

**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 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2015**

Item				
<b>1</b>	<b>MEMBERS PRESENT &amp; APOLOGIES</b>			
	<b>In attendance</b>		<b>Apologies</b>	
	G. Smith		G. Haddow	Cllr Holman
	R. Freel	J. Hewart	S. Montgomery	
	R. Craig	J. Robb		
	<p>Cllrs Campbell, Dorman and Cooper along with 10 members of the public were in attendance. An additional 3 people entered and joined the meeting as it continued.  <b>Police:</b> Community police officer Jim Freel was also in attendance.                      Chairman G. Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting. George intimated that he had invited a representative from Larkhall residents tenants association to speak on the merits of starting a tenants association , however due to the low number in attendance they were asked if they would like to come back to the June meeting.</p>			
<b>2</b>	<b>PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>			<b>Action</b>
	Those present agreed the Minutes were representative of the meeting .			
<b>3</b>	<b>POLICE REPORT</b>			<b>Action</b>
	<p>Constable Freel reported on crime in the village. There had been 80 calls this month.                      Including a missing persons incident. The incident involving the Bees (see elected member report) has been passed to the national wildlife unit.                      6 calls related to minor disturbances. 3 calls about drinking in the park, the people involved were not from the village, tickets were issued and no further calls have been made. 1 housebreak in and 2 vandalism – 1 being drug related.                      Constable Freel reported on theft of quads and motorbike is high in the area, a unit is being set up to gather intelligence. A member of the public brought up parking outside the schools at peak time. Cars parking on the pavements, breaking paving stones. The police will look in the issue but it is the responsibility of the local council parking wardens. Another point was brought to the police attention about council workers parking in all sorts of places including the pavement outside the bakers (bits and buns) it was advised to take photos and to email to council as it was a council issue unless the vehicles were posing a danger and obstruction to traffic.</p>			
<b>4</b>	<b>Business arising from previous minutes</b>			
	Any matters arising would be dealt with as we go through the agenda			
<b>5</b>	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>			
	<p>The Secretary went through the details of correspondence received and outgoing and a list of all correspondence had been circulated with the minutes. The secretary provided an overview of the most pressing items from the list issued.</p>			

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6	<b>SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	
6.1	<b>ROADS</b> It was reported that the A71 will be closed between Stonehouse and Strathaven on the weekend of 30 <sup>th</sup> May. A large collapsed manhole cover was reported just up from the petrol station and adjacent to Newfield road. Cllr dorman indicated she would follow up on this	<b>Cllr Dorman</b>
6.2	<b>PLANNING</b> The old RBS building has had a planning application lodged for change of use and new windows and doors from a textile company. Rumour mill has it it's a cleaning company.	
6.3	<b>Other matters</b> Following a letter from Cllr doorman to the department in charge of public toilets seeking that the toilets be re-opened for the gala day, the meeting was informed by Cllr Dorman that the public toilets are to stay shut and will not re-open even just for gala day. This is all part of the council's budget cuts. A member of the public commented that the lifestyles centre had the heating on but both the front doors were propped open and that this could not be cost effective. Digging has started at 'couplaw' for the installation of a wind turbine. Cllr Dorman advised that it had been reported to her that the contractors could be working on or near the roman road and that she has reported the matter to the planning officers of the council.	<b>Cllr Dorman</b>
7	<b>HEALTH MATTERS</b>	
7.1	No matters arising	
8	<b>UTILITIES</b>	
	No matters arising	
9	<b>TRANSPORT</b>	
	No matters arising	

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10	<b>REPORTS</b>	
10.1	<p><b>Cllr Cooper</b> updated the meeting on her work for the village.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work on the park will begin in June, starting with the toddler play area and paths and walls. New equipment for lower park play area was also included and more surface covering.</li><li>• There had been a slight delay in starting due to work commencing at the cemetery with SLC having to re-deploy some of the workforce.</li><li>• A successful tree planting day had been carried out when volunteers from the village planted 150 trees and wildflowers and also carried out a litter pick around the village. 80 bags of rubbish were collected. Thanks was extended to the back road who provided soft drinks and Greggs for food.</li><li>• Around 60,000 live bees 'buckfast' bees from Dumfries were populated into 20 hives around Avondale. Unfortunately 3 hives were kicked over and vandalised. Some bees and the queens were saved, the police were informed. Police have reported this to the national wildlife unit.</li><li>• The clothing bank at the co-op is overflowing but will be cleared this week.</li><li>• Home happening are fitting new central heating, bathrooms and kitchens in some council houses although not clear if this included Stonehouse.</li><li>• Strathaven festival of sport and leisure is taking place on Sat 30<sup>th</sup> May commencing at 12.30. if attending members of public were reminded of the pending road closure and having to take alternative routes.</li></ul> <p><b>Cllr Campbell</b> Reported that currently the council has spent around £1 million so far on the roads.</p> <p><b>Cllr Dorman.</b> Provided Input to items throughout the meeting.</p>	
10.2	<p><b>TREASURER</b> Treasurer had submitted an apology to the meeting due to having to visit hospital. Their was no spend reported and that the balance in the bank account was £557.99. Spend since January being a total of £65. Breakdown £45 for the Gala Day Programme advert (26th March) and £20 for A5 booklets (31st March) for hustings meeting. Expenditure due was the hall hire and equipment hire for the Hustings. Invoices were still awaited for these items.</p>	
11	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	
	No reports made	
12	<b>AOCB</b>	
	No matters were brought forward at the meeting	
	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> The meeting closed at 8.30 pm. The next meeting will be held at Lifestyles on Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 7.30pm.	