

STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

(www.community-council.org.uk/stonehousecommunitycouncil)

Chairman: George Smith, 6 Naismith Court, Stonehouse. Email: georgepm244@aol.com

Secretary: Robert Freel, 75 Lockhart Street, Stonehouse . Email: robfreel@btinternet.com

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 2Nd AUGUST 2010
AT ST NINIANS PARISH CHURCH**

**TO DISCUSS THE RESIDUAL WASTE RECYCLING AND ENERGY RECOVERY
PLANT PLANNING APPLICATION**

Item				
1	MEMBERS PRESENT & APOLOGIES			
	In attendance		Apologies	
	George Smith (GS) Chair	Robert Freel (RF) (Secretary)	W Mackie (Treasurer)	
	G Haddow (GH)	R Craig V- chair		
	M Casey (MC)	M Hannay		
	Cllr G Campbell	Karen Gillen MSP		
	Approximately 250 members of the Public			
2	BACKGROUND & INTRODUCTION			
	<p>Chairman George Smith advised on the normal housekeeping arrangements and provided an update of where the community council (cc) had reached.</p> <p>The CC had previously met and carried out the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with ScotGen, members of Action group and elected members. • Held special public meetings • Met with SEPA to gain an understanding of their role. • Written to MSP's • Written various Freedom of Information requests • Compiled a letter of objection. <p>The meeting tonight was solely to discuss the planning application, provide a template letter and answer any questions. Members of the action group were also in attendance to provide details of their objection letter and advise on their arrangements for collecting letters.</p> <p>George Smith advised that Councillor Graeme Campbell and MSP Karen Gillen were in attendance. George asked Graeme to give an overview from his perspective.</p> <p>Graeme advised that he had received hundreds of emails regarding this application and as the application is likely to be classed as a "major " he can not take a stance on it because if he does and it goes to full council then he will not be able to vote on it.</p> <p>A member of the public asked about a meeting held at Larkhall Police station and if Stonehouse were in attendance. Chair asked members of Larkhall community council who were present at the meeting if they would advise on this. Advised that this was a meeting organised by Larkhall councillors and that Larkhall community council were asked to attend. Some debate ensued regards the meeting and who should be in attendance. Action group advised that no private meetings with developers should be held; chair advised that it was important to communicate to be able to establish information and that community councils had a duty to gather information and make public the</p>			

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	<p>details of the meetings.</p> <p>Andrew Clark former chair of Stonehouse community council stated that the communities should be working to together on this rather than debating / arguing on who should or should not have been in attendance at the meeting.</p> <p>Chairman asked members of the action group to provide an update.</p> <p>Group advised that they had compiled a letter based on their member's expertise on planning and that this letter could be completed by members of the community. Following the community councils meeting the action group would distribute copies and arrange for volunteers to go round the village to collect signatures. The council had currently received 75 letters of objections.</p> <p>Chair advised that MSP Karen Gillen was in attendance and that Karen had already advised that she was against the development. Karen was asked if she would like to say a few words. Karen advised that she saw the development as being inappropriate to the area. It was contrary to PAN 63.</p> <p>A member of the public asked Cllr Campbell what his position on the development was. Cllr Campbell again explained that if he were to advise his position on the development he would be unable to vote at a full council meeting.</p> <p>Chair intimated that the remainder of the meeting would cover the community councils sample objection letter which would be shown over the churches various presentation screens.</p> <p>C Thomson asked about the land owner and his position. Chair advised that this had been raised previously and that it was unlikely the land owner would be staying after the rumoured six figure sum sale of the land.</p>	
2	PRESENTATION	
	<p>Chair proceeded to advise all present on each of the various sections of the objection letter advising that all or only sections of the letter could be used as the basis for their objections. More than one letter could be submitted but each submitted letter should be different.</p> <p>The main areas of the objections centred around the Clyde valley structure plan, local plan and the planning guidance on sites for waste disposal.</p> <p>Chair advised that each letter should contain a personal statement as to why they objected to the development and this could be based on how the development affected them personally.</p> <p>A resident of Strutherhill road advised on the proposed increased traffic, chair advised that it would be beneficial to obtain a census of current traffic and that at a letter stage to carry out a further census.</p> <p>For members of the public interested in the environment then they should concentrate on the local plan policies ENV4 and ENV 18. Copies of the letter would</p>	

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	be made available on the community council website and some 60-70 copies of letter and 40 copies of slides would be available after the meeting	
3	ENDORSEMENT	
	<p>Chair asked those present if they endorsed the community council objecting to the application. It was a unanimous show of hands requesting the community council object to this application.</p> <p>Chair and action group advised that a further application by the landowner had been submitted regarding the building of offices. Community council asked members of public present if they wished to object to this application. This was again unanimous.</p> <p>Members of public were asked to continue to lobby MSP's and to object to both applications.</p> <p>M Casey advised that whilst health was not a planning consideration that members of the public should still use it in their letters. Dr Thomson asked if the practice should submit on health grounds, the advice was to submit their letter.</p> <p>Karen Gillen advised that the Environmental statement indicated that there was a moderate to high risk of ground workings. Although some members of the public felt that this would not be a problem to a developer prepared to spend up to 50 million.</p> <p>Chair thanked all for attending and asked that they all submit objection letters either based on the community council letter or by completing the action group's letter. For those wishing to speak to the action group they could stay behind.</p> <p>Copies of slides and community council letter were then handed out.</p>	