaren noted there was an issue with the positioning of the soil bund and argued that this would cause flooding on either side of the hockey pitch. He said there is a consultation ongoing to tar the lane and create an overflow car park in place of this soil bund.

ACTION: Cllr McLaren is to pursue this issue on behalf of SDCC and insist NLC seek the views of residents regarding the compound. **COMPLETED**

ACTION: Paul Noble to contact the design team with regards to the site plan. **PENDING**

9.3 Environmental Issues

See attached report from Tom Forrester.

9.4 Update from Steven Bonnar MP

All communication between the Office of Steven Bonnar MP has been shared with the community councillors and Save Stepps Greenbelt members.

9.5 Resident Concern

Craig contacted Mark Smith to raise the resident concern regarding bus shelter. He noted it was difficult to find a number to raise the matter with Northline. Cllr McLaren noted that there is a new complaints system on the NLC website and Cllrs are not given a direct line to raise any issues.

ACTION: Put information on the SDCC website as to how residents can submit complaints

**PENDING**

ACTION: Alice to submit a formal complaint to Des Murray to reinstate a telephone line to make complaints. Craig is to send a note of his experience to Alice to use in the email. **COMPLETED/PENDING REPLY FROM NLC**

ACTION: Craig to contact Mark Smith for a further update before Sameeha speaks to the resident again.

9.6 Separate note from minutes of action points and outcomes posted on social media/website

Craig believes that the Executive Report produced by Sameeha covers this action point but happy for the Comms team to have a conversation about this in the near future. **PENDING**

9.7 CACE Consortium

ACTION: Alice is to attend the first meeting of the North Locality Consortium and then we can reconsider another CC representative for future meetings. **COMPLETED**

9.8 Scotland Loves Local Fund

Sameeha submitted a funding request of £2309 to the Scotland Loves Local funding opportunity. The application focussed on using the fund for marketing, advertising and historical storytelling in Stepps. She contacted Gary Stark who agreed to formally endorse the application on behalf of NLC. Sameeha will provide a further update in future when the result of the application is received. **FUNDING BID GRANTED**

**10.0** **Planning Matters**

10.1 CURRENT Ref: No 20/01359/MSC Approval of Matters Specified in Conditions 1 and 4 of Planning Conditions ref 16/01271/PPP Land to the North of Cumbernauld Road and EAST OF Hornshill Farm Road Stepps North Lanarkshire Closing date for Comments now 15 December 2020

Alice, Ken and Paul have been holding private meetings and are working hard to produce the SDCC response to the application. **COMPLETED**

Bullet point suggestions for resident comments have been posted on the SDCC Facebook page.

ACTION: Post the photomontages of the proposed development on social media

**COMPLETED**

**11.0 NLC Northern Corridor Community Board**

11.1 Alice attempted to attend the meeting but was unable to do so due to a technical issue. A recording of the meeting is available to view on NLC YouTube and community councillors are encouraged to watch this.

**12.0 Northern Corridor Community Forum**

12.1 The Forum met on the 1st December for a catch-up on local issues, with the intention of reviewing the terms of reference in the new year.

**13.0 NLC Community Listening Event – Tuesday 10th November**

13.1 Alice and Craig attended the event and did not find it to be particularly constructive. Questions remain as to what happens next for NLC.

**14.0 AOCB**

14.1 Secretary’s new headed paper and Chair’s email address

The use of the new headed paper was approved with an amendment of ‘lock’ to ‘loch’

A Chair email address has been created for official correspondence from Alice.

14.2 NHS Lanarkshire – Flu Vaccine

Campbell reported that he and others have still received no communication from NHS Lanarkshire to attend a flu vaccination appointment. Concerns were raised at Stepps residents having to travel to Cumbernauld for an appointment instead of being able to attend a local clinic.

13.3 NHS Lanarkshire: Flu Vaccination Programme 2020/21

Campbell reported that no information on obtaining a vaccine had been received.

13.4 Enquire about NLC Online training for community councillors on Constitution

Agreed to look into this in the future. **PENDING**

13.5 Conference places available

See Sameeha’s email with regards to conference places available to community councillors to attend a Scottish Government event.

13.6 20/00789/PAN | Chryston Primary School and Muirhead Health Clinic - There is also a PREAPE in (20/00773/PREAPE) | Site At Cliffvale Road Chryston North Lanarkshire

Cllr McLaren noted that anyone across the Northern Corridor will be entitled to use the Health Clinic and it will be fully facilitated.

**14.0 Date of Next Meeting**

The next virtual meeting of SDCC to be held on Monday 18th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

Vote of thanks to the Chair, Alice Morton.

Alice said thanks to everyone for their support and friendship over a very challenging year and wished everyone a safe and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous and happy New Year.