

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 16th DECEMBER 2013**

Item			
1	MEMBERS PRESENT & APOLOGIES		
	In attendance		Apologies
	G. Smith, R Craig	R. Freel, J Hewart	Cllr Cooper
	S Montgomery,	M. Casey G. Haddow	C Thomson
	Cllr Dorman, Cllr Campbell Cllr Holman, and 18 members of the public including Police Scotland were in attendance. G. Smith welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the year.		
2	PREVIOUS MINUTES		Action
	The Minutes were agreed by those present.		
3	POLICE REPORT		Action
	<p>Constables O'Neil and Freel attended the meeting. Constable Freel is the new community police officer in the village. He passed on the thanks of Inspector Bell for the support given to the police following the damage caused by the recent high winds. He reported that anti social behaviour offences were down 60% and youth disorder down 50% from the same point in previous year. The credit card skimming device found at the bank was still under investigation but a number of people had been charged in relation to the incident. Constable Freel intimated that he would like to establish a Community Information Network in the village comprising between 30 and 40 people selected to represent the demographics of the village. It was anticipated that the group would be set up by early January, group details would be anonymous and would not be shared, and there would be regular reports on the Network at CC meetings. The group would provide details of the issues they felt should be tackled locally and this would not distract from the local hot spot attention. The Chair welcomed this initiative.</p> <p>Incidents of illegal fly tipping were reported including gas bottles at the Avon and the police would work with environmental health on the problem. Concerns were raised relating to speeding traffic entering and leaving the village at the Strathaven road end. Cllr Campbell would request SLC to carry out a survey and any information generated would be fed into the police in order that this could assist the police in justifying the use of Traffic police at this spot. There had been two housebreakings in Camnethan Street and Candermill Road and the police urged everyone to be vigilant over the Christmas period. A question was asked about drug activity and Police advised that none had been reported. G. Smith reported that the CC had made a submission on the proposed changes to the opening hours at Larkhall police station. Chair also advised on parking at sidehead road and requirement for regular police presence at this site. The officers were thanked for their report and left the meeting at this point.</p>		
4	BUSINESS MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES		
	Any matters arising would be dealt with under the appropriate agenda item		

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

5	CORRESPONDENCE	
	<p>The Secretary went through the details of correspondence received and outgoing and a list of all correspondence had been circulated. Secretary re-emphasized that all correspondence can be viewed if required. Either see him at the end of the meeting or it can be handed out during the meeting.</p> <p><u>Dykehead Farm</u> Secretary advised that the planning application for a wind turbine had been refused by SLC and was now the subject of an appeal to the Scottish Government by the applicant.</p>	
6	SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL	
6.1	<p><u>Roads</u> A number of faults, particularly potholes, were reported at Cairnsmore Drive, Caledonian avenue and sidehead road. Secretary indicated that some of these areas had already been passed to SLC. The issue of street lighting on the the Strathaven Road being on all the time was raised and Cllr Dorman intimated she would follow up on this. The state of some of the pavements was also raised specifically Secaurin Avenue.</p> <p><u>Planning</u> Complaints had been received regarding the fence on Manse Road. SLC was dealing with this issue.</p> <p><u>Barratt Development</u> The Chair reported on a meeting with Barratt attended by himself and the vice Chair. The position of the proposed roundabout was discussed, as was the programme for building on the site. At the moment preliminary work was being carried out to scope the gas main in the field and a number of environmental issues were being looked at. Residents from Manse Road raised issues relating to the traffic problems caused by equipment being delivered to the site and the Chair indicated that he would take this up with Barratt. The need for more leisure services in the village in light of the proposed development was raised. A comment was made that front facing houses on to Manse Road might be preferable to rear facing, however a local villager indicated that this might not serve the best interest of manse road and could lead to rear entry being developed in later years. The residents of Manse road who were in attendance asked why they had not been invited and Chair advised that at the last meeting he had asked that they go back to all thel residents in the area with a letter indicating that if no one wished to serve on the stakeholder group and came forward then they proposed to nominate two-three persons. It was agreed that the residents of Manse Road would let the Chair / Secretary have details of the people who would represent them on the Stakeholders Group, to date this has not been provided. The Chair reported on discussions relating to the possibility of transferring money from the proposed play area in the new development to Alexander Hamilton Park and some discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of this took place. A copy of the notes of the Barratt meeting were issued with all meeting paperwork</p>	

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

	<p><u>Local Plan</u> The local plan, and the submissions received by SLC were now in the hands of the Reporter and a decision was expected in the new year. Cllr Holman advised that this time around the decision of the Reporter was binding on the local authority.</p> <p><u>4/5 The Cross</u> The Chair reported that he was still waiting for comments from SLC on the draft lease, and that legal advice was also being sought. The draft constitution for the Community Trust was also being looked at by lawyers. Chair would update Avon FM at end of meeting.</p> <p><u>Alexander Hamilton Park</u> D. Carmichael reported that the funding for the development of the park was 65K From SLC, and 35k from previous planning gain monies. There was a discussion on the need for play facilities in the west end of the village and especially with the latest Barratt development and the need to think carefully about future provision.</p>	
7	HEALTH MATTERS	
	The issue of the 0800 number for the surgery was raised again however it was reported that there is now a new number for the Medical Centre displayed in the surgery. This number will be obtained and put on facebook.	
8	UTILITIES	
	No matters reported. The Sec. had followed up with the Gas Board the issue raised at the last meeting relating to Newfield Road but no response had yet been received.	Sect
9	TRANSPORT	
	Chairman George Smith reported that the CC had hosted a meeting for the parents of children attending the secondary school in Strathaven with Sandra Whitelaw of Whitelaw's Coaches to discuss / address the issues arising from the operation of the bus service transporting the children to and from school. Two options for parents emerged from the meeting – either the present service continued with the risk of pupils being left at the school or the parents got together and organised a “private hire” either with Whitelaw's or any another operator to take the children to school. Colin Thomson agreed to try to host another meeting with parents interested in the private hire option. Colin had apologised for not being able to attend however had advised that he had circulated letters to parents and tried to raise interest via facebook but response was poor. The Chair stated that the continued abuse of Whitelaw's staff was unacceptable and could result in the service being terminated.	
10	TREASURER'S REPORT	
	The secretary issued a report intimating that the balance in the bank account was £689.44	

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

11	FACEBOOK	
	Facebook continued to be used and was reaching a good number of people judging by number of page hits	
12	AOCB	
	<p>The Chair intimated that it was the intention of the CC to organise a debate on Scottish Independence on Friday 7th March 2014. The event would be all ticket with a maximum number of 250. Questions would be required to be submitted in advance of the event. The details of the event were still being finalised and more information would be given at the next meeting of the CC.</p> <p><u>BEE KEEPING</u></p> <p>Following a discussion on bee keeping a few months ago D. Baxter provided an update to the meeting on the progress that had been made. An Avondale Beekeeping Society had been set up and the intention was to have over a hundred hives in the area. School children and youth organisations were now involved and the project would involve the planting of wild flowers across the district. Cllr Cooper had been extremely helpful in getting this project off the ground. There would be a public meeting on the 5th February at 7pm in Lifestyles to talk about the project. The Chair welcomed these developments.</p> <p><u>COMMUNITY TRUST</u></p> <p>G. Smith updated the meeting on the progress being made to get legal advice on the proposed constitution, and once this had been finalised a meeting of interested groups would be set up. Cllr Cooper was investigating funding for a feasibility study.</p>	
12	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	The meeting closed at 9.10pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday 20 th January 2014 at 7.30pm in Lifestyles.	