

**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 JANUARY 2016**

Item				
1	<b>MEMBERS PRESENT &amp; APOLOGIES</b>			
	<b>In attendance</b>		<b>Apologies</b>	
	G. Smith	S. Montgomery	Cllr Cooper	T. Feeney
	R. Freel	J. Robb	Cllr Dorman	W. Anderson
	R. Craig	N. Foote	Sam Irons	
	<p>Cllr Campbell and seven members of the public were in attendance.                      Chairman G Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised those present that following an advert for members by South Lanarkshire Council in December the community council has two new members and has the minimum number of elected members to operate.                      George proceeded to welcome Nicola Foote and Sam Irons onto the committee.</p>			
2	<b>PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>			<b>Action</b>
	Those present agreed the Minutes were an accurate reflection of the meeting.			
3	<b>POLICE REPORT</b>			<b>Action</b>
	<p>Chairman introduced PC Andy Bennie who advised the following crime figures were from the end of November to present as there was no December meeting.                      There were 28 reported crimes, 9 detected, also 1 serious assault in November.                      194 calls were received during this period and mostly all low level. These included anti social, 2 house break ins, 2 thefts of fuel, theft of number plates stolen from car and garden thefts.                      PC Bennie was asked about the drugs raid on a house in Strathaven Road however he was not aware of this within the crime figures.                      A member of the public asked PC Bennie why there were no frequent visits by the Police to the flats in Patrickholm Avenue. PC Bennie advised that unless a number of repeated calls are made reporting incidents and the profile of the area is raised to a hot spot then they would not automatically visit the area. Chair and councillor Campbell reminded those present that if they have a housing issue they should contact the housing department and also contact one of their elected members and also the police if it's a disturbance etc.                      Police advised yet again that the public should remain vigilant and not to hesitate to call the Police on 101 should they see anything untoward.</p>			
4	<b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>			
	No matters arising.			
5	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>			
	<p>The Secretary went through the details of the correspondence received and outgoing stating that a list of all correspondence had been circulated with the Minutes and copies of some items were set out on the table to the side of the hall for members of public to take away.</p> <p>Stonehouse Gala committee were enquiring if the community council would take out an advert in the 2016 gala programme for £50 donation. All monies collected go towards the publication of the programme and the running of the gala day. This was agreed. Treasurer will organise a cheque.</p> <p>Secretary advised that following a Freedom of Information (FOI) enquiry copies of council tax, rent and housing benefit overpayment write offs by South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) were available for public to take away. Councillor Campbell advised that these were all write offs where the council had pursued all avenues to obtain the monies. A copy of this letter will be added to the community council web site.</p> <p>MSP John Wilson's newsletter and Parliamentary report was received and was also available for uplift.</p>			<b>Treas.</b>

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<b>6</b>	<b>SOUTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL</b>	
6.1	<p><b>ROADS</b></p> <p>Scottish Power had applied for a temporary road closure order to lay cables along Sidehead Road, these cables were for the supply from nearby windfarms.</p> <p>It is anticipated the road will be partially closed for approximately 2 months. The community council felt this was an unacceptable period of time as Sidehead Road feeds four estates. However, Cllr Campbell advised that the Utility companies have the right to dig up roads etc as and when required.</p> <p>J Robb enquired if Crow Road could be gritted when required, as it runs alongside the McLean Gardens sheltered housing complex. This will be checked by our local members as the road serves an elderly residents complex.</p>	<b>Elected Members</b>
6.2	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p>A member of the public enquired about the planning application lodged by Wm Hamilton of Dovesdale. Chair advised that he had sought details from Mr Hamilton as to the application and was advised that the application was made to transfer the existing large shed to a waste transfer facility. Viridor had approached Mr Hamilton as part of their tender submission to SLC for waste disposal to allow them to drop off waste and for Mr Hamilton to move the waste onto a final destination. The SLC waste contract required that the waste was only carried a specific distance by the waste contractor.</p> <p>Chair advised that he had met with the Keppie team who now have a new Planning Consultant advising then on planning matters . Mr David Jones who was a previous head of planning in one of the local authorities. Some discussion centred on the application at the side of the lifestyles and the implications on schools. Stated that Newfield was a modular build and could be extended.</p>	
6.3	<p><b>OTHER SLC ISSUES</b></p> <p>It was brought to the Community Council's attention that various street lights were not working in the village and members of public were advised to contact SLC in the first instance. Cllr Campbell advised that stocks of the old sodium lamps were depleted and that all lamps were being replace with new LED lights however they were trying to schedule repairs on a full street basis to maximise efficiencies.</p> <p>Slabs at Weavers Way were reported as very uneven and unsafe , Cllr Campbell advised he had not been approached on this and asked if anyone had reported it to the council. Details would be passed to the appropriate department at SLC.</p> <p>Rubbish bin at side of Indian Times Restaurant was reported as overflowing.</p>	<b>Elected Member</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>HEALTH MATTERS</b>	
	No matters arising	
<b>8</b>	<b>UTILITIES</b>	
	No matters arising	
<b>9</b>	<b>TRANSPORT</b>	
	No matters arising	

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10	<b>REPORTS</b>	
10.1	<b>Elected Members</b> Cllr Campbell advised that no agreements on the budgets cuts had been agreed and that it was still out to public consultation.	
10.2	<b>Treasurer</b> Treasurer reported that the accounts currently show a balance of £148.61 in the account. Treasurer reported that we are still awaiting the annual grant from SLC even though she had deposited the required information with SLC. She also indicated that she had been asked to provide two different sets of information and had sought clarification but was still being asked to provide a level of information which was not required by the scheme. Councillor Campbell was asked if he could assist in this matter to allow the community council to obtain its grant. If it had not been for a surplus in the accounts the CC would not be able to pay any outstanding items.	<b>Cllr Campbell</b>
11	<b>FACEBOOK</b>	
	Continues to be used.	
12	<b>AOCB</b>	
12.1	Chair reported on the possibility of holding an independent hustings meeting with all candidates for the Scottish Parliament and that this would be arranged prior to the Scottish Parliamentary Election. The meeting is likely to take place on April 1 2016. This date has still to be confirmed.	<b>chair</b>
12.2	Chair reported that the Community Council are in the final stages of compiling a village survey questionnaire which will be used to seek views on what our village requires for the future and this will be rolled out shortly. Danny Baxter advised the meeting that the community bee project was doing very well and they had received a donation of £900 from the Co-operative community Grants scheme which would enable them to purchase glass fronted hives and take into schools to educate the children. They have also applied for a Lottery Grant. The Community Bee keepers are holding a fund raiser in the West Church, Strathaven on 26 February 2016. Chair commended Danny and all his co-workers on their success.  An enquiry was raised regarding the shop next to Bits and Buns and was advised it was being converted to a Cafe. Internal changes to premises did not require planning permission however it may require a change of use.  The burnt out café building is currently in the hands of Solicitors awaiting a decision. Councillor cooper had been handling this	<b>Cllr Cooper</b>
	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> The next meeting will be held at Lifestyles on Monday 15 February 2016 at 7.30.	