

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 STONEHOUSE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING - HELD ON;
MONDAY 17th OCTOBER 2011**

Item				
1	MEMBERS PRESENT & APOLOGIES			
	In attendance		Apologies	
	R. Freel	M. Casey	W. Mackie	G. Smith
	G.C. Haddow		Cllr Campbell	R. Craig
	<p>Prior to the meeting members of the public (estimated between 30-40), elected members and the SCC were given a tour of the ICF by SLC's Alastair MacKinnon & Jo Gillies and given an opportunity to ask questions.</p> <p>Following the ICF tour Cllrs Holman, Malloy, Filshie and around 22 members remained for the Community council meeting.</p> <p>Robert Freel, acting as the Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the public if they had any questions on the ICF that he could feedback to SLC, but the response came back that the public would have a think later on about the tour/building and present questions at the next meeting.</p>			
2	PREVIOUS MINUTES			Action
	The Minutes were accepted by those present as a correct record of the September meeting.			n/a
3	POLICE REPORT			Action
	No Police were in attendance and it was later commented by Cllr Filshie that the Police had turned up at the Public Institute (instead of the ICF as directed). When the minutes are emailed out, emphasis will be put on the change of location to assist in preventing this happening again. There were no questions raised for the Police.			R.Freel
4 -5	CORRESPONDENCE///SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL			Action
	<p>A list of correspondence received was circulated to the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair reported on the correspondence and advised that all correspondence was open for inspection.</p> <p><u>ROADS:</u></p> <p>The Chair read out the letter sent to SLC with regards to the Chicanes and essentially that we needed to see further investigations carried out & the problems addressed. Similarly the road defects were raised and these are being prioritised for repair.</p> <p><u>PLANNING:</u></p> <p>It was noted that the Hot-food take-away application for Violet Crescent had been refused.</p> <p>An application for Wind Turbines had been submitted.</p> <p>Cllr Holman commented that he had enquired with SLC regarding the building that had been demolished at The Cross & the drawings previously noted by Mr Weir as being submitted and lost (by SLC), was refuted by SLC. Mr Weir responded to say that they had indeed been lost by SLC following his submission of the documents. The recommendation from the room was that Mr Weir submit a complaint to SLC regarding the lost plans and delay in getting this addressed and to support this SCC will also write to SLC planning on the matter, to try & bring about a prompt resolution.</p>			<p>K.Weir</p> <p>R.Freel</p>

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	The Dovesdale/Scotgen application was discussed in brief and it was noted that the case is being heard at Edinburgh High Court on Friday 21/10/11 at 10:00 hrs.	R.Freel
6	UTILITIES	
	<p><u>WATER:-</u> The public were given an update on the upgrade to Stonehouse WwTW, including the recent pollution event and the tour of the site a couple of weeks ago and the benefit that the site would bring to the village and local watercourse when it is commissioned in/around December 2011.</p> <p>It was noted that from the visit there were still several concerns & those were emailed to SW's Mark McLaren for answering timeously.</p> <p><u>GAS & ELECTRICITY:-</u> No questions raised and/or comments noted.</p> <p><u>TRANSPORT:-</u> The Chair spoke of the 3 Valleys Bus system in place and leaflets on this service were handed out to the public for further information.</p> <p>A member of the public asked why Whitelaw's were charging for 2 & 3 year-old kids when most other companies started charging at 5 years old. The Chair mentioned that it was a commercial enterprise however SCC would write to Whitelaw's for comment on this.</p>	
7	HEALTH MATTERS	Action
	Serious concerns were raised about elderly residents being asked for their addresses in the Chemists (Boots), whilst other customers awaiting their Methadone were standing close-by. This promoted quite a discussion and it was noted that other areas take the Methadone users into private rooms and the SCC will take this concern up with Boots at the earliest opportunity.	R.Freel
8	REPORTS	Action
8.1	<p>Elected Members;</p> <p>Cllr Malloy spoke briefly on the Boundary Review Process is approaching its end and noted that the SCC would probably remain unaffected, but that updates would be forthcoming in due course and that this should come out for Consultation.</p> <p>The replacement Bus Shelter on Strathaven Road was noted from Cllr Filshie as being imminent.</p>	
8.2	<p>Treasurer;</p> <p>The Chair reported that Treasurer had reported that there was a closing balance of £1181.70 and accounts would be available at the next meeting.</p>	
9	TRIENNIAL ELECTION	
	<p>Returning officer;</p> <p>Andrew Clark gave a rundown of the returning nominees for SCC and essentially that there would be no need for an election. Andrew further added that additional members should be sought from other village groups and that this would be raised at the next meeting.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Andrew for all his continued help & support and was given a round of applause.</p>	

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10	AOCB	Action
10.1	<p><u>Wreath:-</u> A request was submitted by the Chair to purchase a wreath for Armistice Day and this was duly approved.</p>	
10.2	<p><u>Ombudsman:-</u> The Chair explained that the 3 stage complaint that was being progressed through SLC and finally to the Ombudsman had been halted as it was required to be submitted by an individual, to which Rob Freel has continued to do, noting his 3rd stage complaint was now submitted.</p>	
10.3	<p><u>Barry Ferguson Football Academy:-</u> Mr Weir was asked about the status of the BFFA and said that he'd be able to discuss this in greater detail at the next meeting, however added that it was still ongoing with SLC but it was felt that onerous requests for information from SLC of Mr Weir were essentially putting blockers in the way. The Chair asked Mr Weir whether he planned to write again to SLC about the application & delays being encountered and was advised that this had been done on various occasions. Mr Weir also altered the application to note that it was now being made on behalf of a Charitable Organisation (under the guidance of SLC), to try and speed up the application process, but that there had been no movement to date as noted above.</p>	
10.4	<p><u>4/5 The Cross:-</u> The Chair spoke briefly on the correspondence received from SLC regarding 4/5 The Cross in light of the ICF opening and the relocation of the Library to the new facility. The correspondence was still to be reviewed and noted as such. Andrew Clark mentioned about previous SCC meeting where the elected members often provided assurances that 4/5 The Cross would NOT be closed down or sold-off when the ICF was finally opened as this was a vital meeting area for the Senior Citizens Club amongst others.</p> <p>A lady in the audience mentioned that she had enquired with SLC about 4/5 The Cross being sold off and said that this had been confirmed, but Cllr Malloy said that at no time had he been informed that this was the case and would seek information on this. The Chair added that 4/5 The Cross was also vital for the Heritage Group and that all efforts would be employed to try and keep this address available for the local people/clubs as previously discussed.</p>	
10.5	<p><u>Opening of the ICF:-</u> A question was asked as to who would be opening the ICF, to which it was reported that it would be Cllr Malloy.</p> <p>It was raised by 1 member of the public that it should have been MSP Christina McKelvie, however this was not the view of all others present and it was felt that Cllr Malloy was a long-standing supporter of the village, local groups and indeed Avondale itself and deserved of the role.</p>	
13	Next Meeting	
	<p>The Meeting closed at around 21:00 hrs and the next meeting will be on Monday 21st November 2011 in the new ICF.</p>	