

Minute of Online Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council

7.30-9.30pm, Thursday 3rd February 2022

Present: Councillors Alice Morton (Chair), Sameeha Rehman (Secretary),
Campbell Provan (Treasurer), Craig Cowan, Eddie Ceresa, Tom
Forrester, Paul Noble, Sheila Stuart

Apologies: Cllr McLaren

Gerry Campbell

Annmarie Kirkland

Ken Maxwell

Kate Houston

Public: 12 persons

1.0 Opening Remarks/Introductions

1.1 Chair Alice Morton 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 Eddie Ceresa. Seconded by Tom Forrester.

4.0 Executive Report

Treasurer's Report

I went to the bank on Monday 31 January 2022 and obtained a bank statement.

The two cheques written in October 2021, one for Stepps on the Level and one for the purchase of a memorial wreath, have still not been presented to the bank.

£2 has been paid into the Mining Memorial fund.

£962.99 awarded from the IT Digital fund and announced in November was added to the CC account on 14 January 2022.

The bank total is now £4626.53 of which £998 is Mining Memorial money.

4.1 Sameeha added that she has now cashed the CC cheques.

5.0 Community Police

5.1 Apologies from PC John Fleming who had no access to Zoom. They will attend the March meeting.

The following report has been given:

With the crime figures for the month of January 2022 there were 60 calls made to police originating from the Stepps area. There have been 21 Crime Reports raised for various issues, of which six so far have been detected, meaning a person has been arrested/charged with an offence in relation to the Crime Report. The other reports are still currently under investigation. Of note, there have been a number of calls to ourselves about persons trying car doors or breaking in to houses to obtain car keys, so if vigilance can be asked of by the residents ensuring all doors and windows are locked and secured it would be appreciated. We are continuing to try and maintain hi-visibility patrols in and around the Stepps area, particularly on nightshifts to counteract this spate of incidents.

Further correspondence was given:

Stepps Community Police Surgeries – Garfield House Hotel

Northern Corridor Community Forum meeting at Chryston, we have taken on board the request for a surgery to be held in the Stepps area for local residents to meet ourselves and discuss any ongoing or long-standing issues they have in the local area.

- Secured a room/space at the Best Western Garfield House Hotel, across from the Buchanan Gate business park in Stepps where we will be able to meet with persons from the local community to discuss anything and provide relevant advice and assistance where applicable.

- Best time to hold this surgery, whether it would be better to hold it in the morning, afternoon or evening. We thought that it would probably be better asking the community members for their input seeing as it is a surgery for the people of Stepps.

- As our Community Council contact, could you please cascade this out to members/residents and return with what would be preferred, a morning, afternoon or evening. Once we have this information we will go back to the hotel and book in the timeslot providing you with the confirmed time and date for the surgery

A resident raised the issue of a car crash at Lenzie Brae that was not included in the police report.

ACTION: The community council Comms Team will meet on Monday 7th February

to discuss how the community survey for the police surgeries will be carried out.

6.0 Actions/Matters arising from previous minutes

6.1 Environmental Issues/Report

BLOCKED SURFACE DRAINS POLICY

Blocked surface drains will only be cleared as part of North Lanarkshire Council cyclical exercise in due course due to a council cut back decision last year –still no date as yet available. Until then they will only be treated on receipt of evidence of road flooding. In the case of hills (e.g. Lenzie Brae) attention will be given to the drain at the foot of the hill first before any further action is taken

DOUBLE YELLOW LINES

Reported condition of double yellow lines outside of Telephone Exchange and requested guidance on Council policy regarding removal or replacement as traffic tends to ignore them and they do not appear to be enforced. No further action to report.

TRAFFIC WARDENS

No further contact regarding request for traffic warden intervention to alleviate parking problems in Cumbernauld Road. Have seen no evidence of any activity so far.

SELF SEEDING TREES IN FIELD AT WHITEHILL FARM ROAD

To be inspected by Caledonian Estates before the end of the month.

FLOODING IN CARDOWAN ROAD

Reported flooding in Cardowan Road foot of hill approaching the railway bridge.

This has been inspected by NLC Roads Department.

There is an issue with the connection to the manhole apparently and this is to be investigated further.

TRAFFIC COUNTERS

These have been installed on Lenzie Road and Lenzie Brae to measure the volume of traffic using the brae as part of assessing the ongoing problem of speeding there as reported before.

FOOTPATH ON A80

Reported muddy underfoot conditions on pedestrian footpath approx. 100 yards

North of entrance to Crowwood Golf Club on the A80 causing pedestrians to walk onto the carriageway to get past it. An NLC Roads job number has been issued for attention.

DOG FOULING

Raised issue at Northern Corridor Community Forum.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAST

Communication was sent to NLC Roads Officer Paul Mahoney and MSP Fulton Macgregor regarding the erected mast at the Co-operative. No reply has been received as yet.

NLC Roads - The pavement width at the mast is 1.85m. This pavement width is significantly less than the guidance published in the National Roads Development Guide. Page 90 notes, 3.0m wide for major pedestrian routes, and 2.0m wide for minor pedestrian routes.

NLC Planning - 21/01171/PRA 18.0m Phase 8 Monopole C/W Wraparound Cabinet at Base and Associated Ancillary Works, Site North Of 40A Cumbernauld Road Stepps These structures remain permitted development i.e. do not require planning permission but this process of prior notification does allow the Council to consider the siting and design of the mast and come to a view on whether not the site is appropriate. The applicant submits a range of information including other sites were looked at by the applicant but discounted by them; certification in relation to the omissions from the mast etc. In reality the design of such masts is a given and there is not much that can be done with respect to changing their appearance. In terms of siting again our ability to influence this is limited with masts such as this being a common feature in urban areas. In this case, from a planning point of view, in terms of its siting and the design the proposal was considered to be appropriate in the urban area.

6.2 Gateside Site

A site meeting is planned on Friday 4th February with Barratt and Cala and a fuller report will be given in March. Residents reported that more lanes are being closed on Cumbernauld Road to allow for the works and the lack of signage is creating confusion.

ACTION: Marvyn is to send concerns regarding polluted water at SINC (Garnkirk Burn and the Bluebell Dell) due to the construction works to Alice.

6.3 Hockey Pitch

Meeting with Mark McBride 10 December - Community Council's preferred arrangements for the reinstatement of the hockey field, and access lane, on completion of the remedial drainage works to Stepps Primary School.

- The hard standing and compound area will be removed, and the hockey field will be returned to grass. Fencing may be included around the area to protect the grass, until it has established.
- The hard-core stone forming the car park within the compound area will be reused to extend the existing car park area, adjacent to the pavilion, to the boundary fence located on the west side of the pavilion.
- The existing school boundary fence and beech hedging will be reinstated.
- The access road, from Mount Harriet Drive, will be surfaced with macadam, and either finished against existing edge kerbing, or new kerbing, if none exists.
- Considering the inconvenience that the works has caused, you agreed to approach the P.F.I management company to establish if they would agree to resurface the pavilion car park in asphalt macadam.
- Councillor McLaren noted that he would progress arrangements for installing a full gate, with a side space for Pedestrians, at the entrance to the access road on Mount Harriet Drive.

6.4 Stepps PS and Stepps Community Campus Report

No update from Andrew McPherson (Community Champion).

A joint Stepps Parent Council and Community Council meeting took place on the 27th February 2022 to discuss community issues and a way forward.

Lorraine Kerr (Stepps parents Council) reported a meeting with Gerard McLaughlin Head of Education (North) - Education and Families, Education and Families Manager (North Locality)

- The internal works are ahead of schedule and will be completed in February 2022.

- To avoid any further disruption to the children everyone will stay in situ until the end of the school year (June).

- The PC asked the Education Managers and Gerard McLaughlin if they could advise:

- o When the consultation regarding the repurposing of the modular units will be published?

- o If they could confirm that it is the intention for the works to be completed for the school returning after the summer break?

- The response was clear that responsibility for this sits with Andrew McPherson and therefore any questions should be directed to him, as Community Champion.

LK advised she would contact Andrew McPherson to ask those questions.

- LK also advised she would be contacting Mark McBride and Andrew McPherson to ask whether the school could be given some space from the hockey pitch to extend the small playground. It seems like a good opportunity with the repurposing work currently underway.

6.5 Millennium Beacon Project

Eddie Ceresa reported that they are waiting for responses regarding the site of the beacon, planning permission and public liability insurance from Rosalyn Griffiths and Colin Bruce. He has expressed a wish to start publicising the project as quickly as possible.

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 There is still no update on the Roadside Services Application at the Hornhill Junction. Case Officer Susan Hunt has advised 24th February 2022 as the next planning committee date. The SDCC response is available to view on the website.

8.0 Northern Corridor Community Board

8.1 The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 22nd February 2022, 6.30 – 8.30pm

The sub-groups announced as part of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan are available to join. These groups include:

- Health Inequalities
- Children and Young People
- Social Integration and Inclusion
- Community Transport

- Moodiesburn West
- Building local relationships, trust and communication

9.0 Northern Corridor Community Forum

9.1 Alice reported that NCCF executive meeting with Gillian Mackay MSP and Monica Lennon MSP (also representing Richard Leonard MSP) have taken place to discuss a cross-party roundtable and questions to be posed directly to the relevant Scottish Government Ministers and a case study of Northern Corridor.

Fulton MacGregor MSP has been contacted for briefing/review meeting. Thanks were expressed to Steven Bonnar's office for co-ordination /facilitation of meetings with MSP Sameeha, on behalf of Steven's office, thanked Alice and the NCCF executive for its hard work and dedication to this cause and encouraged residents to attend the meetings.

10.0 Ward 5 Councillor Briefing

10.1 No Cllr in attendance.

11.0 AOCB

11.1 S&DCC Banner has been placed outside the Co-op.

11.2 Sameeha announced that a public hearing was being held as the second part of the consultation for the 2023 Review of the UK Parliamentary Constituency Boundary Commission changes. The nearest one is the Doubletree Hilton at Cambridge Street in Glasgow City Centre. Information on how to book speaking slots will be published on the CC website. Anyone looking for support on creating arguments against the changes can contact the Secretary.

11.3 Ready Scotland website has gathered advice and information on how to stay safe and give help to others during the Coronavirus pandemic.

12.0 Date and Time of the Next Meeting

Thursday 3rd March at 7.30pm on Zoom/Face-to-Face