

MUCKHART COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Muckhart Community Council held in the Coronation Hall on Wednesday 1st September 2010 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr J. Jordan, Chair
Mr D. Conroy, Vice Chair
Mr S. Dean, Secretary
Mr J. Anderson
Mrs M. Cairns
Mrs J. Hunter
Mr M. Pease

In attendance: Cllr A. Campbell, PC Jade Coles and approximately 20 members of the community were present.

1. Apologies for Absence/Introductions

Apologies were received from Mr P. Boyce, Mr T. Hollis, Mr C. Mann and Mr C. Nisbet, The speakers from Clackmannanshire Council, Mr Garry Dallas, Director of Services to Communities, and Mr Craig Machan, Budget Engagement Project Manager were introduced.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 2nd June, 2010 were accepted as an accurate record.
Proposer: Jean Hunter. Seconder: John Anderson.

3. Matters Arising

SD tabled the following matters arising from the previous meeting.

Item 4. Police Report. SD attended a meeting to discuss the 'wild camping' issue in Dunning Glen, held at Kinross Police Station on 2nd July. Those present included representatives from Tayside and Central Scotland Police, PKC, local communities and a number of interested organisations. The meeting is to be reconvened after various issues have been followed up by a number of individuals.

Item 5. Muckhart Area Plan – next steps. The publication of the Main Issues Report has been delayed and it will not be released for public consultation until December at the earliest. Meanwhile MAP will be finalised in time to inform our response to the MIR. The CAA continues to be delayed and discussions are continuing with the Council on how to resolve the problem. Recent communications suggest that they ‘hope to have something drafted by the end of September’. Meanwhile MCC has maintained its objections to the Local Plan Alteration, and Policy RES1a in particular, and has stated, through a letter to the Director of Services to Communities, that we wish to pursue our objections and ask that they are submitted to Scottish Ministers for examination.

Item 8. Community Council Elections. The election process to community councils is now complete and, for MCC, the number of vacancies was equal to the number of duly nominated candidates. A ballot was therefore not required. The following candidates therefore stand elected to serve on the Community Council: Meriel Cairns, Daniel Conroy, Stuart Dean, Colin Mann, Colin Nisbet and Lesley Seath. Jean Hunter had previously withdrawn her nomination prior to the closing date for nominations. The term of office for all six elected members will commence at the MCC AGM on 27th October, 2010, and will be for a period of four years.

The issue of the withdrawal of the No 65 bus service to Muckhart (**Item 7**) was also raised and Mr Garry Dallas indicated that he was prepared to deal with the matter under ‘Matters Arising’ as it comes within his area of responsibility within Clackmannanshire Council.

SD and JJ outlined the concerns of MCC regarding not just the withdrawal of the service but the manner by which the decision was taken. A member of the community directly affected by the withdrawal also expressed his concerns as well as detailing his dissatisfaction at being asked to leave a scheduled bus service in Dollar in the mistaken belief by the bus driver that it was for school children only. Mr Dallas then outlined the background to the decision to remove the No. 65 bus service, and dealt with comments and questions. Issues addressed included the role of elected representatives in the decision to remove bus services; the lack of community consultation in relation to bus subsidies; and the ongoing problems of accessing the new hospitals by public transport.

The issue is on the agenda for the next JCCF meeting on 2nd September 2010 which will be attended by representatives of the Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils Transport Coordination Centre. Muckhart’s concerns would be raised at that meeting.

ACTION JJ/SD

4. Police Report

PC Jade Coles outlined the changes to the role of community constables. Dollar, Tillicoultry, Coalsnaughton, Devonside and Muckhart will now be covered by two community constables as a single area. This will help to give greater continuity to

community policing.

The problems associated with 'wild camping' in Dunning Glen are also being addressed by Tayside police in partnership with Central Scotland police and various other local individuals and organisations.

The ongoing issue of speeding both on the A823 and through Muckhart village was addressed with a commitment by PC Coles to continue the use of the speed gun in the village

5. Presentation and discussion on the Council's Budget Saving Consultation Exercise. Speakers: Garry Dallas- Director of Services to Communities, and Craig Machan, Budget Engagement Project Manager.

Garry Dallas introduced the consultation exercise by outlining the potential budget cuts and savings that Clackmannanshire Council will require to make over the next three years (2011-2014). Budgets which may have to be cut include those for council buildings, staffing, community and leisure facilities, grounds maintenance etc. Background to the consultation exercise is contained in the Money Matters booklet.

The Council wishes to consult on where cuts might take place and it is keen to find out the views of communities on budget priorities etc. A discussion followed on a number of budget issues and it was agreed that a meeting would be called for community council members at which agreement might be reached on how best to take forward this exercise in the Muckhart area. The Council are looking for proposals by November.

ACTION SD

6. Ochils Landscape Partnership/Muckhart Nature Park – update

JJ updated the Community Council on the latest OLP developments. Both the Project Delivery Task Group and the Learning and Participation Task Group have met and are beginning to address key issues facing the partnership. The MNP is represented on the PD Task Group. All concerned keenly await an announcement that the OLP has been successful in securing funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

7. Bus Services to Muckhart and Larbert Hospital

This item was dealt with under 'Matters Arising'

8. Treasurer's Report

Copies of the Treasurer's Report were distributed to the Community Council prior to the meeting. The following Report was accepted.

BALANCE AT LAST MEETING	£1898.07
Expenditure:	
Planning Aid subscription	£25.00
Income:	
Nil	
CURRENT BALANCE	£1873.07

9. Correspondence

Details of the following correspondence were distributed prior to the meeting.

Letter dated 15th June from Graeme Finlay, Principal Planner at Clackmannanshire Council, detailing the Council's response to MCC's objections to the Local Plan Alteration and policy RES 1a in particular.

Letters from Clackmannanshire Council, dated 17th June and 20th August, detailing the nominations received and the results of the 2010 community council elections.

Copy of letter, dated 15th July, to Clackmannanshire Council sent by Dollar Civic Trust detailing their decision to continue with their objection to the use of Policy RES 1a in the Local Plan Alteration in relation to Dollar Golf Club.

Letter from SNH, dated 30th July, detailing the results of a review of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the Back Burn Wood and Meadows SSSI in particular.

Two letters from local residents, dated 12th August and 28th August respectively, expressing their continued concerns about the withdrawal of bus services to Muckhart and the difficulties in accessing the new Larbert hospital by public transport.

Email from a local resident on the problem of black marks left on childrens' clothing from the equipment in the play park.

Emails exchanged with Charlie Norman of Clackmannanshire Council on the unlit, keep-left bollards in Muckhart.

Email, dated 10th August, from Niall Urquhart of Clackmannanshire Council detailing the administrative decisions taken in relation to the OLP following the submission of the application to the HLF.

10. AOCB

MP informed the Community Council that an application for a mid-sized wind turbine on Fire Hill is to be submitted to the Council.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th November 2010 in the Coronation Hall at 7.30 pm.