

Stepps & District Community Council

Minute of Meeting Thursday 28th March at 7.30pm

Stepps Parish Church

- Present:** Councillors Campbell Provan (Vice Chair), Tracy Kennedy (Secretary) Stewart Donald, Craig Cowan (Treasurer) and Alice Morton
- Elected Members:** None present
- Apologies:** Ken Maxwell (Chair) Andrew McPherson, Peter McNally, Cllr John McLaren, Cllr Claire Williams, Thomas Stones, Muriel McDade and Paul Noble
- Public:** 6 attendees including Diane Delaney (Guest speaker)

1. Opening Remarks/Introductions

1.1 Vice Chair Campbell Provan welcomed everyone and thanked them for their attendance.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies were received as noted above.

3.0 Minute of Previous Meeting

3.1 Proposed by Stewart Donald Seconded by Diane Delaney

4.0 Office Bearers Reports

Secretary

Please note calls regarding non-emergency police matters should be directed to 101. For non-urgent local community matters, or for follow up purposes emails can be directed to the Cumbernauld Station, and I can cc both of the community police officers John & Alison. It is not advisable to email them solely as they may be on different shift patterns/annual leave which could delay an issue being dealt with in a timely manner.

Large rats have been spotted in Bluebell Playpark and a local resident would like to know if this is part of a wider problem and if there is anything being done to tackle this.

Insurance documents have been received and a copy has been passed to the Treasurer.

The NLC room booking was cancelled for March due to the possibility of receiving a last-minute cancellation but will be back in Stepps Cultural Centre for our next meeting taking place on Thursday 16th May. Please note, the AGM will be held on Thursday 20th June 2024.

A colour printer has been purchased as agreed at the previous meeting.

Treasurer

As at 18th March 2024 the Community Council has an account balance of £2078.95

Since the last treasurer report five cheques totalling £243.57 have been cashed for:

- use of Stepps Parish Church meeting room (£15)
- weatherproof defibrillator posters (£12)
- booking of Stepps Parish Church hall (£20)
- printing of a replacement SDCC banner (£58.21)
- renewal of SDCC insurance policy (£138.36)

Two cheques previously raised and totalling £87.20 have not yet been presented to the bank.

A further three cheques totalling £34 have been raised since the last meeting but have yet to be presented to the bank.

The Community Council has three further commitments for which cheques are required to be raised, for the purchase of a printer and two room bookings. Further details will be provided in subsequent reports.

5.0 Community Police

19/2/24 to 19/3/24

66 calls in total from the Stepps area

11 of which resulted in crimes with the breakdown as follows

- 1 x Fraud
- 1 x Attempt Extortion
- 1 x Crime of disorder/ Violence
- 1 x Theft

5 x Road Traffic offences
1 x Crime under misuse of drugs act

Of these crimes 7 have been detected with persons charged etc. and the other 4 have enquiries ongoing.

6.0 Rights Respecting School

Rights Knights - Stepps Primary School group

Diane Delaney, secretary of the parent council and a member of the Rights Knights also made up of pupils and teachers, presented to the community council as the group is keen to spread awareness. There is a legally binding United Nations agreement to uphold children's rights from the home to a government level.

Universal rights are unconditional and nonnegotiable and should be upheld everywhere. Parents are recognised as children's rights defenders. There will be a crossover with existing legislation.

One of the recognised starting places is schools and they need to meet criteria to prove you are a rights respecting school. Stepps have a bronze and silver award and are going for gold this year which is why we are liaising with community school.

UNICEF Award since 2006

- Recognises achievement of school in putting children and their rights at the centre of school life
- Equality, dignity, respect, nondiscrimination and participation
- Stepps Primary School achieved our Silver UNICEF RRS award last year
- Our RRS committee is called the Rights Knights
- We are pupils, teachers and a parent
- We are supported by Stepps PC Parent Council and PTA
- We are going for GOLD this year! (UNICEF Award)
- This means we need to raise awareness across our entire school and wider community about children's rights
- Make sure that Stepps as a community is a Rights Respecting Community
- Road safety campaign led by the Rights Knights for Stepps Primary

As the children have decided to have a focus on road safety Diane expressed a vote of thanks to the community council who attended the protest.

The question was raised: Is there a responsibility element for the children? It was noted that the purpose of the rights is expressly for the children.

Local authorities are running consultation around implementation and local residents can take part in consultations.

Diane was thanked for her presentation.

7.0 Environmental Report

NLC Traffic Wardens and Cumbernauld Road

The parking attendants were out on patrol in Cumbernauld Road Last Thursday Morning. They have brought to my attention, some of the double yellow lines and blip markings are faded in parts of the road, which means they cannot be enforced as they are not clearly visible. I have put in a request to have them lined so they are visible for the motorist to see and not park there. The parking attendants will make a return to Cumbernauld Road next.

Regards

Parking Enforcement Team/ North Lanarkshire Council

Replacement street signs – community input required. Please forward pictures or street sign names and pictures to the secretary

Trees have been felled in Bluebell park.

New signage has been erected at Frankfield Loch and Frankfield Playpark. Seven ancient lochs, woodland walks, a wealth of wildlife and over 10,000 years of history are waiting to be discovered. Information to help you get out and about in the better weather.

There is a new defibrillator poster at the co-op. There is also a new community council banner ready to be displayed at the co-op. Campbell has spoken with the store manager.

Temporary bus stop spotted seems to be part of the school bus route.

Pavement parking fines could be £150 plus VAT. There was a discussion about displaying signs. Concerns were raised that this may be harmful for the shopkeepers and they may lose business. There was also a suggestion to dedicate a session to parking enforcement.

Stank cover for Lenzie Road has been repaired.

The signs for Comrie Road will not be replaced.

Councillor Josh Cairns update - Road Safety Assessment Results

Following a comprehensive analysis , including a speed survey conducted approximately 150m from the Crowwood roundabout between 23/02/24 to 29/02/24, it revealed an average speed of 38mph at the 85th percentile.

Despite this, the Road Safety Indicators scores for Cumbernauld Road remained at 10 points, falling below the stage 1 threshold of 80 points required for further assessment. Based on these findings no additional road safety improvements are proposed for Cumbernauld Road at this time.

Your safety remains my priority, and I will continue to monitor and assess this area to ensure safe travel for all.

Diane and Lorraine are intending to meet with Josh Cairns and will also investigate the road side at Bannatyne's as when the bus changes in school it will further add to the problem

No update on when the flashing 20mph will be in operation

Road works on Cumbernauld road look like the cycle lane is gone and they have widened the pavement and there, discussion around how there was no warning of this happening

8.0 Stepps Christmas Lights

Roads will not be able to provide a quote until August. Cllr McLaren has indicated that he may be able to obtain a grant. He indicated that the Council can supply lights and/or a tree with lights.

Alice suggested we hold off on discussions until Paul can join us.

Lorraine Suggested we may put a poll on the Facebook page for some of the decisions around the lights.

9.0 Stepps Community Facilities - Daytime Access

Following on from our last update on 5th February, the repurposing works to reinstate daytime access to community spaces at Stepps Primary started on 12th February. The works in the community hall and multi-purpose rooms are still ongoing to date as per the programme. Once the spaces are signed off through building control these spaces can be let out again. The works to repurpose the library space are still going to plan. We will continue to communicate updates of these works with the next update being provided at the end of March 2024.

Alice gave an update to say the spaces are progressing and there will be another update in April

Pictures shared on the new unit and the new entrances and the furniture will be installed. Everything looks as though it has all come together and there is a ramp for accessible access.

Concerns were raised that the new pavement is full of puddles.

The question of consultation was raised by Craig - if furniture is being purchased there has been no collaboration as promised.

10.0 Planning Matters

List of planned builds were shared, nothing of major significance and an update from planning re the car wash.

SENT ON BEHALF OF PLANNING & REGENERATION

Good Morning,

The council is now in the early stages of preparation for the next Local Development Plan (NLLDP2) which sets out where development should and should not happen by guiding the future use of land.

We would like to formally invite community organisations to create and submit Local Place Plans (LPPs) for their area to help shape and influence development where they live.

Further information can be found in the attached document. To register interest, and for further information on the process and resources available to aid in the creation of Local Place Plans, please view the council's website at Local.

Place Plans | North Lanarkshire Council.

If you have any further queries, please email localdevelopmentplan@northlan.gov.uk

If we do take part it is to be in place by June 2025 Alice suggested a workshop be held by planning.

Alice discussed the importance for the community to safeguard the green belt and also raised this at the Northern Corridor Community Forum.

Alice asked Fulton McGreggor if he could support the community council to progress this. There is no confirmation on how much this will be taken on board in the planning process.

Local Development Plans are in place perhaps there should be collaboration with Auchinloch.

A community led study report into the impact of NPF4 biodiversity policies will be shared at the same time as the minute.

The report was presented at the event in the Scottish Parliament hosted by MSP Ariane Burgess and there was representation from 14 local authorities and 11 MSPs.

AM contacted MSPs. Both Fulton MacGregor MSP and Monica Lennon MSP attended.

The report has been distributed to all Heads of Planning, Nature Scot and Craig McLaren (Scotland's National Planning Improvement Champion) who attended the event. AM had shared the report with NLC Biodiversity Officer.

The report provides an overview of a community-led study monitoring the effectiveness of Policy 3 in the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) in addressing the biodiversity crisis in Scotland.

The study was conducted by Planning Democracy volunteers.

The report highlights the urgent need to address the biodiversity crisis. It acknowledges the positive aspects of NPF4, particularly its focus on climate and biodiversity restoration.

The data was collected by twelve Planning Democracy volunteers, who trawled through the Reports of Handling from 347 planning applications in 12 local authorities to assess how NPF4 biodiversity policy 3 was being implemented.

Action for the Protection of Rural Scotland (APRS) WEBINARS

APRS and Planning Democracy have been running a series of webinars for community organisations to better understand the planning process.

All the webinars are available at aprs.scot/webinars as below.

Understanding Scotland's new planning system

NPF4 – How have things changed?

Green Belts and NPF4

Having a say in the future of your area

Navigating Local Development Plans : Insights from Local Authority Planners

11.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing Report

Josh Cairns Scottish National Party (SNP)

John McLaren, Scottish Labour Party

Claire Louise Williams, Scottish Greens

The briefing is an opportunity for elected members to report on work undertaken on our behalf. Contact details can be found on the Community Council website.

12.0 Community Meetings

- Northern Corridor Board (Chair Brandon Williams) Wednesday 22 May 2024
- Northern Corridor Community Forum, 16th April 7pm Glenboig Life Centre
- Cumbernauld and North Locality Consortium, date of next meeting tbc

Local Outcome Improvement Plan - Sub-Groups

- Health Inequalities
- Children and Young People
- Social Integration and Inclusion
- Community Transport
- Moodiesburn West
- Building local relationships, trust and communication

CHRYSTON CLINIC

Mental Health, Psychological services, and Substance Misuse will hopefully be transferred by April 2024 as there are still negotiations going on between the 2 Boards. All the other services are providing sessions in the new HUB.

There is no change on how to access the HUB as the process will remain the same via GP etc. The Telephone number remains the same as Muirhead Clinic.

The following community services which will be transferred from GG&C to the Northern Corridor:

- Sexual Health ▪ Substance Misuse ▪ Community Diabetics ▪ Physiotherapy (M&K) ▪ Mental Health (CMHT adults, CMHT older adults) ▪ Psychological services. COVID VACCINATIONS

13.0 AOCB

Hogganfield Care Home - concerns raised over the use of this

Spring Health Hub - <https://www.nhslanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk/your-health/spring-health/>

The Plan for North Lanarkshire - Roadshow 2024

The Plan for North Lanarkshire was established in 2019 with a clear long-term vision and ambition - inclusive growth and prosperity for all to bring equal benefits and a fairer distribution of wealth to all North Lanarkshire's people and communities.

Cumbernauld - Tue 30 April at 6.30

Sign up to find out more – Muirfield Community Centre, Tue 30 Apr 2024 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

<https://www.tickettailor.com/.../northlanarkshire.../1190430>

Lorraine discussed Money Matters and will provide more information

Pathway concerns over the muddiness of the path from Stepps Primary School to Cumbernauld road.

Cala offered to contribute to the community but this does not seem to have been progressed

Drain blockage at the bottom of Whitehill Avenue and Victoria Road Stewart will report.

14.0 Date and time of next meeting

Thursday 16th May at 7.30pm in Stepps Cultural Centre.