# Stepps & District Community Council Minute of Meeting Thursday 16th May 2024 at 7.30pm Stepps Cultural Centre

Present: Councillors Ken Maxwell (Chair) Campbell Provan (Vice Chair), Craig

Cowan (Treasurer) Tracy Kennedy (Secretary) Stewart Donald, Muriel

McDade

**Elected Members:** Councillor Josh Cairns

**Apologies:** Alice Morton, Andrew McPherson, Peter McNally, John McLaren, Thomas

Stones Diane Delaney Lorraine Kerr Cllr Williams

**Public:** 10 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 Campbell Provan Seconded by Muriel McDade

# 4.0 Community Police - Police Scotland

14 crimes recorded for Stepps for the past month;

Theft from motor vehicle – laptop stolen from vehicle in driveway

Theft from building site – laminate flooring

Threatening and abusive behaviour following road rage incident (enquiries ongoing)

Dangerous driving, serious assault/offensive weapon following road rage incident (enquiries ongoing)

Drug possession

Vandalism to a vehicle

Threatening and abusive behaviour and culpable and reckless conduct

Stand up fight between two friends

Threatening and abusive behaviour (neighbours arguing)

Theft of house keys (complainer has opened door and left house keys in lock outside)

47 calls from Stepps area;

Three noise complaints

Eight abandoned/silent calls to the police

Mostly all isolated incidents, however appears there was a male trying vehicles overnight on 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Police also outlined the following; Dangerous driving and serious assault due to road rage, theft of house keys in Millerston, domestic assault between mother and son. There were wheelie bins stolen in Cardyke Way, Auchinloch.

Point raised - Can the Frankfield Road new playpark be on the police route?

Police gave a reminder about open windows in summer as opportunistic theft could be an issue

Question raised around the new parking legislation - Edinburgh is the only place that has put it in place so far

Question raised about the traffic on Cumbernauld Road and they were instructed the double yellow lines were too faded to enforce the parking restriction

Stewart advised if residents ask for a traffic warden that they will provide one if there is an official request

Anne Marie raised the point that there is a shortage of parking, the police have said they will enforce to make sure if someone is in a wheelchair or a buggy can't get passed but the police have said to use a common sense approach

A question was raised about the preventative nature of ring doorbells/security cameras. Police advised because of forensic programmes on TV etc, criminals are more aware of precautions to take when breaking into houses/stealing cars. Lots of houses have ring doorbells; however if thieves wear gloves, balaclavas and hoods, they are unrecognisable with no fingerprints.

Police cannot put stickers on cars. Resources are limited. North Lanarkshire Council will liaise with Glasgow City Council and hopefully work together.

When NLC starts enforcing fines there will be a website to report obstacles on pavements etc and people will be encouraged to use this.

Quad bikes to be used by police during summer months when youths are more likely to hang about. If anyone knows of any new places youths are using, please let Community Council know and they will contact the Police.

#### **5.0 Office Bearers Report**

Community Involvement -Local Place Plans / community meetings, all residents are welcome to attend

Opening of the Chryston Hub Thursday 30th May at 3.30pm

Northern Corridor Community Board meeting 22nd May at Chryston Cultural Centre at 7pm

Future planning zoning - Paul Noble to cover

Communicating with Ward 5 residents - survey? What would be the best way to communicate with residents either through a survey or social media although this isn't accessible to all

#### **Treasurer Report**

As at 15th May 2024 the Community Council has an account balance of £1806.46 Since the last treasurer report six cheques totalling £281.79 have been cashed for:

- bookings (£15, £16.80 and £20)
- posters (£8)
- USB stick (£12)
- printer (£209.99)

One further cheque has been raised for £10 for a room booking for a meeting on 1st May 2024. Two cheques previously raised and totalling £87.20 have not yet been presented to the bank. The Community Council's Annual Accounts for 2023/24 have been prepared and an agreement has been reached for the Treasurer of Auchinloch CC to validate prior to submission to North Lanarkshire Council.

The question of payment for the website domain was raised, Craig advised Sameeha has been contacted about SDCC website. Annual fees to go up from £50 to £130 and there was an agreement from the Chair that this should be renewed.

## **6.0 Environmental Report**

Update NLC Pavement parking

Before the NLC can commence enforcement, it will be necessary to make changes to the existing back-office support and provide additional training to staff. As Glasgow City Council provides the back-office support for NLC's parking enforcement service, it will not be possible to commence enforcement before Glasgow City Council. At present, it is anticipated that it will be three or four months before NLC is able to undertake enforcement duties.

Comrie Road and the Crowwood lines will be repainted in August

Reports of fly tipping at the Hockey pavilion. North Lanarkshire Council has a portal to report illegal dumping which is very easy to use however this is for dumping on Council land only (not private land). There are hefty fines for fly tipping.

Cllr Cairns has raised with SPT that there is still no bus shelter at Cardowan Road and Lenzie Road bus stop.

Road safety campaign was organised by the Rights Knights group in Stepps Primary and attended by local police and members of the community council as well as other parents and pupils

Multi use games area (MUGA) has made progress from the picture shown

School walking route from Millerston/Stepps to Chryston High School was discussed

A review was done for all of North Lanarkshire. Millerston to Chryston was deemed unsafe, a further review was done and then it was deemed safe. Chief officer with Education and the online form will be brought together and it will be reassessed and a report will come back

The school buses will continue until August

Speed cameras have been removed where the kids would need to cross

Dewar Road at the roundabout has not been adopted. Pedestrian lights would need to be erected.

Cllr Josh Cairns advised Chief Officers have refused to come with him to explain why it has been deemed safe/unsafe. He advised it is a case of waiting to see when they will come back. SPT needs to issue proposals.

Replacement street signs required in places and any photos should be sent to the secretary

Water voles signage will be in place in Bluebell park and it looks as though it is water voles at the park and not rats. There will be certain areas that the grass will not be cut

Concerns raised about not cutting parts of the grass as it is a recreational area intended for children.

Road closures and some diversion signs are still around when the work has been completed

Christmas lights sub group Cllr McLaren attended on the 1st of May Two businesses have pledged to give money for the lights. NLC would need to test and maintain the lights.

Roads department;4k for the lights, 6k for the fixed tree 20 sets of lights

#### 7.0 Planning Matters

Determined applications

24/00290/FUL- Permitted Development.

Garage conversion to additional room, 23 Inchgower Rd, Stepps. Validated

24/00356/FUL- 8 No. solar carports, 1809 solar P.V. panels, 340 roof mounted P.V panels, and kiosk. The Bridge, 6 Buchanan Gate.

A.S car wash site, Cumbernauld Rd

Enquiry submitted to Planning regarding change of use to R.V sales site to Christina at Planning Enquiries on the 12th of February. No response. Sent another enquiry to —planningenq@northlan-18th March. Response on the 21st March from Planning Officer Graeme Lee, noting that he is trying to 'regularise the position with the owner'. Paul requested a further update on the 14th May.

Local Development Plan (NLLDP2)- LDP2, Final development plan scheme and participation statement presented to the planning committee on the 23rd November 23. This was subsequent to a 6 week public consultation, in Sept/Oct 23, 163 comments received. Significantly, comments received on housing and calculations and consultees.

Timescale, consultation on the LDP 2, first quarter of 26, adoption 28.

Register of interest required for NLLDP2, for the preparation of a Local Place Plan, which allows local organisations the opportunity to help influence development where they live.

Planning, nothing of major significance apart from the Scottish Water

Regarding the Motorhomes -the following statement was the response to Paul's query

In this case although the use does not have planning permission we have decided that it is not in the public interest to take any further action (and therefore the case will be closed) for the following reasons:

- We consider the use of part of the site for mobile home sales to be an acceptable use and something that we would be prepared to grant planning permission for
- Over the years this site has been used for car sales albeit this use ceased around 2010
- The sale of mobile homes is not considered to be a use that causes any significant impact on the amenity of the wider area or residents that live close to the site
- This part of the site has permission for a mobile tyre fitters unit which is likely to have a greater impact on local residents

Local Place Plan recommendation that we get involved, Paul had a look at the application form. Ken agreed that Paul can progress the application. Alice had previously mentioned getting the council to assist with how to put this together

Surveyors conducting a tree survey on the Whitehill Farm tree belt and surveyors were checking out the trees along the Garnkirk Burn. Apparently not from Caledonian Estate but a firm of independent architects - when asked said plans were afoot for house building in the fields

Bluebell Dell - was there any provision for tree planting between the bluebell dell and the houses

Dunalastair play park is now open and available for children. Drainage was not upgraded therefore the ground is constantly wet and children cannot play football. However, there have been good reports received.

Whitehill Avenue electrical upgrade is still ongoing and could possibly go on for a while. Waiting on road closure permission for the Cumbernauld Road side before works there can commence.

## 8.0 Stepps Community Facilities - Daytime Access

Safety issue with building warrants - Josh Cairns updates that this was the last update but the school have been using Library so this was raised as being a concern

A question was raised around the children in Stepps Primary using the library before all the safety sign offs were completed. This has been confirmed as not the case. Lorraine was able to advise that the children have sectioned off an area in the school and have been calling it 'the library' so we believe this is where some confusion may have arisen.

## 9.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing Report

#### 10.0

- Northern Corridor Community Board (Chair Brandon Williams) Wednesday 22 May 7-9pm in Chryston Cultural Centre
- Northern Corridor Community Forum TBC
- Cumbernauld and North Locality Consortium

For the NLC Forum it was noted there are not enough office bearers to attend therefore meetings will be 4 times annually and not 6 times.

#### **11.0 AOCB**

The question of yearly memorial services for the miners was raised by Anne Marie. She was advised by Campbell there was an ad hoc group set up for the erection of the memorial and a one off service but the group didn't intend to hold yearly services.

Anne Marie advised she had communication from the CC that yearly services would take place and was upset at the perceived exclusion of Cardowan Community Meadow as she expected she could be involved with future services.

It was suggested Anne Marie would be welcome to organise a service for the memorial and was given the contacts of Peter McNally and John McLaren

Request from a resident for information about a consultation between Strathclyde University for Hot Scot Programme and Stepps & District Community Council. There has been no consultation between the University and S&DCC. The Hots Scot Programme is a renewable energy project, it was an extraction of heat from the used Coal mines

Josh Cairns will be able to see what consultation will take place and get back. Recovering heat from coal mines. Asked if there was support about this and the response was there would need to be a consultation

Question was raised about the pavilion and the plans for it. Stewart advised he has not been able to have it adequately staffed and there have been a number of issues including showers not fixed in the winter and all the pipes burst. The pitches are also not up to a professional standard for over 16s football.

## 12.0 Date and time of next meeting

AGM Thursday June 20th 7.30pm, Stepps Cultural Centre

