

**Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting**

**Tuesday 28 January 2014 at 7.30pm in Room 104 Kilmacolm Community Centre**

**Present:**

Stephen Hampson – Chair  
Helen Cook – Vice Chair  
David Goddard – Secretary  
John Watson – Treasurer  
Alda Clark  
Jan Johnston  
Helen MacConnacher  
Jon Ventham

Cllr Jim MacLeod – Ex Officio Member  
Cllr Stephen McCabe - Ex Officio Member  
Cllr James McColgan - Ex Officio Member  
Cllr David Wilson – Ex Officio Member

**Attending:**

Sergeant Eric Smith – Police Scotland  
Jamie Moglia, Wallace Muir – Birkmyre Rugby Football Club  
Norah Adams, Fiona Cherry, David Girdwood – St Columba’s School, Joyce Jefferis,  
Michael Jefferis, Margie McCallum, Jill Russell – Old Kirk

**Apologies:**

David Madden

**1. Welcome**

The Chair opened the January 2014 meeting of the Kilmacolm Community Council and welcomed those attending.

**2. Minute of the Kilmacolm Community Council Meeting – 26 November 2013**

The minute of the Kilmacolm Community Council meeting held on 26 November 2013 was approved.

**3. Community Police Briefing**

Sergeant Eric Smith presented the community police briefing for the Kilmacolm/Quarriers Village area for the eight week period to 28 January 2014. There were 114 recorded incidents and 16 reported crimes of which 7 had been detected. The crimes of note included two separate incidents of electrical cable theft, two arrests for possession of scrap metal, a disturbance at The Pullman which resulted in two cases of assault and breach of the peace, a house breaking to outbuildings, two cases of domestic housebreaking and two thefts of red diesel.

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Despite having previously informed the community police team that the vehicles making deliveries to premises in the Octavia Buildings on Bridge of Weir Road were causing traffic hold ups the situation had not improved.

#### 4. Parks and Open Spaces

Prior to the meeting the Birkmyre Rugby Football Club had requested that they attend this meeting of the KCC to outline their suggestions for improving the playing surfaces of the rugby pitches at Birkmyre Park. The Club had, in recent years invested heavily in the coaching and development of junior players that numbered about 200. An unacceptable large number of club games at senior and junior level had to be cancelled in the current season as the pitches were unplayable. For the same reason St Columba's School who use the pitches had also to cancel a large number of games and practice sessions. It is the BRFC intention to approach Inverclyde Council to request that serious groundwork be carried out on the two pitches on the north side of Broomknowe Road to provide effective drainage and more robust playing surfaces. The cost to get the pitches up to the required standard had been estimated at about £192, 000. Some of the funding for the work might be available from sources other than Inverclyde Council – St Columba's School was prepared to make a contribution towards the improvements. The KCC recognised the contribution that the BRFC make to the village and, although not able to contribute to the costs, agreed to support the approach that would be made to Inverclyde Council. It was advised that in addition to seeking approval in principle from the Birkmyre Trust BRFC should present a business plan to the Council that include the sources and amount of funding from other sources and the balance of cost that would fall to the Council.

#### 5. Kilmacolm Community Council Finances

Prior to the meeting the Treasurer had circulated to the community councillors a copy of the 2013/2014 budget showing the KCC actual and projected spend. Actual spend to date was £981.04 and a reduced forecast deficit for the year of £140.14 is projected. The Treasurer had also circulated to stimulate discussion and ideas a draft 2014/2015 KCC budget. Members were asked to bring their suggestions and comments on the 2014/2015 budget to the next KCC meeting with a view to approving the budget at the March 2014 meeting.

#### 6. Planning/Licensing

The local planning applications validated by Inverclyde Council in the weeks since the last meeting on 26 November 2013 were considered. The KCC members were not opposed to the following applications nor did they feel they required any formal comment.

- *13/0326/IC - Overton South Lodge Barclaven Road Kilmacolm PA13 4DQ - Alterations and extension to dwelling*
- *13/0360/IC - South Riding Gryffe Road Kilmacolm PA13 4BA - Formation of a sun room and side porch*
- *13/0337/IC - Barnsford Glencairn Road KILMACOLM PA13 4PB - External alterations to garage including formation of decking to form a play room:- in association with the occupation of flat*
- *14/0019/IC - Greenslates Blacksholm Road Kilmacolm PA13 4SX - Erection of rear extension*

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- *14/0021/IC - 14 Millburn Drive Kilmacolm PA13 4JF - Erection of rear extension, garden shed and garage conversion*
- *14/0018/IC - 6 Millburn Drive Kilmacolm PA13 4JF - Erection of single storey rear extension*

After discussion it was agreed not to object to the application *14/0005/IC - Former ARP Station Lochwinnoch Road, Kilmacolm PA13 4PF - Alterations to design of detached dwellinghouse and formation of garage / carport*. However it was decided that John Watson would – on behalf of the KCC - respond to the application making the point that although the KCC did not object to the re-development there were serious concerns about the design which it felt was not in keeping with the setting of the building.

Prior to the meeting it had been agreed that the KCC would convene an extra ordinary general meeting on 4 February 2014 for the community to consider and comment on the application *13/0379/IC - The Kilmacolm Institute Lochwinnoch Road Kilmacolm PA13 4HA - Demolition and clearance of existing vacant redundant community building and shops and erection of a new building comprising two ground floor retail units, thirteen residential apartments above and ten ancillary basement car parking spaces*. This meeting had been publicised on the KCC website. Meeting notices and public invitations prepared by the Chair would be displayed in the village. The site developer and planning officials would be invited to the meeting.

It was agreed that the KCC would object to the application *14/0004/IC - Land Southwest Of Auchentiber Bridge Auchentfoyle - Erection of a single wind turbine 70m tip, 44m hub and associated infrastructure*. Helen MacConnacher would make the appropriate response to the Inverclyde Council.

The Chair reported that the requested meeting with St Columba's School, to discuss some of the details of the proposed development, had taken place on 3 December 2013. Consequent on the information and assurances given at the meeting the KCC agreed not to oppose the planning application. The planning application had subsequently been modified because a bat survey was required to be undertaken on one of the properties that it was intended to alter and refurbish.

The KCC had been invited to participate in the review of the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan (SDP). It was agreed that, on behalf, of the KCC the Secretary, Treasurer and Helen MacConnacher would review and comment on the SDP.

### **7. Roads, Pavements, Street Lighting, Parks and Open Spaces**

Potholes at the Kilmacolm Cross still required attention. The Secretary would request Inverclyde Council to attend to this traffic hazard.

There was some flooding in the vicinity of the junction of Rowantreehill Road and Porterfield Road and also on Bridge of Weir Road. It appears that some of the drains have been covered with tarmac when the road was resurfaced. The Secretary will investigate the situation and make a report to Inverclyde Council.

The near neighbours of 17 Victoria Gardens wished to extend their thanks to Inverclyde Roads Networks and Maintenance for attending to the hazardous, dangerous and destructive overgrowth of trees outside this premises.

#### **8. Kilmacolm Best Dressed Shop Window Competition**

The winner of the Best Dressed Christmas Window competition was the Cross Café and the runners up were Threads and The Village Bakery. The children's 'Find the Christmas Card' competition was well patronised. The net proceeds of the Christmas Hamper raffle as previously agreed would be donated equally to Colourful Kilmacolm and the Kilmacolm Mérignies Twinning Society. Each organisation would receive an amount of about £60.

#### **9. Kilmacolm Twinning with Mérignies**

The Chair tabled for comment a draft *Friendship and Twinning Agreement* between the Kilmacolm Community Council and the Mérignies Commune and a draft letter to the Chair the Kilmacolm Mérignies Twinning Society. The draft *Friendship and Twinning Agreement* already had the approval of the Commune and formed the basis of a byelaw they had passed in order to provide funding for the their twinning activities.

With some small amendment, noted by the Chair, both the draft agreement and letter were approved by the KCC.

#### **10. Kilmacolm Pres College**

Helen Cook reported that in recognition of the substantial financial support received from the Kilmacolm Old Kirk the St Peter's Church in Gweru, Zimbabwe has named its newly built school facility the *Kilmacolm Pres College*.

#### **11. Future of the Kilmacolm Village Centre**

The joint meeting with the Kilmacolm Civic Trust planned for the 23 January had been rescheduled to take place on 20 February 2014. Few of the community councillors are able to attend a meeting on this rescheduled date.

#### **12. Memorial Plaque Plinths – Inverclyde**

The Your Voice organisation had brought to the notice of the KCC a request for a Kilmacolm resident to place a memorial plaque in Kilmacolm Cemetery. The request had been passed to the Ward 1 councillors and Cllr McColgan took up the matter with the Inverclyde Council officials. The officials recommended that plinths be provided at each of Inverclyde's cemeteries for memorial plaques to be displayed.

At the request of Helen Cook Cllr McColgan agreed to establish the use to which the ground previously occupied by the cottage at Kilmacolm Cemetery is to be put.

#### **13. Dates of Next Meetings of the Kilmacolm Community Council**

- Tuesday 4 February 2014 – Extra-Ordinary General Meeting -7:30
- Tuesday 25 February 2014 – 7:30pm
- Tuesday 25 March 2014 – 7:30pm