

Minute of Community Council Meeting

Tuesday, 24th February 2009 at 7.45pm in the Community Centre

(Subject to approval at the next meeting)

1. Present:

Stephen Hampson (Vice Chairman)
Robin Gordon (Treasurer)
Helen Cook
Janice Crean
Iain Couttie
Maisie Galbreath
David Goddard
Jan Johnson
Margaret McLeese
David Scott
Colin McGinn

Attending: Inspector MacDiarmid
Cllr McCabe, Cllr Wilson
Lord McLay (Duchal Estate) concerns over litter
Pamela Castell, - Hazelmere Rd Planning application
Ian Torrance, Graham Robertson, Stuart Cumming – Quarriers United.
Colin Stewart – Hamilton Accies
Brian McMillan & Peter Haveron - Birkmyre Rugby Club

Apologies: Helen Calvert, David Scott and Cllr McLeod

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minute of the meeting held on 13th January 2009 was approved with one amendment to the last bullet of section 7: Use of Birkmyre Park...

“Chairman would contact Stephen McCabe – who could not attend the KCC meeting – to make him aware of the depth of the [~~ill feeling~~] [insert - **depth of feeling**] that had been caused by the approach taken by Inverclyde Council to such a sensitive community issue.”

3. Matters Arising

These are included in the relevant Agenda item minute

4. Police Report

The crime figures for 24th January to 24th Feb 2009 are as follows:

5 crimes for the period which include 1 x Theft by housebreaking in Lochwinnoch Road and 1 attempted housebreaking in Willow Drive.

- **Security at Balrossie House** – Police have made contact with owner and response is that the property is secure, although that is questionable.
- **Comparison of crime figures before and after change in policing** - The trend shows crime figures dropping year-on-year 2006, 2007 & 2008. However, a significant car-crime problem late 2008 distorts this trend. This was due to one individual and removing this spate of activity there has been no significant impact with the change in policing. This said, community Policing will increase from five to ten for Ward1, but not specific to Kilmacolm.
- **KCC web-site** – Input still to be supplied

- **Monthly figures** - No figures available, but will be supplied by email for the minute.
- **Parking** – An on-going problem. The Police will request Traffic Wardens to cover the village of they receive enough complaints.

5. Treasurer's Report

- Balance of £1682 in bank
- Cheque for £62.95 to pay for sponsoring a shield for the 10k run at Birkmyre.
- A request has been made by the Agricultural Society to raise the sponsorship from £30 to £70. Discussion followed with a vote and the proposal was carried by majority.

6. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting, Parks

- Pavements on West Glen Rd require upgrade. – Margaret McLeese to write.
- The roads deteriorate in the winter, it's a matter of fact, and any pot-hole repairs made at this time of the year tend not to last. There is a program for repairs next year, but we should continue to raise issue - write to Robert Graham, Inverclyde Roads Dept.
- Birkmyre new swing park area is open and proving very successful and we record our thanks to Inverclyde Council for their efforts.

7. Use of Birkmyre Park

The three clubs attending were offered the opportunity to give their views.

- Birkmyre Rugby: Suggestion was made that a new $\frac{3}{4}$ sized pitch could be created below the former tennis courts. It was also suggested that the pitch in front of the shelter could be converted to football, if the present small football pitch near the chain-road was converted to 'small' match rugby.
- Quarriers United: Originally founded 2004 and now consists of four teams totalling 80 players primarily from Quarriers and Kilmacolm. Planned to have a 5th team which will bring the club numbers up to 100.
- Hamilton Accies: Presently play on the small pitch down nearer the chain road. This is not a full-size football pitch and therefore restricts any opportunity for the Club. The pitch at the front of the shelter would be ideal for football with the possibility of swapping rugby and football on the front park. The pitch in front of the shelter measures 59M x 105M (should be 70M x 120M), but the dead-ball zone is not big enough (just 3-4M wide). The smaller pitch nearer the chain-road would still be suitable for 'small' match rugby.

The representatives of the groups above assured everyone there was absolutely no anti-football or anti-rugby. The main issue will probably be the fact that there are not enough changing facilities in the upgraded pavilion; a rugby match can have up to 50 people requiring changing facilities at any one time.

It was noted that while the sporting groups were well represented the casual users within the community were possibly not. KCC should to make sure that the general community is not forgotten in this process and is still catered for.

A question was raised about whether a KCC meeting was the place to make a decision on this. Cllr McCabe clarified the process as follows. Inverclyde Council has decided to consult Kilmacolm on their views to convert the pitch in front of the pavilion shelter from rugby to football; the two rugby pitches to the 'back' will remain. The suggested forum for general community consultation was decided to be KCC. St Columba's School, Inverclyde Leisure, Birkmyre Rugby, Hamilton Athletic, Quarriers United Football, the local Cricket Club will all be consulted directly. A decision will be made after all consultation has been completed.

Parklea Park (Port Glasgow) is in very poor condition, but a five-year plan will see this turn-around. This will involve new changing facilities and upgrades to the pitches. Any immediate investment in Birkmyre, by Inverclyde Council, should be to improve the existing pitches and the option of creating a new pitch is very unlikely.

8. Planning

- **Week ending 9th January 2009**
 - None
- **Week ending 16th January 2009**
 - 09/0009/IC East Green, East Green Rd, Kilmacolm – Erection of dwelling-house
 - 09/0012/IC Plot 2, Avenel, Knockbuckle Rd, Kilmacolm. – Erection of two-storey dwelling (non-compliance with planning condition #9)
- **Week ending 23rd January 2009**
 - 08/0019/LB Listed building consent for Kilmacolm New Community Centre
- **Week ending 30th January 2009**
 - 08/0157/IC Birkmyre Rugby – Erection of six lighting columns.
- **Week ending 6th February 2009**
 - 08/0296/IC 2 Carsemeadow, Quarriers - Alterations and extension to dwelling-house.
 - 09/0017/IC Hollytree House, Broomknowe Rd, Kilmacolm – Erection and extension to house. Formation of retaining wall and raised garden.
 - 09/0027/IC Clachers Farm, Auchinfoil Rd, Kilmacolm. – New single storey, two-bed dwelling.
- **Week ending 13th February 2009**
 - None
 - Mrs Castell spoke in respect of planning application 09/0017/IC, “Hollytree House”. She herself has no real objection to the proposed extensions of the house, but the landscaping works to the gardens are quite worrying and all the neighbours have objected. There is likely to be disruption to neighbouring drainage. Presently there is a 2M wooden fence, but a new retaining wall within the neighbouring ground will also stand at 2M high (0.5M within the boundary) with a 1.1M fence standing upon it, and potentially tall cypress trees planted behind it. KCC members were asked to visit the site and express their views to Maisie.
 - A letter was received from Prof. Frank Walker relating to the Kilmacolm New Community Centre Project. Prof Walker has made a number of observations relating to the current planning application. His letter has since been passed on to KNCC and has received favourable feedback from both the KNCC Board and the appointed Architects.

9. Youth Group

- The first meeting of the Youth Group is on Friday 23 January 2009. The Youth Group would not meet after Friday 3 April until the start of the autumn term in September.
- The Youth Group is actively seeking alternative premises for the period that the facilities in the Village Centre/KNCC are not available to them

10. Kilmacolm New Community Centre

- An update was provided. The project will start in August 2009, but a great deal of preparation work is still ongoing. It is imperative that there is no budget over-run and the costs have to be fully understood before commencement.

11. KCC Website.

- The Police Report on the KCC website to be updated by Inspector MacDiarmid
- Minutes up to date.
- Amendments made as requested.

12. Inverclyde Council Minutes

- Council budget under review.

13. Correspondence

- None of note.

14. Any Other Competent Business

- Lord McLay.
 - Knapps community woodland. Top entrance requires a dog-litter bin. One already exists at the main gate to the Knapps. Maisie to follow up and also the problem to be publicised in The Advertizer.
 - Fly-tipping recently seems to be more commercial based. Can a request be made to be more vigilant and report any commercial vehicle acting suspiciously. Again, an article in The Advertizer would be helpful.
- The wooden seat outside the “Institute” has a missing arm.
- Cost of printing community ‘appeal’ leaflet £224.
- An email was received from Karen Maitland, via the KCC web-site. Karen is proposing to organise a “Community Clean up”, lifting litter from various areas around the village. Karen asked if she could come along to our next meeting to present her proposal (an invitation has since be sent and accepted). Lord McLay mentioned that he had experience in such a project and would be willing to offer advice. It was also suggested that Karen be asked to speak to the meeting while the Police representative was present as road safety issues could be relevant.

15. Dates of Next Meetings

- Tuesday 31 March 2009

MEETING OF THE KILMACOLM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

To be held in the Community Centre on
Tuesday, 31st March 2009 at 7.45pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Submit minute of the previous meeting held on 24th February 2009
4. Police Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting, Parks
7. Planning
8. Youth Group
9. Kilmacolm New Community Centre
10. KCC Website
11. Extract of Inverclyde Council Minutes
12. Correspondence
13. Any Other Competent Business
14. Date of Next Meeting