

Minute of Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting

Tuesday 29 November 2011 at 7.30pm in Room 205 Kilmacolm Community Centre

Present:

Stephen Hampson – Chair
Helen Cook – Vice Chair
David Goddard – Secretary
Robin Gordon – Treasurer
Alda Clark
Jan Johnston
Helen MacConnacher
David Madden
John Watson

Attending:

Cllr Stephen McCabe
Sgt David Wilson – Strathclyde Police
Lord Maclay, Helen Calvert – KNCC, Alison Beck, Iain Gibson, Elspeth Hamilton, Charles Hamilton, Margie McCallum, Allan McWhirter, Stephen Muir

Apologies:

Cllr Jim McLeod, Cllr David Wilson

1. Welcome

Stephen Hampson opened the November meeting of the Kilmacolm Community Council and welcomed those present.

2. Notes of the Inaugural Meeting of the Elected Kilmacolm Community Councillors

The notes of the Inaugural Meeting of the elected Kilmacolm Community Councillors held on 25 October 2011 in the Kilmacolm Community Centre were approved.

3. Minute of the Previous Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting

The minute of the Kilmacolm Community Council meeting held on 25 October 2011 was approved.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the KCC's current bank balance was £1,355.99. The two items of expenditure since the last report were the room hire at the Kilmacolm Community Centre and the KCC's £1,020 donation towards the cost of providing a sculpture cycle rack for the Cargill Centre which will be erected before the year end.

The KCC had received a grant of only £700 this financial year - the Treasurer would determine from Inverclyde Council whether any further grant was due for 2011/2012.

5. Strathclyde Police Report

Sgt David Wilson reported that there had been an increase in the number of reported incidents and crimes in the month since the last KCC meeting. There were thirteen reported crimes made up of three road traffic offences, a theft, two housebreakings and theft, one housebreaking with intent, two acts of vandalism to motor vehicles, one assault and shoplifting and three disorder offences.

6. Planning/Licensing

Planning Applications

The planning applications lodged in the period to 24 October to 21 November 2011 were:

- *11/0263/IC - Gibson Lane Kilmacolm PA13 4EP - Erection of a detached dwelling house (In Principle)(Extension to Time)*
- *11/0303/IC - North Denniston Farm, Bridge Of Weir Road, Kilmacolm, PA13 4RU. - Alterations and extension to farm house*
- *11/0304/IC - Meadowpark, Castlehill Crescent, Kilmacolm, PA13 4HY- Alterations and extension to dwelling house and erection of new garage*
- *11/0311/IC - Land adjacent To Kilmacolm Community Centre - Use of land as a farmers' market*
- *11/0314/IC - Kilmacolm Primary Churchill Road Kilmacolm PA13 4LH - Installation of replacement flat roof*
- *11/0320/IC - Kildean, Hazelmere Road, Kilmacolm, PA13 4JW - Erection of flue (in retrospect)*
- *11/0323/IC - Birchtrees, Knockbuckle Road, Kilmacolm, PA13 4JU - Alterations and extension to dwelling*

After discussion it was agreed:

- That the only reasonable grounds on which the KCC could object to the proposed works at North Denniston Farm (*11/0303/IC*) was if they involved a significant increase in the 'footprint' area of the original dwelling. Helen Cook and Jan Johnston undertook to establish whether this was the case or not and report back. The Secretary would raise a KCC objection if it was justified on this basis.
- KCC had no objections to the other applications

It was suggested that the KCC should establish if the existing 'new' dwellings at Denniston Farm were constructed in accordance with the planning permission that was granted.

Local Development Plan

The Chair explained that since the publication of the Main Issues Report (MIR) – which is one of the key deliverables in the Local Development Plan process – there had been additional submissions to change the designations of some areas within Inverclyde to that of development sites. Included in these submissions were six sites in Kilmacolm – though two of them were actually requests to remove sites that had earlier been suggested as development sites.

The two sites that had been requested for removal were Site 6 – North Denniston Farm - and Site 7 – the field on the Bridge of Weir Road used for the annual bonfire and fireworks display. The removal of these as suggested development sites and thus their continuation as parts of the Green Belt, were welcomed by the KCC.

Each of the four requests to re-designate sites for development was discussed at length by the meeting and it was the majority view that each request be opposed by the KCC. These sites are:

Site 35 Hazelmere Road East
Site 36 Hazelmere Road West
Site 37 West Glen Road
Site 38 Smithy Brae

In addition to opposing the requested development designation of Site 35 and Site 36 it was agreed that KCC would propose that these sites be designated as Green Belt as had previously been suggested by Inverclyde Council.

The Chair would submit the KCC comments to Inverclyde Council on the requisite forms.

The Secretary distributed to the KCC members a copy of the latest Local Development Plan timetable which listed the key steps leading to the adoption of the Inverclyde Local Development Plan in June 2014. This timetable will be posted on the KCC website.

St Columba's School Development

A planned meeting between some of St Columba's School board members and the KCC office bearers to discuss the latest thinking on the school development plan had been postponed at the request of the school board. The Chair had not yet been informed of a suggested date for the postponed meeting.

7. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting

The Secretary had requested that Inverclyde Council attend to the dangerous potholes in Smithy Brae and Knockbuckle Road and the sunken road drains outside the Post Office. The potholes in Smithy Brae had been filled but the fillings had broken up in the recent weather.

The Chair had requested an update from the Inverclyde Council Corporate Director: Regeneration and Environment on the options to overcome the problems and dangers caused by the motor vehicles parking on both sides of Broomknowe Road.

The Secretary had compiled a list of the complaints received about branches and foliage obstructing the pavements within Kilmacolm. Details would be passed to Inverclyde Council who would assess these complaints and request the property owners to cut back the offending hazards.

Inverclyde Council had acknowledged the request to repaint a number of the road markings in Kilmacolm that had been prioritised by the KCC.

The plans for the proposed safer crossing on Lochwinnoch Road were still being developed and will be discussed jointly with members of the KCC and the Kilmacolm Civic Trust at an appropriate time.

The Secretary will write to both Inverclyde and Renfrew roads departments requesting they implement a solution to the flooding on the Kilmacolm – Bridge of Weir Road which adds to the dangers faced by motorists using this section of the A761 and may be a contributing factor to the recent spate of accidents.

The Secretary will request that Inverclyde Council attend to the very bad condition of Netherwood Road particularly in the vicinity of the Auchenbothie Mains Farm

8. Parks and Open Spaces

The Corporate Director Regeneration and Environment had not yet responded to the Chair on the matters pertaining to Birkmyre Park that were discussed at their meeting in October. These matters included:

- Promoting the use of organised events in the Multi Use Games Area
- Screening of the Car Park.
- Parking on the verges of Broomknowe Road

The Chair would request a response to these matters.

The number of reported incidents of anti-social behaviour in and around the Multi Use Games Area had reduced considerably since the summer but the nearby residents still had concerns about the behaviour of those frequenting the facility. Incidents were reported to the Community Wardens who generally respond in a timeous fashion.

The Secretary would forward a request to Inverclyde Council that the signage at the Multi Use Games Area be updated to include the prohibition of cycles and add details of the booking arrangements.

9. Recycling and Waste

The Chair acknowledged the reduced number of wheelie bins 'parked' outside the shops in Kilmacolm and thanked the shopkeepers for their co-operation in reducing the hazards on the pavements and enhancing the appearance of the village. Members expressed the hope that the improvement would be maintained.

The additional brown bin collection prior to the winter cessation was welcomed.

Details of the Christmas tree recycling arrangements were awaited from Inverclyde Council.

10. Inverclyde Council Minutes/Reports

The only paper received from the Inverclyde Council of real interest to Kilmacolm/Quarriers since last KCC meeting was the *Winter Maintenance – Policy, Procedures and Resources 2011/2012* document. The document is available for viewing on the Inverclyde Council website at <http://www.inverclyde.gov.uk/transport-streets/roads-and-footways/winter-maintenance/>.

11. Boundary Commission for Scotland

The KCC had no objections to the proposed boundaries of the UK Parliament Constituency of Inverclyde - which will encompass parts of the Renfrewshire electoral Ward 10 including Langbank, Bishopton and Erskine- and the KCC would not pursue the invitation to take part in the consultation on the *Boundary Commission for Scotland's Proposals for the Review of UK Parliament Constituencies*.

12. Kilmacolm Community Council Profile/Image

The Secretary circulated – for discussion - an initial draft of a document describing the work of the Kilmacolm Community Council and seeking the support of the community. Such a document could be circulated either as an ‘article’ in a future edition of the Advertiser or as a separate flyer inserted in the copies of the Advertiser that are delivered to households in Kilmacolm and Quarriers Village. It was agreed that a separate flyer was more appropriate – although this would incur a cost - and that it should include, subject to individual approval, a portrait photograph of each of the elected Kilmacolm community councillors. The Chair undertook to draft the version of the flyer that would be printed and distributed.

It was suggested that a mobile phone be acquired by the KCC and that the number of this phone be the ‘official’ KCC contact phone number. The phone - which would have a voice mail facility - could be then passed amongst the KCC members so that incoming calls could be attended to even if some members were on holiday. The Chair asked that members consider this proposal and he would seek their views and act accordingly.

13. Christmas Lights Switch-on

The Christmas lights switch - on ceremony at the Kilmacolm Community Centre is to take place on Friday 2 December at 6pm and at Quarriers Village outside the Quarriers Head Office at 7pm. Although the Chair was to be unable to attend these ceremonies other members of the KCC intended to be present.

14. Kilmacolm Photographer of the Year

The Secretary tabled an outline proposal for the staging of a Kilmacolm Photographer of the Year 2012 competition. Time did not allow for full discussion of the proposal and it was agreed to delay a decision on whether to proceed with the competition. The Secretary would develop the proposal and submit this for consideration prior to the next meeting of the KCC.

15. Olympic Flame

On 8 June 2012 the Olympic Flame will be carried through Kilmacolm on its 8,000 mile journey around the UK. Details of the event are not yet available but it was hoped that Hamish Hardie – a local resident who competed in the 1948 London Olympics will have a role to play.

16. KCC Social Event

A KCC social get together was to be held at Pullman on Tuesday 20 December starting at 8:00pm and it was hoped that all the Kilmacolm community councillors and their partners will attend. The Chair would extend the invitation to those who had stood down as community councillors this year.

17. Next KCC Meetings

- Tuesday 31 January 2012 – Kilmacolm Community Centre – 7:30pm
- Tuesday 28 February 2011 – Kilmacolm Community Centre – 7:30pm
- Tuesday 27 March 2011 – Kilmacolm Community Centre – 7:30pm