

KILMACOLM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minute of Community Council Meeting (*Subject to approval*)

Tuesday, 30th Sept 2008 at 7.45pm in the Community Centre

- 1. Present:**
- Helen Calvert (Chairman)
 - Colin McGinn (Minute)
 - Robin Gordon (Treasurer)
 - Stephen Hampson
 - Helen Cook
 - David Scott
 - Maisie Galbreath
 - Iain Couttie
 - David Goddard

Attending: Cllr Wilson, Const McIntyre and three members of the Public.

Apologies: Jan Johnson, Janice Crean, Cllr McCabe, Cllr McLeod

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minute of the meeting held on 26th August was approved with no changes.

4. Matters Arising

- Birkmyre Park
 - Play area upgrades - "Mock-up" plans made available to members. A four-seat swing frame is being added. Soft play surface throughout.
 - At present the Funds from the Millennium Committee will be used to finish the disabled access from the car-park and a plaque sited in commemoration.
 - "Chain Road" – see Police Report below.
- BDSW – Etoile was the winner.
- Greenock Arts Guild – still to arrange a meeting.

5. Police Report

8 crimes reported from 1st Sept to date...

- 2 x breach of the peace
- 3 x theft
- 1 x theft of a scooter
- 1 x drunk driver
- 1 x theft by house break-in

Of the thefts, one was a theft of workman's tools from Duchal Nursery; this building is now properly secured. Another was 600 litres of oil stolen from a farm.

Parking at the Primary Schools.

The worst time is at close of day. Mornings tend to be a drop-off but in the afternoons cars arrive much earlier. Both Head-Teachers (KPS & St Columba) have been given a list of "don'ts". If the car owners do not comply then parking tickets will be issued, however the Police would prefer cooperation.

Both Knockbuckle and Pacemuir Road will be reviewed by the Roads Dept to see if opening of the "Chain Road" would alleviate congestion at school times. The Police and Inverclyde

Council are reviewing this. A further letter plus about 40 signatures has been received proposing opening up the road – KCC still not in favour of this.

It was suggested that there could be opportunity for parking within the grounds of St Columba's Junior School rather than altering roads around the Birkmyre Park.

KCC should try to apply some pressure to the schools for their cooperation, not forgetting problems also exist on Duchal/Gryffe Rd.

6. Inverclyde Council Waste Strategy

Colin Wilson (from IC) made a presentation. He apologised that it was not possible to accommodate a site visit due to health & safety and the nature of the operation, but something could be arranged during the IC annual "open doors" initiative.

A leaflet will be distributed to clarify what can and cannot be recycled and how loose items should be packaged. For example, plastic bottles and plastic food containers are OK, but polystyrene and plastic bags are not. Tin/steel and aluminium cans are accepted. Loose paper should be placed in a paper envelope. Windowed envelopes should have the window removed. Textiles are no longer acceptable since they cause 'jamming' problems at the recycling plant.

In the pipeline...

- Food-waste trials are ongoing, but IC does not have the capacity to target schools, or other volume commercial facilities.
- A 'real-nappy' promotion is underway where a grant of £80 will be awarded to "new" families for the purchase of 'real nappies', hopefully this will encourage a move away from disposable nappies.
- Kerb-side glass collection is planned, but the type of waste container still has to be agreed.

Colin Wilson Email: colin.wilson@inverclyde.gov.uk Tel: 01475-715903

7. St Columba's School

Russell Crichton and Paul Yacoubian (School Governors) led a discussion about options for the Senior School extension on Gryffe Road.

Could the School be moved to a new site? – the junior & senior school together or separately, or various permutation thereof. Ideally the whole school should be located on one site and not in the middle of a built up area.

- Unfortunately, not in the financial position to do this so back to original proposal although all alternatives will be reviewed. Doing nothing is not an option since the facilities are falling behind current standards.

Although it was not in the Reporter's summary, the School recognises that traffic and parking is an issue.

Is the new plan a rethink?

- Yes, the School Board has gone back to the "drawing board". One alternative is to create a more sympathetic traditional style, although a modern design is possibly more appropriate for a forward looking educational establishment.

Is the brief going to be the same?

- In principle the same finite area of land exists with a proposed number of classrooms and a hall. May have to sacrifice some of the designed accommodation to provide a more sympathetic structure, although the preference would like to have as much accommodation as feasibly possible.

Is the large hall really necessary?

- The hall was always going to be "phase 2" which looks off the agenda certainly in the short term.

Do you plan to present the plans publicly before proceeding to the preferred option?

- Yes, definitely, open communication.

Is the ground over the railway (field at Duchal Woods) still a consideration?

- Yes, but not clear where we are at present. The School has recently considered this, but the cost of a complete new build is out of the question financially. Unsure whether the land-owner would be prepared to lease ground based on a staged-build but still planning to investigate this.

Is Balrossie School an opportunity, since in the present climate no moves from the developer appear to have been made?

- This would be prohibitively expensive.

Parking

- Parking is a major issue, could the buses be taken off the road at an inset parking bay. There may also be an opportunity to create more parking at the Junior School. Half the pupils do not live in Kilmacolm, how many of those resident in Kilmacolm actually walk? How about a bus service for those outwith Kilmacolm?

This section of the meeting closed with an assurance that a feasibility of all planning options will be reviewed and KCC would be kept in communication as matters progress.

8. Treasurer's Report

John Hunter resigned at the AGM, a letter of thanks will be written.

Robin Gordon was proposed as Treasurer by Helen and seconded by Maisie.

Funds at present stand at £1563, inclusive of a grant of £700 from Inverclyde Council. The remainder of the grant £500 will follow.

It was agreed that a fund of £50 would be set aside to purchase a trophy for the Oct'08 10k run. This trophy will be passed on year to year.

The purchase of a wreath for the memorial was approved. (Remembrance Sunday Service is 9th Nov'08)

9. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting & Parks

- White lines, and yellow parking lines, still to go on the resurfaced roads around the Village. The Roads Dept apologise but the day originally scheduled for the contractors had to be cancelled due to heavy rain. In the meantime, parking cones have been sited outside Stewart Place.
- Dog fouling on cycle track - Note in The Advertizer (Problem also noted at Birkmyre Park.)
- Birkmyre Park
 - A hedge will be planted around the car-park at the new Leisure Facility. Planting will take place at the end of the growing season. The question was asked if a fence could also be added to stop footballs running onto the access roads.
 - Play Area upgrades covered in matters arising.
 - Lights for the rugby club will be 12M high. St Columba's School lights were originally 15M but lowered to 12M and at that height seem to be more acceptable. Could the Rugby Club lighting columns be painted green to make them less obtrusive?

10. Planning

- “Dalliefour” – The grounds are in a terrible mess (building site), can IC apply some pressure to have it tidied up.
- Five applications – none of note.

11. Youth Group

Nothing to note.

12. New Community Centre

Public meeting will be arranged prior to a new Planning Application being finalised.

13. KCC Website

- Update from the Police.
- Link to IC website

14. Inverclyde Council Minutes

- Community safety partnership.
- Digital switch over information... Thurs 9th Oct at 9 Bevin House.
- 9th Oct... informal consultation on town planning
- Association of Scottish Community Councils AGM - 22nd Nov at Scottish Parliament.

15. Correspondence

- Post Watch Scotland - Kilmacolm Post Office will stay open
- Crime Prevention
 - Reduction of all major crimes in Inverclyde over the last year.
 - Rugby initiative very successful.
 - Inter-school debate at Sheriff Court in November.

16. Any Other Competent Business

None

17. Dates of Next Meetings

28th October 2008 at 7.45pm – Regular Meeting

KILMACOLM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the Community Centre on
Tuesday, 28th October 2008 at 7.45pm

1. Report Apologies for Absence
2. Attending
3. Submit minute of the previous meeting held on 30th Sept 2008.
4. Matters Arising
5. Police Report
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting, Parks
8. Planning
9. Youth Group
10. New Community Centre
11. KCC Website
12. Extract of Inverclyde Council Minutes
13. Correspondence
14. Any Other Competent Business
15. Date of Next Meeting