

**Minute of Community Council Meeting**

**Tuesday, 31 March 2009 at 7.45pm in the Community Centre**

**1. Present:**

Helen Calvert (Chair)  
Helen Cook  
Janice Crean  
Iain Couttie  
Maisie Galbreath  
David Goddard  
Margaret McLeese

**Attending:** Inspector MacDiarmid, Cllr McCabe, Cllr McLeod, Cllr Wilson and eight members of the public

**Apologies:** Stephen Hampson (Vice Chairman), Robin Gordon (Treasurer), David Scott, Jan Johnson, Colin McGinn

**2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minute of the meeting held on 24 February 2009 was approved.

**3. Matters Arising**

*These are included in the relevant Agenda item minute*

**4. Police Report**

- **Crime figures 28 February to 31 March 2009** - Reported crimes for the period included four thefts from residences in Quarriers Village, three housebreakings, two shoplifting, three simple assaults, one fire raising and one breach of the peace
- **Motor bikes using the cycle track** – Following a complaint lodged by Cllr McLeod investigations are being conducted and patrols have been initiated to stop this dangerous and illegal practice.
- **Security at Balrossie House** – The police have made contact with owner and the response was that the property is secure, which has been challenged and owner again requested to secure the site.
- **Community Policing** - Community Police numbers for Ward 1 have been increased from five to ten. Although there is no immediate plan to increase the numbers based in Kilmacolm it is the intention that all the Ward 1 community police will be utilised for part of their time in Kilmacolm and will introduce themselves to the community.
- **KCC web-site** – This has been updated with an appropriate police 'message'
- Iain Couttie gave the meeting a brief resume of the Conference on Knife Crime supported by the Greenock Telegraph which he had attended in Greenock.
- Inspector MacDiarmid will not be able to attend the next KCC meeting and tendered his apologies. One of the Ward 1 officers will attend on his behalf.

### Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer was not able to attend the meeting and no Treasurer Report was tabled.
- A request had been received from the Association of Scottish Community Councils (ASCC) for the KCC to renew its annual subscription of £15. It was agreed that the KCC would renew the ASCC subscription.

### 5. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting

- Karen Maitland addressed the meeting explaining that she wished to organise a Kilmacolm 'Community Clean Up' focusing on the verges of the roads in and out the village. She was seeking advice and assistance with the planning and resourcing of such a venture. David Wilson agreed to meet with Karen and put her in touch with the appropriate sections of Inverclyde Council who could provide advice, and assistance
- Margaret McLeese had pursued the matter of the unsafe pavements alongside the park on West Glen Road. She had been advised that they are un-adopted and therefore not the responsibility of Inverclyde Council. She wished to challenge this and Jim McLeod agreed to assist in bringing this matter to a conclusion
- The Kilmacolm Civic Trust (KCT) had published the results of the Roads/Traffic Survey they had conducted. Helen Calvert had met with the KCT Executive to discuss the results. KCT are proposing to hold a meeting involving KCC and Ward 1 Councillors the outcome of which would be a report of recommendations to Inverclyde Council Roads Department
- Helen Calvert will raise her concerns with the rights of way and road markings where the Pacemuir Road exit road from the Birkmyre Park and Broomknowe Road meet
- Inspector MacDiarmid agreed to contact – on behalf of Maisie Galbraith - the Traffic Department about her safety concern about the signage and road markings at the junction of Gilburn Road and Moss Road
- Helen Calvert will request that the broken toby cover in the pavement outside RBS and the road surface at the junction of Gryffe Road and Duchal Road be attended to
- There is likely to be some disruption to the main public parking area once the work on the KNCC commences in August
- St Columba's School are considering the provision of parking in their plans for the proposed development of their facilities in Gryffe Road.

### 6. Parks

- The children's play area at Birkmyre Park has been completed and it has been well received and is well utilised. A plaque in commemoration of the refurbishment of the Birkmyre Park facilities had been erected acknowledging the contribution of the Inverclyde Council, the Birkmyre Trust, the Kilmacolm Millennium Fund and Inverclyde Leisure.
- The children's play area at Quarriers Village is to be closed as part of the development of the Mount Zion Church and another area has been designated for this purpose. It is estimated that £50,000 will be required to develop and equip this area. Inverclyde Council and Quarriers will donate some funds and the developer will make a donation in kind of labour. The considerable shortfall will be met by fundraising. Cllr McCabe is involved with the Quarriers community play area proponents and fund raisers even though Inverclyde Council does not own the ground in Quarriers. Helen Calvert suggested that the KCC make a small donation to the play area fund - this suggestion would be discussed more fully next KCC meeting

- Helen Calvert and David Goddard had met with Stuart Jamieson – Head of Inverclyde Economic and Social Regeneration – as part of the consultation process about the proposed change to the use of the Birkmyre Park rugby and football pitches. Based on the consultations - limited to the current registered users - that had taken place prior to their meeting the original proposal had been amended to that of providing a pitch which could be used as a full size football pitch - with removable goal posts – and also as a ‘under sized’ rugby pitch with fixed posts. This ‘new rugby/football’ pitch would be on the site of the present small rugby pitch. The area currently used as a football pitch would be available – if required – as ‘mini’ rugby pitches. This proposal was predicated on the provision of adequate drainage and a playing surface that could accommodate the increased use of this area of Birkmyre Park. The ‘new rugby/football’ pitch would - in the off season - revert to a ‘free use’ area and would continue to accommodate the schools’ athletic training and meet requirements. Helen Calvert and David Goddard had been advised that these amended proposals had the support of the current registered users of the Birkmyre Park pitches – which did not include the Kilmacolm Cricket Club.
- The KCC had been requested to make a suggestion on the *Birkmyre Park Pitches/Changing Room Booking Policy* that should be adopted. The consensus at this KCC meeting was that organisations/teams other than the current registered users could request pitch bookings but priority should be given to existing users - who could request ‘block bookings’.
- Regrettably the Birkmyre Park proposal would do little to satisfy the requirements of Quarriers United but other Inverclyde Council pitch plans could go further in providing a solution.
- It was agreed at a meeting at Birkmyre Park earlier that day - which included Helen Calvert, Cllr McCabe and Inverclyde Leisure - that the Putting Green could be re-instated this summer and that Inverclyde Leisure could manage the use of this facility. Several options to re-establish the tennis courts would be considered and costed by Inverclyde Leisure and these would be reported back via Cllr McCabe.
- The areas adjacent to the new children’s play area that retained rain water would be attended to and signs prohibiting the use of balls in the play area were to be erected on the play area gates.

## 7. Planning

- The recent planning applications included:
  - 09/0046/IC Donmoir, Auchenfoil Road - Erection of side extension to dwelling house.
  - 09/0006/CA Upper Village, Quarriers Village - Display of directional map/signage
  - 09/0010/CA Quarriers Village - Display of directional map/signage
  - 09/0047/IC Englewood, Lochwinnoch Road - Alterations to dwelling house and formation of driveway and access.
  - 09/0051/IC The Haven, Auchenfoil Road - Amendment to planning permission in respect of external finishes and roadway.
  - 09/0057/IC Auchenbothie Mains Farm, Netherwood Road - Conversion of house and outbuildings to form seven houses.
- The KCC were supportive of these applications but will suggest that the condition and increased use of the of the road in the Auchenbothie Mains area be taken into consideration
- Trish Godman – MSP West Renfrewshire – had written to the KCC expressing concern that Community Councils had not been adequately consulted in regard to the relaxation of the planning controls on extensions to existing dwelling houses. Helen Calvert had

replied confirming that KCC supported the opposition to the proposals that Inverclyde Council had registered. The KCC have registered for the Built Environment e-Alert System to ensure that KCC is kept abreast of proposed changes to the planning application processes.

**8. Youth Group**

- The Youth Group meetings will be held at Kilmacolm Primary School for the period that the facilities in the Village Centre/KNCC are not available to them.

**9. Kilmacolm New Community Centre**

- The development project is scheduled to start in August 2009 and to be completed in August 2010.
- A public meeting to outline the KNCC development plans and the use that is to be made of the facility will be held in the Kilmacolm Primary School on Thursday 28 May 2009 starting at 7:30pm.

**10. KCC Website.**

- The Police Report on the KCC website has been updated

**11. Inverclyde Council Minutes**

- Sport Pitches plans published
- New complaints system launched

**12. Correspondence**

- ASCC advising the agreement on the Community Council Model Constitution
- The North Strathclyde Community Justice Authority newsletter featuring an update on *Community Payback Sentence*

**13. Any Other Competent Business**

- Helen Cook and Iain Couttie will take on the responsibility for this years 'community' flower tubs and enlist the support of the local shopkeepers. Masonic Lodge will plant up the tubs as before.
- The wooden seats outside the "Institute" have been replaced
- The local community 'appeal to support our local shops & businesses' leaflet that accompanied the April edition of the Advertiser had been well received. Cllr Wilson congratulated the KCC on this initiative
- There was concern that the Kilmacolm – Johnstone – Kilmacolm bus service was to be withdrawn from 20 April 2009. Cllr Wilson explained that he was pursuing the matter and the SPT had agreed to try to find a solution.
- Hazel Loughray asked that the KCC consider the provision of allotments. It was agreed that David Goddard would seek to place an article in the Advertiser to gauge the amount of interest in such a facility before pursuing it further.

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

- Tuesday 28 April 2009

**MEETING OF THE KILMACOLM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

To be held in the Community Centre on  
**Tuesday, 28 April 2009 at 7.45pm**

**AGENDA**

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Submit minute of the previous meeting held on 31 March 2009
4. Police Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting
7. Parks
8. Planning
9. Kilmacolm New Community Centre
10. Extract of Inverclyde Council Minutes
11. Correspondence
12. Any Other Competent Business
13. Date of Next Meeting