
STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Chairman: George Smith, 6 Naismith Court, Stonehouse. Tel 01698 793946

Secretary: Robert Freel, 75 Lockhart Street, Stonehouse 01698 793498

Minutes of meeting 21/05/2007

George Smith welcomed our newly elected local members and indicated that the main focus of the meeting was a talk from Geoff Sage from the Community Health Partnership.

1. MEMBERS PRESENT & APOLOGIES

G. Smith, R. Freel, W. Mackie, A. Paterson, M. McBain, R. Craig, B. Craw, M Casey, R Craig, PC Colin Thomson Cllr James Malloy, Cllr Bill Holman, Cllr Lynn Filshie and 24 members of the public.

Apologies: W. McMurtie, G. Campbell.

2. COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP TALK

An overview was presented by Geoff Sage and Mungo Shirkie. The aim is to make CHP more accountable to the public. Geoff asked the CC if he could come to the meeting to communicate with the public. He asked how the public feel that they can engage better with the CHP.

- He stated that there was a huge change in improving health and lifestyle. Television and media ads were some methods being used to improve the public awareness of how to improve their health.
- The gap between the poor and wealthy in terms of health was ever increasing.
- A new Joint Improvement Plan is due out next year and the CC should have a say in this.
- Current programs to improve health include;
 - Up for it program
 - Just ask project
 - Early intervention project
 - Activity program
 - Pathways to work program
 - The schools are also being targeted with various projects.
- Some of these projects are not available in this postal code area.
- There was then a question and answer session where G. Sage tried to answer some issues. Most of these were regarding the seemingly poor NHS service that we seem to get in this area. There seems to be a lack of input to the whole Strathaven/Stonehouse area. Geoff was asked if there were any plans for an out of hour's service at our local surgery and he will look into this and report back. There were complaints regarding the length of time it seems to take to get an appointment at our local surgery – one person was told 10 days. Geoff stated that the national standard regarding appointments is 48 hrs.
- Our local surgery did not appear on the South Community Health Partnership list.
- George Smith thanked Geoff Sage and Mungo Shirkie for attending

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Accepted.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- None

5. CORRESPONDANCE

- (see separate sheet)

6. POLICE

- There were 44 crime reports – 22 were detected. There were 12 for vandalism and a couple of car thefts, including a bus from Whitelaw's which was burned out in Netherburn.
- There has been a new fire alarm fitted to the local Police office in Stonehouse and a new burglar alarm will be fitted soon. CT hopes to have the police office up and running ASAP and he will be able to spend more time in the village and hopefully get his surgeries up and running.
- It would appear that the traffic calming at Stonehouse Primary appears not to be working as cars regularly speed through the build-outs, disregarding the right of way sign. Secretary will write to Roads design.
- CT stated that parking on the pavement on New Street is not illegal, although if a car is causing an obstruction it can be moved, but only if it is reported to the police.
- CT will look into the vandalism at the bandstand and report back.
- The "fairshare" money seems to be at a standstill, but Inspector Black will look into this.

7. S.L.C.

7.1. Roads

- New markers at Sidehead road are different colour and seem to be less effective than the previous ones.
- Pavements in the village are in very poor condition. Secretary will write concerning the pavements in Trongate

7.2. Planning

- The new Sports Academy outline plans have been submitted, with detailed plans to follow. Community council has raised no objections.
- Plans have been submitted for a housing development at the old hospital site. We have been assured that the sewage works has the capacity to accommodate this new housing development and has the capacity to support further housing projects. We will be asking to clarify a few points on the plan.

7.3. Community Hall

- We are still trying to retrieve information under FOI regarding the moving of the centre at Birkenshaw to our new Community Hall. There is a gap in the correspondence we received and we will follow this up. We will also try to find out what will happen to the current community facilities.

8. HEALTH MATTERS

- There was a discussion regarding the ambulance service. It would appear that if a person requires an ambulance to go to hospital then they are entitled to get one home, although they may need to wait for some time.

9. UTILITIES

9.1. Water **No Report**

9.2. Gas **No Report**

9.3. Electricity **No Report**

10. TRANSPORT **No Report**

11. REPORTS

11.1. ELECTED MEMBERS

- Elected members made themselves known and all indicated that they will work with the community council.

11.2. TREASURER

- WM stated that we have £435 in the bank.

11.3. DEVELOPMENT TRUST

- The location of the new office has been decided.
- 4 people were interviewed for the post of development officer and someone will be appointed soon – more information will be available at the next meeting.

11.4. CEMETERY SUB GROUP

- The list of names is still being investigated and it's taking longer than we thought to investigate however a report will be forthcoming.

12. AOCB

- Regarding the development at the Cross, there is a meeting every four weeks.
- Questions were asked regarding compensation for local businesses that have lost revenue due to the ongoing work – This will be raised at the next cross development meeting.
- The bus shelter has been removed, but it will be replaced after the completion of the work at the Cross.

Next meeting is on the 18/6/07 at Public Institute Stonehouse 7.30pm