

Minute of Online Meeting of Stepps & District Community Council
7.30-9.30pm, Monday 18th January 2021

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

Apologies: Councillors Paul Brown, Marvyn Mackay, Paul Noble and Craig Cowan

1.0 Opening Remarks/Introductions

1.1 Chair, Alice Morton welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished all a very Happy 2021.

2.0 Apologies

2.1 Apologies noted as above.

3.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

3.1 December 2020 - Proposed by Iain MacGregor and seconded by Ken Maxwell.

3.2 February 2020 – Proposed by Tom Forrester and seconded by Sheila Stuart

4.0 Executive Report

4.1 See attached executive report.

4.2 Treasurer's Update: Campbell Provan added that he phoned RBS Business Centre this morning and was told that the mandate had been accepted at 8am today. We now have three signatories: Campbell, Eddie and Alice. The change of address form is still to be sent.

Balance is £1156. Grant from NLC of £791 has been paid. Balance is at £1947. £959 is the remaining balance after the mining memorial money has been deducted.

5.0 Community Police

5.1 PC Mark Smith provided the following report: 12 recorded crimes between 15/12/20 – 15/01/21. There are no patterns or any incidents that the community should be concerned about.

Alice reported on residents' concerns re parking on Blenheim Avenue (at school times) which was passed on to PC Mark Smith. He has since reported back. Residents have been informed of his report and his intention to monitor the situation.

6.0 Actions/matters arising from previous minutes

6.1 Stepps PS Overcapacity – pending reply from Cllr Anderson

ACTION: No action to be taken until the response has been received.

6.2 Cllr McLaren pursued hockey park matters with Mark McBride who says he will send Cllr McLaren the latest information on park. No work will start until safety on the lane is agreed and gated. Soil bund will be moved from area next to park to stop flash flooding. Cllr McLaren asked Mark McBride to contact residents at both sides of lane.

ACTION: No action as yet and no further communication from Cllr McLaren. Carry over to next meeting. PENDING

6.3 Remedial drainage works, compound area and access from hockey park.

Paul Noble sent the following update:

- 1 The topsoil is being retained with the intention that it would be reinstated and levelled upon completion. If there is a desire upon completion to leave the hardcore area created for the compound in place, then that could be considered in which case the topsoil could potentially be relocated elsewhere on the site, or removed from site
- 2 The soil bund whilst not within the compound, will be contained within a heras fencing which I trust will address your concerns.
- 3 With regard to the programme, currently discussions are ongoing with the council, so I am unable to provide further update.

6.4 Tom Forrester provided the attached Environmental Report.

Ken reported there has been no change to the fly tipping issue on Lenzie Road.

Campbell reported there is no change to the drains. Ken reported there are draining issues on the A80 up to Muirhead.

6.5 Resident Concern

No update as Craig Cowan was not present at meeting.

6.6 Steven Bonnar MP

Sameeha Rehman reported that no correspondence has been received. Derek Brown promised a response in December 2020 on the full plan to deal with the overcapacity issue and this has not been acted upon.

Ken noted that more action needs to be taken and suggested an FOI be sought. Iain suggested that if no response is given from the FOI, legal advice should be sought. Alice noted that all avenues should be explored before the ombudsman is consulted.

ACTION: Sameeha to liaise with Alice on further letters from Steven Bonnar's office. COMPLETED

ACTION: All agreed to move to a Freedom of Information with NLC re issues surrounding Stepps PS and Cultural Centre. Alice to liaise with Ken. COMPLETED

6.7 Sub-Groups

1. Scotland Loves Local Fund (£2,209) Sub-Group:

Sameeha, Sheila and Campbell appointed as sub-group members to discuss:

- Purchase of Zoom Account
- Input and design banners (4x outdoor and 1x indoor pop-up)
- Purchase folding display board for use at meetings
- Develop Stepps historical trails leaflet and distribute locally and to schools
- Leafleting/door drop and/or adverts in Stepps On The Level

2. Ward 5 Councillors Liaison Sub-Group:

Alice and Ken appointed as sub-group members.

ACTION: Sub-groups to meet and report back at the next meeting COMPLETED

7.0 Planning Matters

7.1 The next scheduled meeting of the Planning Committee will be the 28th January 2021. It is unlikely that 20/01211/PPP will be on this agenda or that of February.

7.2 Ref: No 20/01359/MSC: Gateside/Hornhill

There were 69 objections submitted. Alice expressed thanks to the community for their objections and to Steven Bonnar MP and Fulton MacGregor MSP for their excellent representations.

7.3 Meeting with Barratt/Cala 18/01/2021

Alice, Ken, Paul N and Sameeha joined a zoom call with Barratt and Cala Homes, with Steven Bonnar MP and Fulton MacGregor MSP present. Barratt and Cala Homes restated their position to pursue the Stepps development and are very keen to seek approval for not only the Gateside site but are also targeting other sites in Stepps. The CC representatives provided views on behalf of the Stepps community against development on the greenbelt. Ken asked outright the proposed number of developments in the locality and no response was given. Barratt committed to forwarding this information.

Alice gave her thanks to Ken and Paul for their invaluable contributions and Sameeha for her help. A letter of thanks will also be sent to Steven Bonnar MP and Fulton MacGregor MSP.

Action: Alice sent letters COMPLETED

7.4 Local Development Plan

Ken reported that the Local Development Plan is at the stage of engaging with stakeholders and questioning the Council.

7.5 The Buchanan Tower illuminated sign has been erected but no development of the signs at City Kids.

8.0 Northern Corridor Community Board (NCCB)

8.1 Alice reported that John Wilson (Northern Corridor Community Forum) had been in touch regarding the Town Vision Workshops where once again, the Northern Corridor has been omitted from future plans despite the population growth and housing developments thus becoming one of the fastest growth areas in North Lanarkshire.

8.2 The next NCCB meeting will take place on 22nd February 2021 at 6.30pm and can be viewed on YouTube.

9.0 Northern Corridor Community Forum (NCCF)

9.1 There is a Special NCCF Meeting on Tuesday 19th January 2021. The purpose of this is to discuss the decision by Lanarkshire Health Board to recommend to the Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Health the New Monklands Hospital to be situated at Wester Moffat, Airdrie.

10.0 Cumbernauld and North Locality Consortium

10.1 Alice attended the meetings on 10th December and 14th January. There is funding available for local groups and this can be considered in future by the CC.

11.0 AOCB

11.1 CC cupboard in Stepps PS

This cupboard holds all the CC documents. Alice spoke with Joe and Charlie the Janitors who advised that NLC letting had sent out a letter to those who had property within the school to remove it. SDCC did not receive a letter. Sameeha wrote to Mark McBride to ask if NLC will provide transport to relocate the cupboard. Joe the Janitor advised that the cupboard is over six feet high in height and required to be emptied before being lifted into a transit van for removal. Tom and Campbell to provide plastic crates and Sheila to temporarily store the documents at her house. Sheila will also carry out some filing. Tom offered the use of his summer house as temporary storage but only until April. Alice will pursue this matter with Mr McBride.

Action: Alice will provide update on arrangements PENDING

11.2 Delay in relocation of library/facilities to Buchanan Gate

Sameeha emailed Gerard McLaughlin for an update and no reply has been given yet.

11.3 Website update

Sameeha to offer training to Alice and Campbell to divvy out the tasks and refresh the website.

ACTION: Sameeha delivered training COMPLETED

11.4 Scottish Fire & Rescue Service Offer of Support

Richard McInnes, Watch Commander with Scottish Fire and Rescue Service emailed to say it has the capacity to provide support to local charitable organisations. This would include assistance with deliveries of food/medication etc to vulnerable groups within the local community across North Lanarkshire.

11.5 COVID-19 Vaccination Information

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/immunisation/vaccines/coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine/about-the-vaccine->

12.0 Date and time of next meeting

12.1 Monday 15th February 2021 at 7.30pm

Vote of thanks to the Chair and everyone for their support and contributions.