

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 21/04/2008

1 MEMBERS PRESENT & APOLOGIES

G. Smith, R. Freel, W. Mackie, A. Paterson, Mary Casey, B. Craw, R Craig, Cllr. G Campbell and 16 members of the public

Apologies: M McBain, Cllr J. Malloy, W. Holman

2 ADDENDUM TO PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Bill Craw was unhappy at the wording of the 2ND Last paragraph of the Development Trust minutes and asked that the word several be removed. The paragraph in question was as follows
“Several members of the audience demanded that he should stand down as a Community Councillor due to the obvious conflict of interest when planning issue will arise within the village due to the Development Trust and the positions that the Community Council have taken.
Several members of the audience demanded that he should stand down as a Community Councillor due to the obvious conflict of interest when planning issue will arise within the village due to the Development Trust and the positions that the Community Council have taken.
Other members of the Community Council asked Bill to consider his position as there is now an obvious conflict of interest between his role as Chair of the Development Trust coming into conflict with what the Community Council is seeking to do with regard to the Local Plan and the use of Green Belt land and housing applications.”

Following clarification from those present at the meeting it was agreed that this be amended as follows.

“One members of the audience and one member of the community council demanded that he should stand down as a Community Councillor due to the obvious conflict of interest when planning issues arise within the village due to the Development Trust and the positions that the Community Council have taken. It was felt that there is now an obvious conflict of interest between his role as Chair of the Development Trust coming into conflict with what the Community Council is seeking to do with regard to the Local Plan and the use of Green Belt land and housing applications”.

3 POLICE REPORT

- 30 crimes reported with 12 detections.
- There are still problems at the Tileworks Park for PC's trying to access it and a combination padlock has been fitted to allow them access.
- There are still reports of anti-social problems at Patrickholme Avenue. The Police are aware of this but are unable to discuss this further at this time due to ongoing enquires.
- PC C. Thomson was asked how many hours he spent in the village, but was unable to state the time as it varied from week to week.

STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

- It was reported that there was a car crash between Strathaven and Stonehouse involving a newly qualified driver. Despite the driver admitting to speeding the Police refused to attend because no-one was injured. CT will look into it.
- There were concerns over the fact that some calls to the Police contact centre are being passed to Govan and other areas. It seems that this is a common policy in the Police force however councillor Campbell assured those present that this would not result in delays attending incidents as he had some knowledge of the process
- There was a discussion about the possibility of replacing the Community Police with a special Task Force. CT didn't think this would happen in Stonehouse. Chair will write regarding this.
- There was concern from the floor regarding a member of the public being forced to avoid a car which was trying to park on the pavement. Parking on the pavement is a regular occurrence in the village.

4 BUSSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- None

5 CORRESPONDANCE

- Traffic order has been issued for the village.
- The CC have been notified that they are required to complete a form for the Information Commissioner.
- A letter arrived from Ms . Grant re Murray drive – This will be discussed under reports by elected members..
- Further information had been provided by SLC regarding housing statistics that were requested.
- Secretary had been contacted by K Dobbins regarding a poster campaign against dumping over the Cander Bridge. The project involves local schools designing the posters.
- SLC license notifications.

6 SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

6.1 ROADS

- Traffic wardens are now in the village and will enforce the new traffic order regarding parking in the village. The community council will need to rethink the parking situation in the village as the meeting with library management also raised this issue. The problem is acerbated by non local residents parking in the village and commuting to other areas, such as Strathaven and Glasgow. This is a problem that SLC maybe able to look into by restricting parking times in the car park
- Possible parking sites discussed were:
 - The grass at the Royal Bank
 - Green Street
 - The industrial estate
 - Bottom of Union Street

STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

- The original area designated for the Community hall in Stonehouse Primary.
- The land opposite the Co-op (this has previously been identified by the Brighter Village Group as an area they plan to develop and they will conduct a survey into the cars that are parked there)
The community council has indicated that separate in and outs or a wider access area required

It was felt that some of the areas discussed were to far from the village centre

- It was also reported that there are possible plans to extend the railway line to Stonehouse and beyond but this is expensive and is many years away.
- Canderside gait residents had previously sought a crossing for children to cross the bypass safely. It would appear that this is not a priority for SLC and we are number 43 on the list. Warning signs were supposed to have been installed by February, but none have been erected yet. Councillor Campbell will follow up

6.2 PLANNING

- We have a meeting on 15th May with Planning and Roads – we will ask about the progress on the Community Hall.
- There was a discussion regarding planning gain. It would appear that SLC has not asked ANY of the recent housing developments for ANY planning gain!!
- Local land owned by SLC has been sold £14.5 million in recent years but none has come to the village.

6.3 COMMUNITY HALL

- None

6.4 LOCAL PLAN

- None

6.5 LIBRARY MEETING

- The Chair, Secretary and Robert Craig met with SLC library staff and they agree that the local library facilities are very poor. In the short term they will install one more PC with internet access and look at the opening hours. The community council sought that in the Long term they look into the possibility of moving it to the new Community Hall, new primary school or to the Public Institute. Cllr G. Campbell will work with us on this issue.

7 HEALTH MATTERS

- None

8 UTILITIES

8.1 WATER

- There was a question from the floor regarding the diameter of the sewage pipes and the capacity of the local treatment plant. It would seem that the

STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

inflow to the plant is sufficient but the outflow may need to be looked at in the future. We will again write to the new area manager and await his response.

- There was discussion regarding the ammonia levels in the Avon – The local angling club are taking this matter on board.

8.2 GAS

- None

8.3 ELECTRICITY

- None

9 TRANSPORT

- The bus service to East Kilbride is shocking and the provider doesn't seem to be very helpful. Secretary advised that the service is private and that if the service is not running to timetable members of the public need to contact the Traffic Commissionaires office in Edinburgh..

10 REPORTS

10.1 ELECTED MEMBERS

COUNCILLOR G. CAMPBELL

- There was a discussion regarding various problems surrounding the Murray Drive area. Some of the issues raised were;
 - The condition of some of the houses is very poor.
 - Parking is a serious problem there (including an HGV lorry which parks there and makes it awkward for locals).
 - Lack of playing facilities.
 - Anti-social behaviour problems.
 - Dumping of litter and rubbish is a major problem.

G. Campbell has taken this area on as a special project to try to rectify some of the problems there. He stated that SLC would like to create more parking in the area and it is hoped that a consultant will be appointed to visit it soon and try to come up with an action plan to improve the area. A local housing or residents association group should be set up which would create a better voice and contact point for the group. Communication would be made easier and possible revenue generation for projects could be easier. Monies maybe available fro the Changing Places program (GC will ask regarding this).

10.2 TREASURER

- £731 in the bank and the books from last year are away at the CA.

10.3 STONEHOUSE DEVELOPMENT TRUST

- This has been removed from the agenda as per the request from B. Craw the previous month.

11 WAR MEMORIAL

- None

STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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

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

12 A.O.C.B

- A local football team - Stonehouse Boys Club raised some issues with Tileworks Park and the difficulty in obtaining the use of the grass park and the training area. It seems that teams from outside the area use it and as the usage of the pitch is restricted to two days a wee they are unable to use it. G. Campbell will make enquires and the club were asked to wait after the meeting and advice was given by members of the Community Council. Secretary will write to South Lanarkshire Leisure

Next meeting is on Monday 19/5/08