

Minute of Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting

Tuesday 24 April 2012 at 7.30pm in Room 205 Kilmacolm Community Centre

Present:

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

Attending:

Cllr Jim McLeod
Sgt Lorna Allison – Strathclyde Police
Helen Calvert, Colin McGinn – KNCC
Lord Maclay, Archie Brown, Elizabeth Brown, , Isobel Evans, James McColgan, Maureen Pieri, Emilio Pieri, David Scott, David Walker

Apologies:

Stephen Hampson – Chair, David Madden, Cllr Stephen McCabe, Cllr David Wilson

1. Welcome

The Vice Chair opened the April 2012 meeting of the Kilmacolm Community Council and welcomed those present. She established the issues that the non-members present wished to bring to the attention of the community council for discussion.

2. Minute of the Previous Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting

It was agreed that the last sentence of agenda item **14. Kilmacolm Community Council Minutes and Agenda** should be amended to read *“The Secretary would make the approaches to the Library and Community Centre.”* With this amendment the minute of the Kilmacolm Community Council meeting held on 27 March 2012 was approved.

3. Strathclyde Police Report

Sgt Lorna Allison – who is responsible for community policing in the Kilmacolm/Quarriers area, presented her report. There were eighty one incidents logged for the Kilmacolm/Quarriers area and thirteen recorded crimes during the period 27 March to 24 April. Included in the incidents were cases of youth disorder, faulty traffic lights, alarms sounding and farm animals straying on roads. The breakdown of the reported crimes was two road traffic offences, seven cases of thefts, two cases of vandalism, one house breaking with intent and one housebreaking.

It is the intention to increase both the uniformed and plain clothed police presence in the Kilmacolm area. The police patrols at the schools will resume after the holiday breaks and

some will be re-scheduled to coincide with the schools' openings and closings. The approach being taken by the police is to influence the behaviour of inconsiderate motorists so as to make for safer streets around schools.

Lord Maclay informed the meeting that mountain bikers had set up a 'race track' in the Knapps and that sections of the community woodland there had been set alight and burnt. He requested that members of the public report to the Strathclyde Police any incidents of anti-social behaviour or activities that could endanger walkers. David Scott made a similar appeal in regard to the open land above Leperstone Avenue and Langbank Drive which is used by walkers.

It was agreed that the Secretary would forward to Sgt Allison a copy of the Police Notice that had been available on the KCC website for her to update. The updated version would then be posted on the website.

4. Kilmacolm Community Council Finances

The Treasurer reported that the KCC's current bank balance was £1511.84. The only expenditure since the last report was a £180 donation to the Quarriers Village tree planting. Bank interest of £0.15 had been received.

The Vice Chair proposed that Dr Keith Morley and Mr Peter Polet be appointed as examiners to independently examine the KCC 2011/2012 statement of accounts. This was seconded by Jan Johnston and the proposal was unanimously adopted.

5. Planning/Licensing

The local planning applications validated by Inverclyde in the weeks commencing 2 to 16 April 2012 were:

- *12/0115/IC – High Mathernock Farm Auchentiber Road Kilmacolm PA13 4SP - Erection of temporary 50m anemometer*
- *12/0123/IC - Margaretsmill Farm Auchenfoil Road Kilmacolm PA13 4TG - Change of use of barns to a boarding kennel together with external alterations*
- *12/0130/IC Lomynd Knockbuckle Road Kilmacolm PA13 4JT - Replacement of roof tiles to natural slate*
- *12/0128/IC – 3 Nursery Grove Kilmacolm PA13 4HW - Proposal: Alteration to house to form two storey extension and terrace (amendment to planning permission 11/0246/IC)*

After discussion it was agreed that the KCC would not object to any of these planning applications.

Most of those in attendance at the meeting were members of the "Neighbours of Milton Woods" group who had come to the meeting to make the KCC aware of their concerns about the potential increase of traffic volumes on the Lochwinnoch Road that the proposed St Columba's School development would have. The proposed motor vehicle entrance/exit would, in their view, also present a hazard to road users and pedestrians. Another of their concerns was the impact of the development on Milton Wood and the

aspects currently enjoyed by the neighbouring properties. The Vice Chair explained that as far as she knew the KCC had not been in formal contact with St Columba's School Board since November 2011 and she was unaware of the latest development proposals. It was confirmed that the Kilmacolm Civic Trust had been invited to a meeting with St Columba's School to discuss the proposals. She did not know if such a meeting had been arranged with the KCC. The Secretary undertook to suggest to the Chair that KCC write to St Columba's to arrange a meeting with them. The next meeting of the Kilmacolm Primary School Parent Partnership would be discussing the impact of the proposed development and the potential increase in risks to those walking to and from their school.

6. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting

The Chair and David Madden are to meet with Ian Moffat - Head of Service: Environmental and Commercial Services on Monday 30 April to discuss, *inter alia*, speed limits on the roads that pass through Kilmacolm, the changes to the car parks and the traffic management signs being erected in Kilmacolm.

The Secretary would request Inverclyde Council to attend to the dangerous potholes at the junction of Port Glasgow Road and Wateryetts Drive and on Findlaystone Road.

7. Parks and Open Spaces

The refurbishment of the West Glen Park has been well received but there were concerns about the amount of standing water in the Park. The Secretary would request Inverclyde Council to attend to the drainage in West Glen Park. He would also request that consideration be given to the provision of more benches and perhaps picnic tables now that the Park was better used.

8. Inverclyde Council Minutes/Reports

The only item included in the Inverclyde Council reports received since the last meeting that was considered to be of interest to the KCC was the proposal to extend the licensed hours on any day immediately preceding and including 5 June – the national public holiday.

9. Diamond Jubilee Commemorations

The Vice Chair, Helen MacConnacher and Kirstin Zhang had met and developed the proposal for a Diamond Jubilee competition which would be open to Junior/Primary 2 pupils of Kilmacolm Primary School and St Columba's School. The Vice Chair outlined the proposal details of which were contained in a draft letter that would be addressed to the heads of the Kilmacolm primary schools. The costs of the competition would include a £20 gift token presented to the overall winner and about £150 for the cost of the mementos presented to each of the entrants. These costs could be covered by the agreed 'Jubilee Commemoration' budget. It was agreed to go ahead with the proposal. Later in the meeting Colin McGinn agreed that the winning entry could be published in The Advertiser.

The Secretary was investigating possible sites within Birkmyre Park for the planting a tree which would be suitable as a gift to the community to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

David Madden was not present at the meeting to provide further details of his suggestion to donate to the community a framed picture by a local artist.

The KCC had been requested to consider holding a tea party in the Cargill Centre 'piazza' to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. After discussion it was agreed that the KCC's preference was to hold a Traditional Tea Dance in the Kilmacolm Community Centre on either Monday 4 June or Tuesday 5 June. It was agreed to form a Tea Dance Committee to plan the event. The committee will be made up of Alda Clark, Helen Cook, David Goddard and Jan Johnston and they would meet at 6:30pm on Tuesday 2 May in the Beanscene. At Cllr McLeod's suggestion Jan Johnston volunteered to contact *Your Voice Inverclyde Community Care Forum* to establish what assistance they could provide in setting up and running the event. The committee would seek the KCC's approval – in advance of the next meeting - to proceed with the event once a firm proposal was developed

Later in the meeting Helen Calvert – KNCC Chair – said that although the Community Centre would not be open on either of the preferred dates it could be made available for the Tea Dance. She asked that the room bookings be made as soon as possible as it would be necessary to bring in Inverclyde Leisure staff to work on the public holiday and there would be a cost associated with this which would have to be met by the KCC.

10. Kilmacolm Village Floral Display

The Vice Chair outlined the arrangements for this year's floral displays to be sited outside Kilmacolm's shops and business premises. The shops and businesses would contribute £7 for each floral display – either in a tub or hanging basket - with the balance of the cost being met by the KCC. Alda Clark agreed to distribute the letters from the Chair requesting shopkeepers to participate in the 'scheme'. The Treasurer suggested that KCC consider increasing the contribution from the shops/businesses in future years.

11. Kilmacolm Vision

The Chair had been invited to meet with the Chair of the Kilmacolm Civic Trust to discuss the possibility of setting up a working group to devise a vision for the centre of Kilmacolm that would meet the community needs. This meeting would not take place until after the local elections.

12. Kilmacolm Cross Conservation Area

It was understood that the Scottish Civic Trust would shortly be submitting to Inverclyde Council their recommendations on the establishment of a Kilmacolm Conservation Area around the Kilmacolm Cross.

13. Communication with Bridge of Weir Community Council

The Chair had made contact with the Chair of the Bridge of Weir Community Council and will arrange to meet with him and the Chair of Houston Community Council to establish whether the Bridge of Weir Community Council wished any involvement from other community councils in the current Bridge of Weir 'land use' issues.

14. Kilmacolm Community Council Co-option

The Secretary relayed the co-option procedure it was proposed be adopted to fill the KCC vacancy that will be created when Robin Gordon resigns from the KCC at the AGM. Depending on the outcome of the local elections on 3 May in which John Watson is standing a further vacancy may need to be filled.

The proposed procedure is that shortly after 5 May the Chair will call for the remaining KCC members to nominate residents of Kilmacolm/Quarriers to be co-opted to the KCC. If there are more nominations than vacancies it will be necessary for the remaining KCC members to elect the co-opted member(s).

15. Election of Office Bearers

At the AGM all the current office bearers demit and office bearers are elected. Before the AGM the Chair will call for nominations for the elected office bearers.

16. Association of Scottish Community Councils Final Conference

The Secretary and John Watson had attended the final conference of the ASCC which is being wound up. They felt that the presentations at the conference put forward ideas that could be adopted to the benefit of the KCC and the community it serves. They would summarise - in a brief report back – some of these ideas for consideration at future KCC meetings.

17. Dates of Next Meetings in the Kilmacolm Community Centre

- Tuesday 29 May 2012 – Annual General Meeting – 7:00pm
- Tuesday 29 May 2012 – 7:30pm