

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2010

Present: I. Beaton; N. Kelly; A. May; B. Pell (*Chair*); E. Smith; D. Stuart; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: J. Duncan; C. Macintosh; J. May; P. Rea.

In Attendance: Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally; Pam Campbell; and 16 members of the public.

The Chair wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed *Tony Cain, Head of Housing, Stirling Council* and *Tony Teasdale, Rural Stirling Housing Association* to presentations on affordable housing.

CC28 *Affordable Housing*

Tony Cain introduced his talk by saying that he wanted to listen and respond to local opinions. He realised that the bid to the Scottish Government for funding to build houses on 'the turnip field' were controversial and apologised, during the question and answer session, that the very short time required to prepare the bid did not allow adequate consultation with the Community Council. However it did give him a chance to come and speak to the community. As the bid was not accepted, there were presently no plans to build on this site, but if the community wanted to have affordable housing and still retain the turnip field as parkland, it would have to help identify alternative sites. He realised that there had been an application to build 23 sheltered units in the past which had been rejected by local members. He stated that there were 150 persons on the waiting list for rented accommodation in Killearn, of which 14 were homeless and 27 were older applicants. Since 2004, Stirling Council had only been able to allocate 13 houses in the area, so there was an obvious crisis in social rented accommodation in the rural area. Since that time, approximately 500 homes had been built by Rural Stirling Housing Association but none in the immediate local area. There had been a significant fall by two-thirds in the housing stock owned by Stirling Council because of council house *right-to-buy*, although this had been suspended on all tenancies since 2002. It was now accepted that Killearn met the criteria for *Pressured Area Status*. He accepted that although Stirling Council had no chance of meeting the real needs in the near future, the Council had a statutory duty to survey housing needs for all. It had a modest amount of money from the Scottish Parliament and for the first time in many years was planning to build council houses, however the main source would continue to be *Rural Stirling Housing Association*. He stated it was important that Community Councils take an active role in the Local Plan consultation in identifying needs and sites.

Tony Teasdale started by giving a comprehensive history of Rural Stirling Housing Association. He said it was a *Registered Social Landlord*, and the *Association* aimed to be a good landlord, building high-quality housing with excellent space standards of varying sizes and types according to need, including disability. The accommodation was designed to be sustainable and to meet the *Secured-by-Design* standard. He stated that finding suitable sites was their biggest challenge. They liaised with Stirling Council to ensure a fair allocation policy, using needs-based objectives. Their rents were slightly higher than council rents, but affordable. Although there were other options such as shared-equity, the emphasis would continue to be rented housing.

CC29 *Question and Answer Session*

The Chair opened the discussion to the floor.

Questioned if Stirling Council owned land other than the turnip field, Tony Cain said he didn't have the facts to hand, but thought it unlikely that the Council owned any other suitable site. Asked why Stirling Council didn't take the opportunity offered by the former Leisure Centre, he said it had been looked at, but rejected as unsuitable because of the

narrow access. When part of the telephone exchange site was suggested, he said that BT had been approached in the past, and he would look at it again. Questioned about use of compulsory purchase, he said it was a possibility, but it was a long process and not all Council Members would support its use.

Questioned about the economics of building Council or Housing Association properties, Tony Teasdale said that land costs could be as high as 40% of the cost of building in the Killlearn area at a density of 10 – 12 per acre. Developers could be required to sell part of a development site at a lower than market cost to a housing association or council as a condition of planning consent.

When asked about the new trial project in which landowners would be given planning permission to build in the countryside in return for a 15-year lease for affordable rented use, Tony Teasdale said he knew of the project but did not know any example of its uptake in this area. Tony Cain felt that 15 years was too short, as many council tenants expected to have security for a much longer time, citing a block of flats where the tenancies had ended and Stirling Council was required to re-home 25 families.

Tony Cain said that he had concentrated on rented property as this was the best route for the provision of affordable housing. On questioned why developers did not build for local needs, he stated that this was a question for *planning* not *housing*. Another questioner asked why the cost of private housing had not been included in the discussion but the answer was that this was due to market forces and was not controlled by the local authority. The Chair regretted the recent pattern of developers buying up and then converting moderate sized, single storey houses into much larger properties before selling on. The result has been to leave the village with very few modest properties which could provide flexible housing to the elderly or those with mobility problems.

The chair thanked both speakers for informative and interesting presentations and for readily answering questions from the floor.

CC30 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 December 2009 were adopted.

CC31 Matters Arising

Telephone Kiosk It was hoped that the Community Council would soon adopt the telephone kiosk at Dumgoyne for £1. It was planned to hand the box to the Archives Group of KCFC to be used as a tourist information centre close to the West Highland Way.

Bus Shelter at Blanesmithy As a result of the information provided by the Community Council, the shelter will be retained and refurbished.

CC32 Police Matters

PC McNally stated that it had been a relatively quiet month. There had been a break-in at an unoccupied furnished house in Napier Road, a theft of tractor parts from Atkinson's Garage and an incident of shoplifting at the Co-op. There had been no serious incidents on the roads due to the snow. PC McNally stated that he had spoken to the driver of the security van servicing the cash machine yet again parking dangerously on the bank corner.

CC33 Question Time.

The occupant of Lettre Cottage brought photographs and details of a succession of serious accidents involving cars leaving the road and ending up in his garden, and in two cases against the wall of the cottage. These could have very serious consequences for the occupants of the cottage, both in the garden and within the house. Despite pleas to Stirling Council to take action to make the corner safer or provide a barrier to prevent the vehicles entering the property, nothing has been done. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council expressing its concern and ask it to take action before there is a fatality.

CC34 Youth Matters

Iain Beaton stated that he was in correspondence with Pam Campbell on transport problems. Pam said that 500 questionnaires had been provided to Balfron High School on transportation which she hoped would be filled in and returned. He said that he was also hopeful that a mountain bike course could be up and running by spring.

Iain stated there had been a problem with buses on the last day of school as many took the opportunity to go into town, but due to snow found there were no buses back.

CC35 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £58.75, Number 2 Account balance £1605.56. This was no change on last month.

CC36 Planning

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

09/00775/FUL Erection of dwelling house (renewal of planning permission 04/00742/DET under Article 5) at Land At Blairessan Station Road.

Decision: Approve with Conditions

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00011/FUL Alterations and extension to form new sitting room, entrance hall and shower room at Dunkyan Lodge, Drumtian Road. It was decided to take no action.

CC37 Community Council Handbook

Aileen requested the draft handbook be returned as soon as possible with members' comments.

CC38 Correspondence

Correspondence received: Information on NHS Forum meeting on dial-a-bus and central shopping mobility; Stirling Focus (which contains the refuse collection calendar); invitation to Scottish National Rural Network meeting; notification from EVAG that *n-power* will not appeal SC refusal of planning for installation of wind turbines; request for information if KCC makes use of assistance from Stirling Council in Minuting meetings.

Forth Valley Orchard Regeneration Initiative asks for information on the location and variety of fruit trees. It was agreed to pass the request to the local community via the notice board and the website.

CC39 Other Matters – Future Issues

Village Hall KCFC's Village Hall Development Group had produced a plan for a major refurbishment of Killlearn Village Hall. KCC will host an invitation-only meeting for stakeholders, local councillors, MP and MSPs on 2 February 2010. Public meetings will be held on 28/29 March 2010 to present the plan.

Eco Matters It was planned to hold a meeting primarily devoted to the environment in May. Community Councillors and interested members of the public were asked to bring to the next meeting issues that they wished discussed.

CC40 Any Other Business

Road Signs Signs at the foot of Station Road were dirty and difficult to read. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council about this.

Link to the West Highland Way The Paths Group of KCFC were investigating possible routes to the West Highland Way. A letter had been written to the Gordon Trust asking for permission to reinstitute a possible path, but the group had received no reply. The group ask the Community Council to write to the Trust supporting them.

Path between Herons Court and Fintry Crossroads. The footpath from Herons Court to the Fintry Crossroads was in a very bad state, soft underfoot, tree roots etc. The main problem was the lack of a kerb which means that cars can (and do) drive onto the footpath. It was agreed to write to the Stirling Council to ask that the kerb be reinstated and the surface improved.

Maps of Stirling Council Assets It was reported by the Paths Group of KCFC that Strathblane CC had asked Stirling Council for indicative maps of all land, roads and paths owned by Stirling Council. It was felt that this would be a useful asset for the community and would like KCC to make a similar request. It was agreed to do so.

CC41 ***Date of Next Meeting***

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 24 February 2010. Note that this is the fourth Wednesday of the month due to the school closing for mid-term holidays.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 FEBRUARY 2010

Present: I. Beaton; N. Kelly; J. May; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; D. Stuart; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: J. Duncan; C. Macintosh; E. Smith; A. May; Councillor C O'Brien.

In Attendance: PC D. McNally; Pam Campbell; and 10 members of the public.

CC42 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2010 were adopted.

CC43 *Minutes of the Special Meeting*

The Chair stated that a successful special meeting of the Council was held on 2 February 2010 to introduce the plans of the proposed development of the Killearn Village Hall to Community Councillors, Stirling Council Members and users of the hall representing the organisations of Killearn. The minutes of that meeting were adopted.

CC44 *Matters Arising*

There were no matters arising that were not covered on the agenda.

CC45 *Police Matters*

PC McNally stated that it had been a relatively busy month. There had been a break-in at a house in Lampson Road and an attempted break-in at a house in Napier Road, a break-in at Branshogle Mill and vandalism at the Old School. As there had also been problems in surrounding villages, all householders were asked to be vigilant and make every effort to ensure that their house did not look empty during the day by using automatic lights, etc. Anyone acting suspiciously around any property should be reported to the police. There had also been two reported speeding incidents and a broken window in Birch Road.

PC McNally gave an update on the youth club, which he said was rather disappointing. Because of problems with the availability of the hall in Killearn and low attendance, it had been decided to hold the club solely in Balfron. In mitigation, the Mobile Youth Space would be coming to the village each Monday evening. There had been problems on the first Monday, as the van did not arrive, but PC McNally asked all P7-S1 pupils to continue to support it.

Iain Beaton said one of the problems with holding the youth club in Killearn was the buses serving the communities east of Killearn all terminate at Balfron, whereas all villages can get a direct bus to Balfron. He said that there could be a sharing of resources and staff at Balfron. There would be a meeting with Sarah Winstone, Youth Community Worker about the future of youth services.

It was pointed out that there could be a clash between the Mobile Youth Space and uniformed organisations which met on most nights in the village.

CC46 *Question Time.*

There were no questions.

CC47 *Youth Matters*

Iain Beaton stated that he had had a meeting with Mrs Corrie, Rector of Balfron High School and would obtain the names of all S1 and S2 pupils in Killearn to publicise the Mobile Youth Space. Pam Campbell had arranged a meeting with an expert on equipment for a mountain bike course. Wooden jumps cost approximately £5000, whereas more easily-managed steel jumps cost in the region of £15000. When asked about funding, she said such sums were not unachievable. Storage would be a

problem. It would also be necessary to find if Stirling Council could cover insurance, maintenance, etc.

Iain said that local youth were excited by the Village Hall project and he would publicise the meetings to encourage as many as possible to attend.

CC48 Treasurer's Report

In the absence of the treasurer there was no report.

CC49 Planning

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

09/00786/PPP Erection of dwelling house at Land At Killearn House Walled Garden. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

David Young the applicant for this development objected to the accuracy of the previous minute relating to this application. It was pointed out that the minutes had been approved as a correct record, however the Chair would allow him to make a statement detailing his objection. The statement was as follows:

Peter Rea opened the planning section of the meeting and gave a resume of matters to be discussed including my application which when it came before the meeting Peter Rea gave an analysis of the application and suggested response from the community council. The Chair enquired if I wished to contribute and I proceeded to do so. I indicated that my purpose in contributing was to clarify that the application was being made under the recently adopted policy H10A:3(a) which relates to Walled Gardens. I also stated that the application was not being applied for under any other policy, even although others may apply, at least in part. I then proceeded to read the policy as adopted including the last sentence of the policy which states "Proposals should result in the restoration/preservation of the wall and should respect other surviving features of the garden". It is not possible in a planning permission in principle application to make such proposals relating to the retention/preservation etc. I also stated that "I believed the application to be consistent with the policy".

I did not say as noted in the minute "that it fully complied with the regulations". This is a statement that only the Planning Officers can appropriately make. Also I did not say "that the wall would be restored and retained" although this is an integral part of the policy and I am confident it will be addressed when the application proceeds to the next stage.

09/00817/FUL Single storey extension to dwelling house at 16 Napier Road.

Decision: Approve with Conditions.

10/00011/FUL Alterations and extension to form new sitting room, entrance hall and shower room at Dunkyan Lodge Drumtian Road. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00078/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 21 Lampson Road.

10/00087/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 7 Lampson Road.

10/00088/FUL Change of use of agricultural land to garden ground at The Bungalow, 92 Main Street.

It was decided to take no action on any of these applications.

Notification of tree works

Tre 2019\01; Information Bulletin 01 App: S\06\00678\DET Tree works only at : Rowan Crescent, G63 9RZ.

Planning Enforcement

10/00008/UNAUTH Erection of structure within garden ground at Drumbeg Loan, G63 9LG.

CC50 Community Council Handbook

In the absence of Aileen this item was deferred to the next meeting.

CC51 Correspondence

Correspondence received: Notice of Forth Valley Partnership Meeting; apologies from Anne McGuire unable to attend the KCC Special meeting on 2 February; intimation of Community Council Elections; notice that Community Pride Fund is coming to its end; Minutes of Stirling Council meeting on transport for the new hospital at Larbert; notice of Seminar on Planning and Licensing; notice of SW Area Rural Forum; advertising brochure from Fun Time Carnival Ltd. (passed to Hoolie Committee).

A letter was received from Halifax/Bank of Scotland apologising for the out-of-service events of the Killearn cash machine. The bank realised that it was the only machine in the village and endeavoured to keep it operational. The latest reviewed availability was 97%, and the last major out-of service incident was due to the insertion of a damaged card by a customer. It was agreed that the Council should continue to monitor the machine.

An application for the adoption of the telephone kiosk at Dumgoyne Post Office had been made and further information on the outcome was awaited.

Emails Received: Notice of National Spring Clean Week. As this was successful last year, the Chair stated that she would again ask local youth organisations and the primary school to take part. Peter Wilks stated that maps showing the adopted roads and land owned by Stirling Council had now been received in *Adobe Reader* form.

Emails Sent: Observations concerning the need for cleaning of road signs and the poor condition of the pavement from Herons Court to Fintry Crossroads. No replies had been received as yet. It was suggested by Pam Campbell that such correspondence be copied to local members. Nigel Kelly agreed to take on the Roads Portfolio.

CC52 Meetings Attended

NHS Public Partnership Forum The first part of the evening was a presentation on Dial a Journey and Central Shop Mobility. The presentation explained the background, the organisational structure and the funding of the service. It went on to explain how the service now runs alongside the concessional bus pass so you can register with dial a bus and retain your One Scotland travel card. This means you had access to the general network, dial a journey, shopmobility and the taxi card, allowing even greater flexibility. There was also the availability for more advanced booking for a special event. The registered user could take one escort with them free of charge, with additional rates for other passengers. The fleet now included a wide range of vehicles which can accommodate most mobility/ equipment needs. Services offered include door-to-door service, taxicard booking service, self-drive minibus hire for voluntary groups, self-drive small vehicle hire for families of scheme members, and during the holiday periods the service ran day excursions. The shopmobility service provided electric scooter and manual wheelchair loans, long term scooter and wheelchair hire and advice & assistance. This service was available at the Thistle shopping centre, the Howgate centre, Stirling Mills, and the Falkirk Wheel. The second part of the night was an update on the ongoing hospital planning process. To

date all the work at the new Royal Forth Valley Hospital was on schedule. The business plan for the Stirling community hospital had been finalised. There were no new developments on either of these. The next meeting on the 28th April would discuss cancer services, and anyone who wishes to raise any issues should contact Heather Wright.

SW Area Rural Forum A presentation by Clare Milne of the scope and progress of the Local Development Plan, presenting the strategy for all development over the next ten year period was made and was followed by a question and answer session. It included the Local Housing Strategy, the development of the local economy and preservation of the green belt. There would be a touring road show which would be in Balfron on 27 May and Strathblane on 29 May. The second presentation was by David Basillie on the Survey of Open Spaces. All open spaces valued by and wished to be retained by local communities were to be recorded, which could have important development implications. Sarah Winstone made a statement about the Friday Night Project in Killearn and the provision of the Mobile Youth Space.

KCFC Board Meeting The Board met and discussed the Village Hall project and arranged to present the plans to the wider public on 28 March and 1 April. It was particularly important to attract younger people to express their views. The meetings would show the plans, a 3-D model and explain why choices were made. The KCFC Board is seeking additional directors.

CC53 Any Other Business

Eco meeting It was agreed to hold a special meeting in Killearn Village Hall on Tuesday 18 May 2010 to address issues relating to the environment, energy saving and other 'green' issues. A sub-group would be set up to determine the form of the meeting, areas to be discussed, etc. Various suggestions for the sub-group to consider were made, including involvement of the schools, input from the Energy Saving Trust, liaising with other local villages, especially Fintry who have had some experience in organising such meetings. The sub-group could consider allowing relevant businesses and organisations to have stalls at the meeting.

Gartness Road Traffic It was reported that Gartness Road was suffering from heavy and speeding vehicles. A suggestion was made that the sign on the A81 directing traffic to Killearn could be removed, making the normal entry to the village the roundabout onto Station Road. It was suggested that a weight limit could be put on the road, but it was stated by a member of the public that he believed a weight limit to be already in force. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council outlining the problem.

Litter on A81 It was reported that there was a large amount of litter on the A81 south of the distillery. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council about this.

Public Toilet It was reported that the gents toilet in the Health Centre Car Park was in a filthy condition. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council asking what the cleaning regime was.

Woodland Burial Ground It was reported that the Woodland Burial Ground in Gartness Road was disfigured by rushes and needed attention. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council about this. It was also reported that there was no provision for any form of memorial to the deceased buried there. It was understood that there should be no memorial on the actual grave, but a plaque on a suitable structure such as the dry stone enclosed seating area in the Carlisle green graveyard could be a possibility, if permission could be obtained from Stirling Council and funds obtained. This might be a suitable project for KCFC.

Status of Stirling Royal Infirmary It was asked what would happen to Stirling Royal after the opening of the Royal Forth Valley Hospital in 2012. When the new hospital at Larbert was fully functional, it would become the acute and emergency hospital for

NHS Forth Valley and Stirling Royal would become a community hospital dealing with non-acute treatments.

CC54 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 17 March 2010.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 MARCH 2010

Present: I. Beaton; J. Duncan; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; A. May; J. May; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Smith; D. Stuart; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: Pam Campbell.

In Attendance: Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally; and 18 members of the public.

CC55 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2010 were adopted.

CC56 *Matters Arising*

Public Toilets A prompt response from Stirling Council confirmed that they had experienced staffing difficulties which were now resolved. The toilets were now being cleaned daily.

Woodland Burial Site Peter Wilks stated that he had been in correspondence with the Cemeteries Officer, Barbara Docherty, who stated that she was aware of problems with the rising ground-water table especially in the event of persistent heavy rain and the fact that the rushes tended to favour wet areas of land. These rushes had been treated and mown on a number of occasions without great success and advice was being sought on how best to manage this issue and also the drainage of the existing site.

On the question of some methods of providing small memorials to those interred in the burial site, she understood that it could be helpful for some families to have something more personal. Therefore she would have no objection in principal to considering the proposal for a stone wall seating area on which small plaques could be affixed. Peter Wilks said he would now formally approach KCFC to see if they would be willing to host a group to progress this project. Support for the project had also been received from Councillor Colin O'Brien.

Roads Nigel Kelly stated that he had no response to his emails sent to the Roads Department.

CC57 *Police Matters*

PC McNally stated that it had been a quiet month with just one attempted break-in in New Endrick Road. He was continuing to monitor Gartness Road for speeding. He warned that there had been a number of thefts from electricity sub-stations in the wider area and asked the public to report any suspicious behaviour around such sites.

David McNally said that the Mobile Youth Space was now visiting on Monday evenings. The Chair stated that an email had been received on the website from the Guide leader stating that this clashed with a number of youth organisation meetings. It was agreed to invite Sarah Winstone and Clare Whiston to the next meeting of the Council to discuss this.

CC58 *Question Time.*

There were no questions.

CC59 *Youth Matters*

Iain Beaton stated that he had had a very positive response from pupils at Balfron High School to the Village Hall proposals. Cairi Macintosh stated that she had also had a good response with a number of pertinent questions raised such as where would youth organisations meet during the construction phase and would tap shoes be allowed on the floor. There was even a suggestion that there should be a clock on the tower.

Iain Beaton said that he had no response on the mobile bike jumps, but he would be making a visit to see the proposed site offered by Daye Tucker.

CC60 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £58.75, Number 2 Account balance £1558.45.

Again there was no interest as the deposits were only earning 0.25%.

Expenses were £35.11 annual rent for hosting the website and £12 for the hire of the Village Hall. There was a movement of £270 into and out of the account to repay Stirling Council a grant sent in error. It was agreed to continue the Scotways subscription.

CC61 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00093/PPP New low carbon house within Drumore Wood as part of a sustainable living scheme at Land at Drumore Wood, Gartness Road, Killearn

This proposal was for the construction of a 'low-carbon' house involving the management and use of the attached land at Drumore Wood. It was believed that such a proposal accorded with the spirit and detail of current planning policy, nationally and locally, but specifically Policy H10A Housing in the Countryside.

The applicant, David Young was invited to speak to the proposal and agreed to answer questions from the Council and the public present. A lively debate ensued at which questions on the need for such a house, the effect on the ecology of the wood, on the access and the danger of setting of a precedent for future development were put and answered.

Members were then asked to give their response to the development. Voting resulted in: *no comment* - 3; *in favour* - 1; *object* - 6. The inclusion of Youth member votes, at the discretion of the Chair, resulted in *no comment* - 4; *in favour* - 1; *object* - 7. It was agreed therefore that, on a majority decision, the council objects to the proposal on the following grounds:

1. Reasons:

Environmental impact;
Design and relationship to surroundings;
Access, water, drainage, flooding;
History of the site.

2. Further comments:

- (i) the management of the wood can be achieved without the necessity of building a low carbon house on site.*
- (ii) Concern was felt that the construction of a low carbon house in this wood might set a precedent for future development.*
- (iii) The wood is valued by the local community.*

10/00111/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 8 Beech Drive.

It was decided to take no action on this application.

10/00120/FUL Erect a one and a half storey extension with a single storey sun room at Blane River Cottage.

Peter Wilks asked if this was a development the Council should look at more closely. It was decided that as the proposed extension was in a remote location it was unnecessary to view the plans.

10/00129/ADV Replacement of existing signage with new signage at 4 Main Street.

It was decided to take no action on this application.

Planning Panel Recommendations:

09/00533/FUL Alteration, extension and conversion of old school to form 3 dwelling houses with private parking and extended access at 3 Main Street.
Recommendation: Refuse.

09/00534/PPP Erection of 2 dwelling houses and demolition of scout hall at Hall, Main Street. Recommendation: Refuse.

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

09/00736/PPP Demolition of existing dwelling house and erection of replacement dwelling house at Lettre House. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

Planning Enforcement:

10/00016/UNAUTH Erection of kennel structure at Blane Smithy Road, Killearn.

CC62 Community Council Handbook

Aileen May presented the handbook and explained that it was complementary to the website. It collected together all the necessary contacts, formal regulations for the formation and running of community councils and their meetings, together with the planning system in Scotland. A copy was issued to each member, with extra copies given to local councillors, Pam Campbell, Helen Geddes, and David McNally together with a copy, without address information, for Balfron Library. The Chair thanked Aileen for all her hard work producing such an excellent handbook, which was echoed by all the members present.

CC63 Correspondence

Correspondence received: Letter re purchase of phone box at Dumgoyne Post Office; Stirling Council Minutes; letter recording end of period for vacancy to serve on Killearn Community Council without any candidates; Stirling Enterprise News; Carers Connection.

Emails Received: Intimation of postponement of Community Council Induction Day due to lack of support.

CC64 Meetings Attended

Planning Training Meeting Peter Rea said that he attended this half day meeting which explained the new planning system and how it operated. Information was also given on the inspection of licensed premises. He found the meeting informative and useful.

CC65 Other Local Issues

Village Hall Refurbishment The Chair stated that there would be two meetings, one on 28 March and one on 1 April to present the proposed plans. She urged all those present to attend one of the meetings and spread the word around their contacts as it was important to involve as many people as possible and get their opinions.

Village Spring Clean The Chair said a letter would be sent to youth organisations, Killearn Primary School and Ballikinrain School asking them to take part. A certificate would be presented as last year.

Eco Meeting A small sub-committee met and decided that the form of the meeting should be in two stages. An initial evening meeting on 18 May to introduce different topics relevant to care of the environment, energy saving, etc., and to find out what concerns and problems villagers have. This would be followed by a whole-day meeting on one Saturday in September to try and answer the questions raised by the May meeting, with contributions from environmental bodies, energy-related

companies, and other local communities. The May meeting would consist of a small number of short addresses, followed by group sessions. Iain Beaton said that he had been in contact with Mrs Collier about the eco-schools initiative.

CC66 Any Other Business

Taxi Bus Scheme Iain Beaton said that this initiative was on-going and questionnaires to elicit information on demand were being distributed at Balfron High School.

Safer Routes to School Killearn Primary School had asked if the Community Council had been involved in this initiative. The Chair referred the matter to Heather Wright who had been involved when the matter was first raised by the School Board and who confirmed that routes had been established within the village. Heather reported that with the demise of School Boards there appeared to have been no continuation of the project by the Parent/Teacher Council as no references have been made in the Minutes of this organisation. It was noted that the next stage of the schools' eco-flag scheme required such a commitment. The Community Council was happy to endorse any moves to revive the Safe Routes to school and would offer any help in establishing such a scheme.

Closure of Station Road It was noted that the road would be closed from 6 to 9 April for resurfacing. Access to Napier, Allan, Endrick, New Endrick and Lampson Roads would be from the village end of Station Road. Concern was expressed at the possible impact of extra traffic, particularly heavy vehicles on Gartness Road at this time; David McNally said he would keep an eye on the situation.

Removal of Disabled Persons Bay It was noted that one bay would be removed from Dunkeld Court.

Lumsdaine Hall It was noted that at some time during recent months the Old Church Hall had been renamed Lumsdaine Hall.

CC67 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 April 2010.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2010

Present: I. Beaton; J. Duncan; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; J. May; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: A. May; E. Smith; D. Stuart; Pam Campbell.

In Attendance: Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally; and 10 members of the public.

CC68 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2010 were adopted with the following corrections:

CC55 Delete *still*, CC61 2 (iii) Delete *which is highlighted in Stirling Council's Open Space Consultation 2010-2011*, CC63 Replace *cancellation* with *postponement*.

CC69 Matters Arising

Youth Matters Because of the likely absence of the youth members during the examination period, it was decided to defer an invitation to come and talk to the Council to May.

Safer Routes to School Heather Wright said she had met with the chair of Killearn Primary Schools Council, Caroline Whitson, who said this would be discussed at the next meeting. Caroline Whitson also raised with her the state of some pavements, which were of concern to parents of both Primary and Pre-School groups.

CC70 Police Matters

PC McNally stated that this had been a busy period with a theft of a laptop from a car in the Black Bull car park, a break-in in Branziert Road with theft of jewellery, a break-in at the Council Yard at Dumgoyne with nothing taken and an attempted break-in at the Co-operative store. Two drivers were apprehended drunk in charge of a vehicle. There were no apparent difficulties on Gartness Road during the closure of the A81. Four boys went missing after the school holiday, but were found safe and well. There had been some vandalism by young people at the old school and residents were asked to report any unusual activity there. A suspicious vehicle had been reported at Stilwater. Residents were reminded that Killearn was a *no cold calling area* and should inform persons trying to sell at the door of this fact. PC McNally said *Trading Standards* had issued a warning on a firm called SCS selling alarm systems.

CC71 Question Time.

A resident asked on the availability of affordable housing in Killearn as she had lived here all her life but was unable to find suitable accommodation. She was advised of the method for applying for Killearn Trust rented houses and the facts that she should give to Stirling Housing department.

A resident objected to a letter of objection to a planning application sent by a member of the Council as the wording appeared to make it an official Council communication. The member stated that he had made it clear in the accompanying email that it was a private communication. Although he did not think it would be interpreted in that way, he accepted that the letter could have been better worded.

The question of speed reducing measures was raised. The Chair stated that although there had been consultation, it was difficult to gain a consensus as there were so many differing opinions, so what came out of a meeting depended on who was present at that time. A number of suggestions did not go down well. The *Safer Routes to School* initiative had been successful in getting 20mph limits on certain roads.

A member of the public said that he had heard of a possibility of the closure of the recycling depot at Balfron. Councillor Lambie said Stirling Council was proposing to run the bin collection vehicles from Stirling to reduce costs, but had heard no rumour of closure of the depot. The Chair said it was an important facility and the council would oppose any proposal for closure.

CC72 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £58.75, Number 2 Account balance £1337.60.

The expenses on the Number 2 Account were subscription to *Scotways*, expenses to A May for the production of the Council handbook, and administrative expenses to P Rea and B Pell. A grant of £270 was sent by Stirling Council in error and returned.

CC73 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00167/PPP Erection of 2 self catering holiday lodges at Land 84m South East Of North Ballochruin Farm.

10/00190/FUL Re-roofing of garage/store at 2 Balfron Road.

It was decided to take no action on these applications.

Planning Panel Decisions:

09/00533/FUL Alteration, extension and conversion of old school to form 3 dwelling houses with private parking and extended access at 3 Main Street.

Decision: Refuse for the following reasons: The proposed development cannot achieve an adequate means of access. As part of the approval, a condition was imposed to ensure that the proposed road would not have a detrimental impact on the road safety within the area. The condition stated that the proposed road would not serve more than 4 dwellings. Currently there were 2 existing dwellings. The proposal would mean the road would serve 5 dwellings and would not be in compliance with the recently imposed condition relating to the site.

09/00534/PPP Erection of 2 dwelling houses and demolition of scout hall at Hall Main Street. Decision: Refuse for the following reasons: The proposed development was not deemed to be in accordance with *Policy E34 of the Stirling Council Local Plan* which seeks to ensure that all development preserves and enhances the landscape and architectural qualities of Conservation Areas. The development proposed in the grounds of the existing Old School building did not meet this policy. The proposed development was not deemed to accord with *Policy E35 of the Stirling Council Local Plan*. This policy stated that all new development within Conservation Areas, including redevelopment, should preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The development was deemed to be contrary to *Policy H6 of the Stirling Council Local Plan (as altered)* which states that the character of the Conservation Area would not be adversely affected, and the established pattern of frontage was retained. The proposed erection of 2 dwellings was deemed to not be compliant with *Policy ENV6: The Historic and Built Environment, of the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Structure Plan 2002* which states that the Councils would seek to ensure that cultural heritage resources was recognised, recorded, protected and enhanced as appropriate, and that new development respects and contributed to the character and quality of the area. All three local members supported this decision to refuse.

Planning Schedule Recommendations

10/00129/ADV Replacement of existing signage with new signage at 4 Main Street Recommendation: Approve with Conditions

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

10/00087/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 7 Lampson Road Killearn. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

10/00078/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 21 Lampson Road Decision: Approve with Conditions.

10/00088/FUL Change of use of agricultural land to garden ground at The Bungalow 92 Main Street. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

10/00111/FUL Extension to dwelling house at 8 Beech Drive. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

10/00120/FUL Erect a one and a half storey extension with a single storey sun room at Blane River Cottage. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

Licensing Applications. Notification of applications by Killearn Community Futures Company for an entertainment licence and a licence to hold a procession, both on 12 June, in connection with the Killearn Hoolie Gala day. It was decided that no comment was necessary on these applications.

CC74 Correspondence

Correspondence received:

Rural Forum minutes; Big Fit Walk; Advertising circular for playground and fitness equipment; Stirling Focus; Notification of a meeting in Balfron on 13 May to assess training needs for organisations.

NHS Public Partnership meeting. Heather Wright said she would be attending this meeting on cancer services, and asked anyone who wished to bring any matter on the subject up to contact her.

Letter from Anne McGuire noting that as parliament was dissolved, she was no longer MP for Stirling, and should she not be returned as member, any outstanding matters she had been dealing with would not automatically be continued after the election result.

Emails Received:

Draft policy document and questionnaire on Housing. Comment was made that the questionnaire asked numerous and detailed questions of a nature which were unlikely to be within the scope of a lay person to respond.

Notification of election meeting on 25 April in Killearn Village Hall, when questions on their policies may be asked of all the local candidates.

Stirling Council Local Development Plan Road Show in Balfron 27 May and Strathblane 29 May. This important consultation includes information on open space policy and housing policy as well as the Local Plan.

Notification of EGM of Rural Youth Network on 28 April in Callendar. Unfortunately the youth members of the Council would be unable to attend because of examinations.

CC75 Other Local Issues

Village Hall Refurbishment All Council members would shortly be receiving a personal letter asking their support for the project from the Development Group. Application was being made for 90% funding for the project and already generous donations have been pledged towards the 10% that will have to be raised locally. The Council as a body was unable to give financial support to the project, but would back it in every other way.

Eco Meeting A small sub-committee met twice to plan the evening meeting on 18 May, which would take the form of short presentations, followed by discussion groups on individual topics. It was hoped that this would show what topics were important to local people, which would then be followed up by an Eco Fair public in September at which it is hoped there will be with contributions from a wide range of environmental bodies, energy-related companies, members of Killearn projects and other local communities.

Village Spring Clean The following youth organisations had agreed to take part: the Boys' Brigade, Killearn Primary School, Ballikinrain School, the Scouts, 1st Killearn Guides, 1st Killearn Rainbows 1st Killearn Brownies and 2nd Killearn Brownies. It was also hoped that the Kirk youth group, *the Friday Night Thing*, will also take part. As last year a certificate would be presented to every participating group.

Roads Nigel Kelly stated that he had met with Stephen Todd, Roads Area Officer, Roads Maintenance Rural Team, who believed the geometry of the Spar entry was appropriate, although residents may thank otherwise. He said that the flooded drains in Main Street and at Westerton would be dealt with shortly. He said the team were doing their best with limited funds. The budget for 2010/2011 for the Killearn area was: A875 Buchanan Street, Balfron - £84,500; A875/A81, resurface hill from below Baptiston down to A81 junction - £50,000 est.; B834, Station Road from Blane Smithy roundabout to and beyond old railway bridge - £31,000, *(completed)*; A81 Blanesmithy, resurface stretch of road beyond Croy Cunningham - £120,000. *(in progress)*; A81, resurface stretch of road at Meikle Drumquharn - £65,000; A8, Paddies to Ballat, resurface stretch of road towards Ballat junction - £106,000; A875, Main Street, Killearn, resurface stretch of road from Wellgreen towards Old School House - £45,000.

Nigel stated that he had noted that both cars and commercial vehicles were regularly parking on pavements which caused damage as well as being a hazard to pedestrians.

Councillor Lambie said the budget for road maintenance was 4% of the total this year, compared with 7% last year and he would campaign to get this increased. He said a meeting in Balfron put forward a plea for the upgrading of the A811.

Mr Wilks asked if anything could be done about the state of the private Endrick Road. Councillor Lambie said the officer dealing with this had left and it had not yet been reassigned. A suggestion was made that including it in the *Safe Routes to School* initiative might have some effect.

CC76 Any Other Business

Compost at Balfron It was reported that broken glass had been found in a batch of compost collected from Balfron. Mr Wilks said he investigated and found that there was glass in part of the heap, which he reported to the officer on duty and to Stirling Council. It appears it may have been a skip not properly cleaned before re-use.

Logo at the Distillery Concern was raised regarding a logo on a newly erected building at the distillery. This was felt to be unsympathetic and not in keeping with the rural surroundings. The Planning Correspondent undertook to find out whether or not this would be a permanent feature.

CC Handbook All members present indicated they had received their copy. The Chair said she was disappointed that it was not easier to read the structure of the administration of Stirling Council and regretted the names of the officers with whom Community Councils are likely to do business were not fully included. She found the format and print so reduced in size it was difficult to read.

Welcome The Chair welcomed Daren Piper, the newly elected chair of Balfron Community Council, and hoped that he had found the meeting informative.

CC77 Date of Next Meeting

A special meeting on Eco topics would take place in Killearn Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 18 May 2010. The next monthly meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School at 8.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 19 May 2010.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 MAY 2010

Present: I. Beaton; J. Duncan; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; A. May; B. Pell (*Chair*); E. Smith; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: J. May; P. Rea; D. Stuart

In Attendance: Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally; S. Winstone; T. Burnham; M. Vass; S. Beck and 8 members of the public.

Because the Treasurer had to leave early, it was agreed to consider the Treasurer's Report as the first item on the agenda.

CC78 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £58.75, Number 2 Account balance £1337.60.

The Treasurer outlined the audited accounts to be presented at the AGM next month. She explained that Stirling Council had twice paid a sum of £270 in error which had to be returned. Although one repayment was made in the next financial year, it was agreed with the auditor that both repayments should appear in the 2010 accounts. There being no questions, it was agreed to accept the accounts as a true record.

CC79 Focus on Youth

The Chair welcomed Sarah Winstone of Stirling Council Youth Services, Tim Burnham who is a youth worker with Killearn Kirk, Sue Beck, local Guide Leader and District Commissioner, and Margaret Vass, the Chair of Strathblane Community Council to this special meeting of the Council which attempted to identify the needs and problems of youth in the rural area and how they may be addressed.

Tim Burnham laid out the youth services associated with the Kirk - the Boys' Brigade, the *Friday Night Thing* and the young group on Sunday morning. Sue Beck described the full range of Guide groups, stating that the two Rainbows groups and the two Brownie groups were both full. She confirmed that like all youth groups, more volunteer helpers were required. Councillor Lambie asked if the disclosure process made it difficult to get volunteers, but Sue Beck said in her experience, it was no longer a problem. Other youth groups such as Scouts, Cubs and Beavers and activities like dancing classes and tennis were noted.

David McNally said that seven years ago there were 60 to 70 young people milling around the village on Friday night in large groups, which many residents found intimidating, although in general they were nice kids. This now seems to be much less of a problem. Since becoming Community Officer, David said that he had been active in trying to get a youth club established.

Cairi Macintosh said older youngsters tended to go into Glasgow to films, etc, so Friday would not be the best night if a club ran on just one night. Sarah Winstone confirmed there were not the youngsters around and it was difficult to get a club established.

Iain Beaton discussed the provision of a bike course and stated that discussions were ongoing with Daye Tucker. Brenda Pell said despite Killearn being relatively affluent, there were youngsters who could not afford to go into town and their needs should not be forgotten.

Discussion followed on what the youngsters required of a club and its organisation. Tim said the leadership needed continuity and that it was important to understand that leadership had to be relationship-based. Getting the mix of ages right was important, and also the way it was managed. It is hoped that the proposed development of the Village Hall with a dedicated space for youth would provide the infrastructure for such a club. In a note from Brian Simmers, who sent apologies for being unable to

attend owing to a prior engagement, and who chairs the Hall Development committee, he expressed the aim to form a youth committee, centred around Iain Beaton, to advise on the youth space. The best practice from other clubs such as the Drymen Youth Cafe, Callander, Kippen and Balquhidder Youth Projects would be investigated.

The meeting closed with information on a number of practical matters. Sarah Winstone, confirmed that there was advice available on setting up and running a youth project, and that equipment that could be borrowed. The discussion ended with the fact that there needed to be efficient communication links between providers and users.

This part of the meeting ended with thanks to all who had participated.

CC80 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 April 2010 were adopted.

CC81 Matters Arising

Village Spring Clean The following youth organisations took part in the *National Spring Clean*: Boys Brigade, 1st and 2nd Brownies, 1st Rainbows, 1st Killearn Guides and Killearn Primary School. They were all awarded certificates by KCC.

CC82 Police Matters

PC McNally stated that it was a quiet month with just two major incidents; a break-in at the Co-op and a shop lifting incident at Town & Country. The perpetrators of the Co-op robbery were apprehended.

PC McNally said he was being successful in dissuading people to park on the pavement. He stated that there had been a spate of quad-bike thefts and asked owners of such vehicles to ensure that they were safely stored.

Nigel Kelly reported that motor cycles had been heard racing in the evening in Beech Drive. PC McNally said he would investigate.

Janet Duncan asked if there could be priority for vehicles coming one way in Crosshead Road by the Old Cemetery. . PC McNally said this would be difficult as the road was not designed for present-day traffic. There was general agreement that as it was in the conservation area more signage would be intrusive.

CC83 Question Time.

Multicourt Lights It was stated that the lights were going on and off erratically, sometimes staying on as late as 11 p.m. After some discussion on how late the lights should stay on, after being assured by Iain Beaton that they were used in the evening, it was agreed to ask Stirling Council to ensure that they are reliably switched off at 10 p.m.

Autoteller It was stated that the autoteller outside the bank was out of action again last week. It was also stated that the opening of the bank on Thursday could not be relied upon. It was agreed that the Chair writes yet again to Halifax BOS.

CC84 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00206/FUL Proposed extension and refurbishment including new coffee lounge and youth club at 5 Balfroon Road.

10/00231/LBC Proposed extension and refurbishment including new coffee lounge and youth club at 5 Balfroon Road.

These planning applications were the culmination of the work by the KCFC Village Hall Development Group. The project has been extensively consulted on

with the hall users and the wider community and received general approval. The Community Council fully support this application.

Planning Schedule

ISSUE: The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 1999: Request for Scoping opinion: 14 wind turbines, Merkins Muir, West Dunbartonshire. As part of the Environmental Impact Assessment procedure, the applicant company had submitted a 'scoping request' to the West Dunbartonshire Council with a draft Scoping Report. This would enable the Planning Authority to assess whether the company's draft report demonstrated an adequate and appropriate basis to carry out the environmental assessment of the project. The assessment concluded that the Scoping Report was largely satisfactory, subject to the detailed advice, comments and requirements included in the assessment. The full assessment can be read on the Community Council website.

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

10/00167/PPP Erection of 2 self catering holiday lodges at Land 84m South East Of North Ballochruin Farm Killearn Decision: Refuse.

Dumgoyne Distillery Heather Wright questioned the visual impact of the new stores being erected at the distillery. It was pointed out that the planning application had come before the Council, and it had been decided not to oppose the development. Councillor Lambie agreed to investigate that the planning rules had been complied with.

Local Plan Summer Roadshow The Chair reminded members that the *Roadshow* would be in Balfron on 27th May and Strathblane on the 29th May. It was important that all members as well as villagers attend one of these meetings as the result of the consultation would inform the Local Plan for the next ten years. As well as housing and planning strategies there would also be a survey on the use of open green spaces and how they were valued.

CC85 Correspondence

Correspondence received:

Minutes of Stirling Council; request for nominations for Provost's Awards; feedback on Stirling Council Gender Equality Scheme; notice of SW Rural Area Forum; copies of Local Development Plan; copy of Roads maintenance Year 3 Programme; copy of letter from Scotus Investments informing Council of a new application to Stirling Council on the Old School site.

A letter from Stirling Council gave notice of a bid to fund council house building on the 'turnip field'. As this land has been considered by the local community as recreational space for a considerable number of years, this would be controversial and more serious consultation should have taken place with the community.

Circulars:

Butterfly Conservation in Scotland; Stirling Carers Connection

Emails Received:

Central Scotland Police PACT survey; Action Earth Awards.

Councillor Lambie confirmed that there were no plans to remove the Balfron Recycling and Waste skips.

Pam Campbell on a proposal to relocate the older swings in the play park to accommodate the Football Club cabin. The Chair stated that the play park was designed as a whole and had been provided by funds from charities and money raised locally and should not be altered without consultation with the KCFC Play Park Committee.

CC86 Meetings Attended
NHS Forum

This was attended by Heather Wright and her report is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Youth meeting

Attended by Brenda Pell. The need for more effective communications was highlighted.

Training issues meeting

This was attended by Janet Duncan and Brenda Pell together with representatives from a variety of organisations from local villages. The need for improved communications methods to allow a effective networking system to function was a key factor in discussions.

Area Planning Forum

This was attended by Heather Wright and Brenda Pell. The agenda covered Care Vision, the Care Commission, Stirling Community Health Partnership and transport issues, in particular, with reference to the new hospital

KCC Special Eco Meeting

This was very successful and was attended by 40+ persons. It featured presentations from five speakers, including pupils of Killearn Primary School and was followed by discussion groups led by these speakers. It will be followed by an Eco Fair on Saturday, 18th September. An abbreviated report of the Eco meeting will appear on the website and notice board.

CC87 Any Other Business

Dog Waste Bin It was agreed to asked Stirling Council for a dog waste bin in the Branziert Road Area.

Litter Bin Relocation The triangle of ground between Spar and Ibert Road has now been planted up, isolating the litter bin on the old bus stop. It was agreed to ask yet again for it to be relocated to the new bus stop.

CC88 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School, with the AGM at 8.00 p.m., followed by the next ordinary monthly meeting at 8.15 p.m. on Wednesday, 16 June 2010.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2010

Present: I. Beaton; J. Duncan; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; J. May; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Smith; D. Stuart; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: A. May; P. Campbell

In Attendance: Councillor C. O'Brien; PC D. McNally; and 6 members of the public.

CC89 *Minutes of the Last Meetings*

The minutes of the special meeting held on 18 May 2010 were adopted.

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2010 were adopted.

CC90- *Matters Arising*

Special Meeting. Martyn Wright was producing a poster based on the Eco Meeting poster describing the outcomes of this special meeting; this will be displayed around the village. The meeting thanked Martyn for this work.

Multicourt. The lighting times have been adjusted although it should be noted that the lighting is not in use during the summer period.

War Memorial Following the complaints from J Fallas that the work carried out on the memorial was not of a sufficiently high standard, Stirling Council had agreed to rectify the problems. This had not yet been done and no monies had been paid. Councillor O'Brien agreed to pursue this.

Litter Bins The Council had agreed to remove the litter bin on the old bus stop pillar. A dog waste bin is under consideration for the Branziert Road/Drumbeg Road area.

CC91 *Police Matters*

PC McNally reported that tools had been stolen from a garden shed at Lettre Cottage; a car stolen from the Main Street had crashed in Fintry and the perpetrator apprehended - this case is now with the Fiscal; windscreen wipers had been damaged on a car in the Black Bull car park; a £50 necklace was stolen from a craft stall at the Hoolie; later on the evening of the Hoolie a youth carrying a knife had been apprehended.

A police and trading standards initiative checking trades people working in the village was successfully carried out with no negative outcomes..

PC McNally said he was still keeping a lookout for the motorcyclist in Beech Drive.

Some incidents of graffiti were given and PC McNally said he would advise the clean-up squad from Stirling Council. It was noted that paint had been sprayed by the Scout Group on the Village Hall car park for a Hoolie stall and it was agreed to ask them to remove it.

The Chair thanked PC McNally on behalf of the Council for his excellent contribution during the year.

CC92 *Question Time.*

Roads It was stated by a member of the public that a small but deep pothole was causing problems on the Blane Smiddy to Strathendrick Bridge road. Nigel to write to Stirling Council.

Ian Beaton said that problems were occurring with the build up of traffic at Blane Bridge. Councillor O'Brien said the priority system was designed to prevent traffic tailing back to the roundabout on the A81. He suggested a wait and see approach.

Problems with the exit from Rosebank Cottage onto Station Road. Councillor O'Brien said that Stirling Council road engineers were looking at the problem.

CC93 Youth Matters

Cairi Macintosh said that the *Bible Buddy Story Telling Tent* at the Hoolie actively encouraged youngsters to come to Scripture Union camps.

Ian Beaton said that a mountain bike course had been agreed with Daye Tucker at Carbeth Home Farm. This was now being used by young people from P7 upwards; consideration is being given to creating a track suitable for younger children.

CC94 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £58.75, Number 2 Account balance £1238.61.

The Treasurer said that Stirling Council would not be issuing supplementary grants this year therefore money would be tight. It was agreed that as the Courier was managing to pay its way, the normal grant would not be given this year.

CC95 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00310/FUL Renovation and extension of existing house at Ythan Lodge, Drumore Road.

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

10/00190FUL Reroofing of garage/store at 2 Balfon Road

Decision: Approve with conditions.

Notification of tree works

Tre 2010\74; Information Bulletin 40 (LD\TRE\2-05) Tree felling only at : Birch Road, G63 9SG

Local Development Plan. Peter Rea gave a comprehensive overview of the Stirling Council Local Development Plan document. He reminded members that we had expressed our priorities as affordable rural housing, retention of open space and integrated transport. He said Stirling Council was looking for flexibility in planning with sustainable economic growth and development. There was a possibility of more housing in the countryside in small groups. There would be more woodland and more recreational facilities. There was a vision of local energy generation, local recycling and perhaps local food production. Balfon and Doune would be the major housing growth areas with affordable housing.

The Chair said that at the Roadshows a plan of the village showed a number of specific areas where building was possible. Some of these were where private development schemes could be built, such as the north side of Station Road, land behind the Mulberry Bush Nursery in Balfon Road and other small parcels of land in the area. For local authority housing, Stirling Council owned the field above the telephone exchange ('turnip field') and the land between Graham Road and Beech Drive below the Primary School, one of which would probably have to be the site for affordable housing. The community would be unlikely to want to see housing on either site, but change is inevitable and a compromise would have to be struck. If a small number of houses were to be built on the 'turnip field', it was hoped the remainder of the site could be designated recreational and thus would form an ideal location for the proposed football club changing rooms. The present proposal from the club to build on the 'large swings' area of the playpark was not ideal as the playpark formed a designed unit, and a playpark and changing rooms did not fit well together. The location of the changing rooms was a sensitive matter, therefore a meeting between representatives of the club, the planners, the housing department, the playpark committee and the community council should be sought, followed by the widest consultation with the whole community.

Councillor O'Brien said that the small areas of land shown with development potential did not mean that they would be developed, just that they were areas where a developer or landowner had expressed an interest. He stated that it was important that development was not just for dormitory housing, therefore sites for small industrial units should be identified.

Peter Rea said that a response to the Development Plan had to be made by the end of the month. It was agreed that a small committee of the Chair, Peter Rea, Heather Wright and Jenni May would prepare the response. The group would also look at any urgent planning applications that had to be dealt with during the summer recess.

CC96 Correspondence

Correspondence received:

Questionnaire on training needs for community councillors. The Chair reminded members to get their individual replies in before the cut-off date.

BT contract of sale for the telephone kiosk at Dumgoyne Post Office had been exchanged. This was now owned by the Council and it was agreed to allow use of the kiosk by KCFC All Killearn Archives Group who intend to create an information centre. Papers regarding appropriate maintenance guidelines will be passed to the AKA group. Betty Smith agreed to look into the question of insurance.

An email from Croftamie Community Council indicating possible pollution from Killearn Sewage Works. The Chair contacted Scottish Water who was dealing with the problem. Peter Rea suggested that SEPA should also have been contacted.

Correspondence with HBOS regarding the out-of-service autoteller. Local staff were now being trained to deal with problems which should reduce the time taken to correct faults. Apologies were received for poor service with both the autoteller and the unreliability of Killearn Branch opening hours.

Questionnaire on allotment provision. Peter Wilks to put on website.

Information on SURF, the Scotland Independent Regeneration Network. Heather Wright to find out more.

Central Scotland Police Chief Constable's Annual Report.

CC97 Current Local Issues

Killearn Hoolie. The Council unanimously agreed to congratulate the Hoolie Committee on an extremely successful and well-organised series of events culminating with the final events on the Glebe.

CC98 Any Other Business

Peter Wilks said he had been asked to bring up again the provision of a seat at the bus stop outside Spar. Derek Stuart suggested that a seat could be attached to the large planter.

CC99 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 15 September 2010.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 2010

Present: I. Beaton; N. Kelly; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Smith; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: J. Duncan; C. Macintosh; J. May; A. May; D. Stuart.

In Attendance: Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally; P. Campbell; T. Cain (Stirling Council) and 15 members of the public.

CC100 *Minutes of the Last Meetings*

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 June 2010 were adopted.

CC101- *Housing Matters*

The Chair welcomed Tony Cain, Head of Housing, Stirling Council, and thanked him for addressing the meeting.

He said that he had visited the Council last December to talk about housing need and explained that Stirling Council had been successful in a bid for finance from the Scottish Government to build six bungalows for older people. To build within budget, they had to be sited on land owned by Stirling Council, and the most suitable area was on the area known as *the turnip field*, which was already zoned for housing. If the six houses were placed there, he said he would try to ensure that the remainder of the site be preserved as recreational land for the community in perpetuity, perhaps to a local trust.

He then went through a number of possible layout schemes which aimed to minimise the cost of infrastructure and provide the best outcome for the remainder of the site. Birch Road was the most appropriate access and a hammer head road layout provided the most cost effective solution, although he did describe other possible layouts. It was important, in his opinion, to keep good public footpath access through the site and maintain the view through. It was also important to keep access to the site of the telephone exchange for possible future development. The final decision would be formed by consultation with the planners, the community council and the wider community. He offered to leave the draft layout plans for the Council to study.

The houses would be of high quality, the rough layout plans showing three semi-detached residences, each of approximately 80 square metres. It was hoped that tenants might downsize to these bungalows, leaving family houses available for rent. All would be suitable for older people. These were not serviced homes, but they would be made suitable for the proposed tenants by being single storey with easy access, wet rooms, etc. If funds were available, it was possible that some or all could have wheelchair access and facilities. The houses would meet the best environmental standards.

He then finished by answering questions from the meeting. He said that nothing was yet fixed and three semis were chosen to try different layouts, but a terrace of six or two three bungalow units could also be considered. On being asked if the houses were too far from the village shops and transport, he said it had to be council-owned land and there was no available site which was better placed. He said that he could not guarantee that Killearn people would get the tenancies as it was governed by housing policy rules; however as existing council tenants would be targeted, it was likely that local people would apply. The youth member was concerned that the path running through the development could give rise to problems with young people using the path at all hours. It was also possible that the new road might become a school drop-off area. On being questioned about the age and fitness required for tenancy, he said Stirling Council policy was to keep people in their own home as long as possible. The issue of landscaping the development and park was also raised with Tony Cain pointing out that appropriate soft landscaping and appropriate pathways would be installed to meet needs and visual requirements.

CC102 Matters Arising

War Memorial Work had recently been completed to a much higher standard by a company with a high reputation for this type of stonework.

Litter Bins The bin by the former bus stop at Spar had now been relocated to close to the noticeboard.

Autoteller The Chair said she was still receiving reports about the unreliability of the service. Although bank staff have now been trained to service the autoteller, it appeared that problems were still occurring. If another breakdown occurs she asked to be informed and she would write again to the Area Manager.

CC103 Police Matters

PC McNally reported that it had been a quiet period with no major incidents. The only reported thefts were three chain saws from a car and another chain saw from a shed, which may be related crimes.

Some graffiti that he had asked Stirling Council to remove had still not been done; he would follow it up.

Priorities identified were school security and the speed of traffic through Dumgoyne.

A member of the public brought up the number of road traffic accidents at Finnich Glen. PC McNally said he would pass the information to the Traffic Department. Councillor Lambie said the route had been surveyed and a report would be issued.

The problem of large lorries travelling through the centre of the village was brought up. It was thought that this traffic was generated by the housing development in Balfron. PC McNally said he would speak to the developer.

In answer to a question, PC McNally said that the £50 necklace that was stolen from a craft stall at the Hoolie had not been recovered.

CC104 Question Time.

A member of the public stated that the priority system over the Blane Bridge on the B834 was causing problems. Vehicles with priority were meeting vehicles coming in the opposite direction in the middle of the bridge. This was because they could not see the oncoming vehicle with priority until they reached the bridge. He felt that the previous system without designated priority caused less confusion. This had been discussed at the last meeting and a wait and see approach had been agreed. However it was now agreed to write to Stirling Council to see if they could come up with a solution.

CC105 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £1458.75, Number 2 Account balance £2229.66.

The Treasurer said £1400 had been paid into the Number 1 account to finance the Eco Fair. £1000 was a loan/grant from KCFC which it was hoped to pay back as money from the sale of the tote bags came in. The balance of £400 came as donations from companies exhibiting at the fair. The Number 2 account balance was made up of grants from the Community Pride fund for the Eco Fair and Colourful Killearn together with the Community Council administrative grant. Expenditure covered the Scotways subscription and registration fee with the Information Commissioner.

The Treasurer said she was required to give information to the Council insurers on the use and security of the telephone kiosk at Dumgoyne, which had been acquired by the Council. The Chair said she would liaise with Helen Loudon, chair of the Archives Group of KCFC, to provide the information requested. The Archives Group would be responsible for the equipping and use of the kiosk as a tourist information facility.

The Treasurer stated that she wished to make an application for funding to hold a Christmas lunch for the *Thursday Club*. The Council gave unanimous approval that this be done.

CC106 Youth Matters

Iain Beaton said that the leaflets from Stirling Council advertising Summer Events had not been a great success and the response had been poor. There had been no consultation on the best way to reach its target audience.

Iain Beaton said that bike circuit at Carbeth Home Farm was now operative without problems and was much appreciated. Many thanks go to Daye Tucker for making this facility for young people possible.

CC107 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00407/FUL Extension to dwelling house at Rhuellen, Main Street.

10/00408/FUL Erection of a wooden deck to the rear of dwelling house at 26 Allan Road.

10/00448/LBC Paint front door and window frames at The Tollhouse, 18 Balfron Road.

10/00449/FUL Erection of conservatory at 24 Harpers Road.

10/00451/FUL Proposed erection of 2 dwelling houses with single garages at Former Sawmill At Branshogle Mill, Fintry.

10/00552/ADV Erection of 2 signs at Unit 1, 13 Balfron Road.

10/00575/FUL Construction of dormer and installation of 2 rooflights at 3 Birch Road.

The Council did not wish to comment on any of the above applications.

10/00515/FUL Conversion of old school to create 2 dwellings and ancillary accommodation to existing dwelling at 3 Main Street.

Killlearn Community Council noted that the annexe shown on the plan indicated potential future self-dwelling; it was assumed that this was because it was a condition of the application that only 2 dwellings were to be built for occupancy. It was suggested that a Section 75 Agreement be applied to restrict the development use of the land permanently to 2 dwellings only. Further that the annexe referred to on the application as ancillary accommodation shall form part of the domestic property at 5Main St for all time and shall not be sold separately from that property.

It was suggested that the windows to the elevation facing North West were not compatible in style or form.

10/00514/FUL Demolition of dwelling house and erection of replacement dwelling house at Lettre House.

The Council had not been consulted on this application. It was agreed, as the demolition of a house was a major planning decision, that the Council ask to view the plans. Stirling Council Planning would be requested to delay any decision until the Council had had time to examine these plans and return the consultation response form.

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

10/00407/FUL Extension to dwelling house at Rhuellen, Main Street.

Decision: Approve with conditions.

10/00408/FUL Erection of a wooden deck to the rear of dwelling house at 26 Allan Road.

Decision: Approve with conditions.

10/00448/LBC Paint front door and window frames at the Tollhouse, 18 Balfroon Road.

Decision: Approve, subject to Standard Condition '1', with no additional conditions.

10/00449/FUL Erection of conservatory at 24 Harpers Road.

Decision: Approve with conditions.

Notification of tree works

Tre 2010\97, Information Bulletin 66 (LD\TRE\2-05) Tree works only at Lampson Lane, G63 9PG.

Tre 2010\106; Information Bulletin 72 Tree works and felling only at Balfroon Road, G63 9NN.

Planning Applications Withdrawn

10/00451/FUL Proposed erection of 2 dwelling houses with single garages at Former Sawmill At Branshogle Mill, Fintry.

Decision: Withdrawn.

Planning Panel Decisions

10/00206/FUL Proposed extension and refurbishment including new coffee lounge and youth club at 5 Balfroon Road.

Decision: Approve with conditions.

Glengoyne Distillery

A question was asked on the size of the new storage buildings and the concrete plinth. It was pointed out that this planning application had been discussed and was proceeding to the approved planning permission.

CC108 Correspondence

Correspondence received:

Draft Housing Allocations Policy; Community Health and Fitness Programme; Focus Groups for Non-service Users of Advice Services. Leaflet on Forth Valley Health Service provision and the new hospital sent to all households in Stirling.

Sustainable Stirling Summit. The Chair reported she had attended this event and had come away with many ideas for a sustainable future and a number of good contacts.

Forth Valley Health Forum - Heather Wright attended.

SW Area Rural Forum - The Chair attended.

CC109 Current Local Issues

Public Toilets. Stirling Council intimated that they would like to close the public toilets by the Heath Centre and replace it with a so-called *Comfort Partnership*, which would allow the public to use toilets in the Village Hall and other local businesses. The Village Hall Management Committee rejected the proposal as the hall was locked for much of the time when the toilets were required and external public access would not be welcomed by many hirers of the hall. It was agreed to invite a representative of Stirling Council to discuss the proposal at the next meeting of the Council.

Request for Pedestrian Crossing on Main Street. It was agreed that a suitable place for a formal crossing was between Well Green bus stop and Ibert Road as it was where people tended to cross. It was agreed to forward the request to Stirling Council.

Request for Seat at Bus Stop A local resident responded to the discussion at the last meeting, for a seat at the bus stop by Spar, as she was concerned that it might attract a gathering of local youths who might cause disturbance late at night. It was decided that a seat on the planter was not practical as it would not be under the cover of the shelter and might be used as feared. It was agreed however to ask Stirling Council for a bus shelter with an integrated perch-type seat as this was unlikely to be conducive to unruly behaviour.

CC110 Eco Fair

The Chair said the Eco Fair was on course to be a great event. A number of companies and other bodies would be providing information, Glasgow Science Centre would be giving three performances of an educational event for children, a cycle-powered smoothie maker would be there and local groups such as the Killearn Growers and the Primary School would explain their way of going *eco*. Refreshments throughout the day would be provided by Killearn Primary School PTA. One hundred hessian shopping bags decorated by artwork from Killearn Primary children with the exhortation *Killearn Going Eco* would be available for purchase, with the hope that these tote bags would show commitment to the green agenda.

CC111 Any Other Business

The Chair stated that in past years the Council had given an annual donation of £300 to the Courier. This was now no longer possible from the current administrative grant. The Courier was now covering its costs with local advertising, and had built up a surplus so no longer required this help. The Courier Team thanked the Council for its support in the early years which allowed it to become established.

Peter Wilks said he had been asked to bring up the lack of direction signs to the cemetery. It was agreed to take this up with Stirling Council.

Councillor Lambie said he was pleased to announce that in the pre-appeal results, Balfron High School was the best performing rural school in Scotland.

CC112 Co-option

The Chair proposed Margery Burdon to be co-opted onto the vacant position on the Council. The motion was passed unanimously and Margery was welcomed as a member of the Council.

CC113 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 20 October 2010.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2010

Present: M. Burdon; J. Duncan; C. Macintosh; B. Pell (*Chair*); E. Smith; D. Stuart; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: I. Beaton; P. Campbell; N. Kelly; J. May; A. May; P. Rea.

In Attendance: Councillor C O'Brien; PC D. McNally; I. Anderson (Stirling Council) and 6 members of the public.

It was agreed to consider item 3 of the agenda as the first item.

CC114 *Stirling Council Comfort Partnership*

Ian Anderson introduced himself as an assistant manager responsible, among other things, for public toilets owned by Stirling Council. He stated that these had suffered years of under investment and many were in a poor condition. The challenge was to find ways to improve the provision of public toilet facilities in a time of austerity. A number of councils in the UK had employed a scheme known as *Comfort Partnership*, in which private facilities in commercial premises, public hall, churches etc., were open to the public. The participating partners were offered free advertising on the Council and Tourist Board website and signage outside their premises. In addition they would receive a yearly payment between £500 and £2000, depending on facilities offered. An initial contract would be for 3 years, with an initial 2 month opt-out on both sides if the scheme proved unsatisfactory. Ian said that they had not yet signed up any partners in this area, but expected to do so in the near future. In answering questions from the floor, he affirmed that no public toilets would be closed until a satisfactory partnership scheme was in place in an area. He warned however that unheated toilets would be drained down and closed during the winter months, which would apply to the Killearn public toilets. He accepted that the local toilets were used by Stirling Council staff, bin men, care workers etc., as well as tourists and local people. He agreed that partnership facilities were unlikely to be open 24/7, but assured those present that it worked in other local authorities, although he did admit that a rural area had different problems to an urban one. He concluded by saying this was a consultation and that there was no fear of the immediate closure of the local toilets, except during the winter months. He said that insulating the toilets against the frost or providing localised heating was impractical. The Chair thanked him for his presentation and said the Community Council wished to be kept informed of any changes.

CC115 *Minutes of the Last Meetings*

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2010 were adopted.

CC116 *Matters Arising*

Development on the 'Turnip Field' The Chair said a small sub-group of Council member and others with special interest would be formed to liaise with Stirling Council. Nigel Kelly had felt that the footprint of each house could be smaller.

Blane Bridge Stirling Council, in response to KCC concerns that the priority system needed re-evaluation, stated this had not been in operation long enough to be assessed.

Pedestrian Crossing on Main Street Stirling Council responded to a request to install a crossing on the Main Street. A points scheme exists to assess the need for a crossing, which would then be listed in order of priority. There were 190 schemes at present. A request would be made for the Main Street proposal to be assessed in January 2011. The Chair pointed out that this would in fact be a re-assessment and that preparations to install a crossing had been made some years earlier but had never been implemented.

CC117 *Police Matters*

PC McNally stated that it was a relatively quiet month: a case of poaching on the Blane and a car vandalised at the Black Bull. There was a serious theft of valuable jewellery from a

house in Lampson Road. There had been a spate of break-ins in Milngavie and Blanefield, many of them thefts from unsecured property. PC McNally urged everyone to be vigilant in locking doors and windows, securing outside buildings and making sure cars are locked, even on a driveway. He said he had spoken to Dow about their trucks speeding through the village. He stated, in answer to a question, that cold calling in itself was not illegal, but if a caller refused to leave the police could be called. Reference was made to advice given in previous years by Stirling Council on this matter. He said he was holding a series of talks on internet security for children at local schools. He said that he had had no success with pressing for safety improvements on the Stockiemuir Road. He agreed to provide an article for the Courier.

CC118 Question Time.

It was asked if leaves could be cleared from the pavements. Last year no clearance took place and there were several instances of flooding due to blocked drains. There was a perception that Killearn was being overlooked as there is no Village Officer and the mechanical sweeper had not been seen in the village for some time. Councillor O'Brien agreed to take this up.

The cash machine was still unreliable. One member of the public stated that on one occasion it took a long time to operate. It was agreed to write to HBOS yet again.

It was asked when the food waste bins, promised for August, would be available. In an email David Riggle, Stirling Council, said they were having problems with the vehicles, but were doing their best to speed up the roll-out.

CC119 Youth Matters

Cairi Macintosh said she had nothing to report, but reminded everyone that there would be a number of Halloween parties in the village.

CC120 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £2033.75, Number 2 Account balance £2365.66.

The Treasurer said the number 1 account this month mainly dealt with income and expenditure for the Eco Fair. There had been a grant from the Community Pride Fund paid into the No 2 account as well a number of payments for the Eco Fair; as this account was mainly for administration, income and expenditure for the Fair would be transferred to the Number 1 account. There had also been a grant from Stirling Council of £372.70 for Colourful Killearn which had been paid out to them.

The Treasurer asked that Stirling Council submit an invoice for the work done on the War Memorial. Councillor O'Brien agreed to chase this up.

CC121 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00588/FUL Porch and rear extension to existing house at 8 Crosshead Road.

The Council did not wish to comment this application.

10/00610/ADV Erection of internally illuminated double sided free-standing poster display unit at 56 Main Street.

It was decided to ask for further information on this application.

10/00514/FUL Demolition of dwelling house and erection of replacement dwelling house at Lettre House.

The majority of the Council had no objection to this application. One member felt that a traditional Scottish house, albeit in poor condition, should be replaced by a house more in keeping with the local style. The Council wished to be assured of the protection of trees.

Planning Decisions by Appointed Officers of Stirling Council:

10/00449/FUL Erection of conservatory at 24 Harpers Road.

Decision: Approve with conditions.

Planning Schedule Recommendations

09/00799/HAZ Application for Hazardous Substance Consent for storage of 5196 tonnes of ethanol at Glengoyne Distillery

Decision: Approve with conditions.

10/00552/ADV Erection of 2 signs at Unit 1 13 Balfroon Road.

Decision: Approve with conditions.

CC122 Correspondence

Correspondence received:

Revised timetable for Local Development Plan; Local Development Plan Report; Local Stirling Business Space; request from Stirling Council for schedule of Community Council meetings for 2011; local Surgeries of Anne McGuire, MP; request for fireworks and public procession license from KCFC.

Request to become a fund-raising partner for the NHS. It was noted that this was not within the remit of a community council.

Letter from Killearn Primary School stating they had been awarded a Green Flag. They thanked the Council for inviting them to participate in the Eco fair which greatly helped their application. It was agreed to send a letter of congratulation.

Invitation to *Zero Waste Training by Going Carbon Neutral Stirling*.

CC123 Reports of Meetings Attended

Heather Wright attended the NHS Forum meeting on accessing patient medical notes.

The Chair attended the Local Area Forum on care for the elderly. She stated that the next Forum meeting would be on youth provision and youth members would be invited.

CC124 Eco Fair – Next Steps

The Chair said the Eco Fair was very successful, well-attended, providing interest, information and entertainment. Following on from the fair, a meeting was held with a number of interested people at which it was decided to set up a new 'Eco' group, led by Heather Wright. This group would apply to be included amongst the KCFC working groups. As a part of KCFC, the group will be able to seek funding to raise the profile of eco matters. A working title might be *Sustainable Killearn* and the aim being to cover the widest range of issues around recycling, energy, the environment, low carbon footprint etc. It was intended to run a series of events, including a Spring Fair, with an agricultural and horticultural focus.

CC125 KCFC Matters

The AGM will be held on 28 October. It is important that as many from the village attend and become paid-up members of KCFC.

CC126 Any Other Business

Notice has been received of a scoping exercise for a wind farm at Craigiervan Farm, near Drymen. This would be presented by a representative of the Banks Group at the next meeting.

Councillor O'Brien said that he was sorry that Killearn felt it was neglected by Stirling Council and was sure that it was not the case. There were large reductions in the Stirling Council budget which would impact on road maintenance and other services. He had put the request for a clean-up operation at the Killearn Hospital site on the capital programme. He

promised to follow up the list of problems that he had noted during the meeting with officers of Stirling Council. He praised the Council for its successful Eco Fair.

CC127 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 17 November 2010.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2010

Present: I. Beaton; M. Burdon; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Smith; D. Stuart; P. Wilks.

Apologies: J. Duncan; H. Wright.

In Attendance: Councillor C O'Brien; PC D. McNally; P. Campbell; P. Dyke; S. Samson; G. Thomson and 9 members of the public.

It was agreed to consider item 3 of the agenda as the first item.

The Chair accepted with regret, the resignation of Aileen May from the Council. The Council was sorry to lose her, and thanked her for the work she has done on behalf of the Council, particularly the production of the *Killearn Community Council Handbook*.

CC128 Scoping Exercise for Wind Farm by Banks Group

The representatives from the Banks Group introduced themselves and their company. Phil Dyke, Managing Director Renewables, stated that they were a private company with varied interests, including the installation of wind farms. They were surveying Craigievern Farm, just north of the A811 and west of Ballat for a maximum of 20 wind turbines, which were proposed to be 40m blades on 60m towers. His colleague, Siobhan Samson, distributed maps showing proposed approximate locations, but emphasised that survey was at an early stage and both numbers and locations of the turbines could change. When questioned on the visibility of the turbines from Killearn, a wire frame map was produced which showed the turbines, but without trees, houses, and other landscape objects. On being questioned, he admitted that the highest blade tip could be approximately 250m above sea level.

Gordon Thomson said that at this stage there was no business plan as this was an early feasibility study. When questioned on who wanted the turbines, it was stated that this was in answer to Scottish and UK Government policy on carbon dioxide reduction. On being asked how the views of local residents would be taken into account, the company said that every single house within a wide catchment area would be invited to give their views and stated objections. They agreed that the site was close to Drymen Primary School, however, the school would be beyond the statutory 500m buffer zone. On the question of connection to the National Grid, they said there was a suitable sub-station a few hundred metres south on the A811. The actual access to the site had still to be decided.

The company had one completed wind farm in West Durham, with two others at an advanced stage in England and one at the planning stage in Ayrshire. This was an early consultation exercise with the neighbouring community councils. The Chair thanked the group for their presentation and trusted that Killearn Community Council would be included in any future consultations if the project progressed.

CC129 Minutes of the Last Meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2010 were adopted.

CC130 Matters Arising

Development of the Turnip Field A small sub-group, consisting of Iain Beaton, Janet Duncan, Nigel Kelly, Brenda Pell and Peter Wilks had been set up to consider any actions that require to be taken between regular Council meetings. No decisions would be taken without the full agreement of the Council.

War Memorial The Chair thanked Councillor O'Brien for the assiduous way in which he had taken up the issues discussed at the last meeting. As a result, the invoice for the excellent work on the memorial had now been received and would be paid as soon as grant monies were in place.

Street Sweeping Stirling Council was one mechanical sweeper below full strength, so the service had not been as frequent as it should have been. However, essential work such as

leaf clearing at major points would be targeted, and locals were reminded that they should use the Stirling Council help line to bring particular problem areas to the attention of Stirling Council. It was agreed to send a list, including the bus shelter at the top of Drumbeg Loan, Main Street and the path across Well Green to be identified as priority areas.

Waste Services Stirling Council were experiencing difficulty rolling out the waste food collection service to all areas due to lack of capacity. It was hoped that a major part of Killearn would be included in the scheme by the end of November.

Traffic Management The Council was pleased to have a response from Alistair Dawson of Stirling Council in time for the meeting. An underspend on other projects would allow a small expenditure to be allocated to low-cost improvements in Killearn. The Council welcomed the proposed improvement to the mini-roundabout at the Drumbeg Loan/Main Street junction. However it was felt that the present parking arrangement by LMH and Panik Gallery were working well and slowed the traffic in Main Street. The Council had serious reservations about proposed improvements to the Station Road/Balfron Road junction. The Council would like to see attention paid to improving access to Spar car park which was too narrow and a potential source of accidents.

Public Toilets A letter was sent to Ian Anderson thanking him for his presentation on provision of public toilets, while strongly expressing the feeling of the meeting. The letter would be circulated as an addendum to these minutes

CC131 Police Matters

PC McNally stated that it had been a fairly quiet month. There had been a car crash at Heron's Court. A window had been broken at Hallowe'en, and the culprit dealt with. A battery and electric fence generator had been stolen from Ibert Road. A bus driver had been dazzled by a laser pen, which could have had serious consequences. These pens, which it was understood had been purchased on Ebay, were circulating in the High School,

The Fireworks Event was very successful, and the young people were to be congratulated on their excellent behaviour.

Everyone was asked to lock up possessions in cars and outbuildings as well as the house, as break-ins were still occurring in the Blanefield area. It was stressed that in frosty weather cars should not be left unattended with the engine running, even in the driveway.

CC132 Question Time.

Pedestrian Crossing A crossing had been requested across Main Street from Ibert Road to Well Green. This was required on safety grounds and it was agreed to press this urgently with Stirling Council

Graffiti At Health Centre The removal of this graffiti had been requested some time ago and it was believed that this was to be completed by the Community Service Squad. Councillor O'Brien agreed to take this up.

Disabled Parking At Health Centre Since re-surfacing, there were now no designated disabled spaces in the Doctor's Car Park. Councillor O'Brien agreed to take this up.

CC133 Youth Matters

A football group for the 17 to 21 year age group was to be set up at Balfron High School. There was also interest in forming a five-a-side league.

CC134 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £3233.75, Number 2 Account balance £2565.66.

Received grant of £1250 for the War Memorial renovation from the Paul Trust.

Received grant of £200 for the Thursday Club from Stirling Council.

CC135 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00657/FUL Erection of dwelling house at Land To North Of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road.

The Council had previously responded to this application. It was agreed to make no further comments, but resend our previous response.

10/00710/FUL Installation of an air source heat pump at the rear of the house at 39 Allan Road.

The Council did not wish to comment this application.

10/00610/ADV Erection of internally illuminated double sided free-standing poster display unit at 56 Main Street.

Response to this application was held over until detailed plans were received. Discussion followed, and the Council was divided on the appropriateness of the sign in a village. It was decided to communicate this division of opinion to the planning department.

Planning Panel Recommendations

10/00514/FUL Demolition of dwelling house and erection of replacement dwelling house at Lettre House.

Decision: Refuse. Councillor O'Brien stated that the recommendation to refuse was accepted by the planning panel.

Notification of tree works

Tre 2010\133, Information Bulletin 86 (LD\TRE\2-05) Tree works only at Rear Rowan Crescent, Killearn G63 9RZ.

Planning Enforcement

10/00128/UNAUTH Erection of conservatory at Chestnut Avenue.

CC136 Correspondence

Correspondence received: Notification of community council vacancy elections; notification of surgery dates for Anne McGuire MP; information on Dog's Trust (*forwarded to charities within the village*); NHS Partnership meeting; invitation to opening of new houses at Killin by RSHA; *Connect* magazine from Scottish Health Council; notification of *Renewable Energy Fair* in Stirling Baptist Church.

Letter from Bluefin Insurance asserting that the Council's public liability insurance was not adequate. Assured by Stirling Council that existing Zurich Insurance cover was adequate.

Meeting of Area Forum, which would include consultation on rural bus services and transport. All members of the public were invited to attend.

CC137 Reports of Meetings Attended

Heather Wright, together with other members of the Council had been attending a series of lectures and discussion on *The Economy, Energy and Environment*, organised by the Blane Valley Carbon Neutral Group. These were based on a series of DVD lectures by Chris Martenson. These were based on the premise that the world was running out of fossil fuels and the economy was unviable. A number of participants held very strong views. It raised a number of important topics which must be discussed and the Council thanks Heather for attending these lectures.

Heather was attending the NHS Partnership meeting this evening and would report on it at the next meeting of the Council.

CC138 Any Other Business

Car Park Opposite Co-op The Council had been approached on behalf of the residents of Main Street opposite the Co-op. The council and ex-council houses had no driveways or car access and normally park their cars in the car park in front of their properties. As they often could not get parked, they asked if the park could be made *residents only* from 1800 to 0800 hrs. This would require Stirling Council to make an order. It was agreed to make this an agenda item at the next meeting for discussion and inform residents of this fact.

PC McNally said a trailer that had been permanently left in the car park had had a 7-day notice served on it.

CC139 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 15 December 2010 at 8.00 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 DECEMBER 2010

Present: I. Beaton; M. Burdon; J. Duncan; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Smith; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

Apologies: Councillor C O'Brien.

In Attendance: PC D. McNally; P. Campbell; and 8 members of the public.

The Chair accepted the resignation of Jenni May from the Council. She stated that she had underestimated the volume of work on her university course and was thus unable to give the Council the necessary commitment. The Chair stated this left two vacancies which would be advertised in the course of the Community Council Elections in 2011.

CC140 Minutes of the Last Meetings

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2010 were adopted.

CC141 Matters Arising

Housing Sub-group The group had not yet met. John McMillan will be the Stirling Council officer who will liaise with the group. A meeting will be arranged in the New Year.

Waste Food Containers These had now been issued to the majority of houses in the village. It was noted that because of the weather conditions, the brown bin collection had been temporarily suspended.

Graffiti at the Health Centre. No progress.

CC142 Police Matters

PC McNally stated that this had been a quiet month with just one serious house break-in in which a significant quantity of jewellery had been stolen. He warned householders to be vigilant over the festive season and ensure that all their property was secured.

PC McNally reminded car owners that the windscreen and other car windows must be completely clear before setting off.

A member of the public passed a sticker from Lanarkshire Police which householders could display to indicate that they would not purchase from cold callers. PC McNally said he would study it to see if it could be introduced in this area.

CC143 Question Time.

There were no questions from the public.

CC144 Youth Matters

Cairi Macintosh was congratulated on taking part in the production of a video for a Christmas single.

The Chair stated that she had received notification that there is to be a certain amount of reorganisation in Stirling Council Youth Services but the details were not yet available.

CC145 Treasurer's Report

Number 1 Account balance - £1456.75, Number 2 Account balance £2079.14.

The Treasurer stated that there were transfers between the two accounts to regularise them. The account for the refurbishment of the war memorial had been paid. The loan of £1000 from KCFC for the start-up costs of the Eco Fair had been repaid now that the Eco Fair costs had been paid.

Using a portion of the remaining Eco Fair funds, it was decided that the Council should investigate the purchase of display boards in order to promote future activities and events.

There are no such resources available in the village, and when required these had to be borrowed from Stirling Council. It would be a useful acquisition.

It was noted that the insurance company should be informed of any such purchase.

CC146 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received:

10/00723/FUL Conversion of existing commercial unit to a small 1 bedroom flat with a small entrance lobby extension and very minor internal alterations at Unit 3, 13 Balfroon Road.

The Council does not oppose this conversion, but as it forms the fifth flat in the complex, it was suggested that Stirling Council could make it a condition that it was let at an affordable rent.

10/00733/FUL Extension to dwelling house and new boiler flue at 15 Lampson Road.
The Council did not wish to comment this application.

10/00744/FUL Demolish single storey garage, workshop, conservatory, rear porch and timber frame garage and erection of new two storey extension to south and east elevations and erection of new garage at Blairdevon, Gartness Road.

The Council did not wish to comment this application.

Decisions of Appointed Officers

10/00515/FUL Conversion of old school to create 2 dwellings and ancillary accommodation to existing dwelling at 3 Main Street.

Decision: Approve with Conditions.

10/00588/FUL Porch and rear extension to existing house at 8 Crosshead.

Decision: Approve with Conditions

10/00575/FUL Construction of dormer and installation of 2 roof lights at 3 Birch Road.

Decision: Approve with Conditions

Planning Panel Recommendations

10/00610/ADV Erection of internally illuminated double sided free-standing poster display unit at 56 Main Street.

Recommendation: Refuse

Notification of tree works

Tre 2010\158 Information Bulletin 102 (LD\TRE\2-05 Tree works felling and replanting only at Lampson Road, Killearn G63 9PD

Delegated Decisions - Cases Closed

10/00128/UNAUTH Erection of conservatory at Chestnut Avenue.

Decision: No breach of planning control.

Planning Applications Withdrawn

10/00093/PPP New low carbon house within Drumore Wood as part of a sustainable living scheme at Land At Drumore Wood Gartness Road.

The applicant has withdrawn this application.

CC147 Traffic Matters

Nigel Kelly presented an excellent report on the replies to the questions posed by the Council on the next round of plans for traffic management in the village and also the problems highlighted by the inclement weather.

Traffic Management

Station Road/ Balfron Road Junction. Stirling Council stated that a roundabout was never included in the Final Feasibility Report, and the draft layout showed widened footways, and a refuge island to assist pedestrians. A number of Council members had reservations on the necessity for a refuge island as this would restrict the entrance to Station Road making access difficult for large vehicles. The pavement by the bus stop was not well defined and required attention.

Main Street Parking from Bank to Spar. There was still an existing Traffic Regulation Order for this section of the street which needed to be reviewed in consultation with the immediate neighbours including residents and businesses. Following a survey, it would be decided whether to recommend if any waiting restrictions would be beneficial or if the existing order could be revoked completely. Peter Wilks noted that the yellow lines had just been repainted.

Area around Spar Inappropriate parking in the bus lay-by was an issue of enforcement. Parking on the forecourt, incorrect use of a disabled parking space or parking adjacent to the boundary fence all cause inconvenience to others but, as this is private land owned by the Spar, action by the shop is required, rather than by Stirling Council. The Engineer maintained his opinion that the entrance was sufficiently wide. However, any vehicle parked inappropriately narrows the access, causing problems. This needs to be stopped in consultation with Spar. The request for a pedestrian crossing close to Well Green path would be determined by a pedestrian and traffic survey, which would be arranged as soon as possible.

Car Park Opposite Coop. This was controlled for general public use by Housing (not Roads) including the adjacent grass areas; any potential alterations would be a longer term aspiration to be discussed further at future meetings. The Chair stated that the residents around the parking area should be invited to a future meeting. Peter Rea suggested that the Council could survey each household in the area to determine need. A question was posed on how any increase in parking space could be funded.

Main Street / Drumbeg Loan Junction. There had been concern about this junction for some time, as there was no horizontal deflection on the approach to encourage vehicles to slow and give way at the mini-roundabout. A feasibility report suggested a traffic island to create some horizontal movement forcing drivers to slow down which would make the roundabout more prominent and safer for all users. Detailed design and costing for this element would be made, with possible construction around the end of the financial year.

Parking in Main Street due to Snow Nigel Kelly gave a detailed analysis of the reasons for the problems in Main Street caused by parked vehicles during the period of severe snow, as well as problems experienced in other areas of the community. Thoughtless parking narrowed the street to such an extent that buses had to be diverted down Station Road and other traffic was severely disrupted. The problem was exacerbated as parked vehicles prevented the snow plough and gritters from clearing the road. The police eventually required all drivers to remove their vehicles. It was suggested that a strategy be worked out where vehicles could safely park if such conditions prevail in the future. Stirling Council worked to a hierarchy of priorities, so that many side roads in Killearn were not attended to for a number of days. It was suggested that certain areas of Killearn should have a higher priority. Beech Drive was not a through road, but served a large number of side roads, as well as Abbeyfield House, a residence for the elderly, and a nursery. The footpath by Well Green was also an essential link and should be cleared and gritted early.

The conditions were exceptional, but it was up to everyone to use their common sense in parking their cars and realise the effect on other road users, especially essential services, despite the urge to leave them somewhere accessible. It is also incumbent on everyone not to rely entirely on the Council, and, if possible and physically able, to clear their section of path. In fact to be a responsible citizen, prepare for such contingencies; only use your car if you are certain that you can cope with the conditions and at all times think of the effect of

your actions on other people. A formal group of volunteers could perhaps be formed along the lines of *Community Resistance*, piloted in Killin and Riverside. Pam Campbell stated that this had been formed to meet the threat of flooding, but could provide a model for future action.

CC148 *Current Issues*

Sustainable Killearn The new group formed as a spin-off from the Eco Fair had now been formally constituted by KCFC with a start-up donation of £1000. Heather Wright had been nominated a director of the company and would chair the new group. She said that the group hoped to hold an event in the spring.

Recycling/Food Waste Collection As previously stated, the food waste bins were now available except in areas served by the restricted-size vehicle. The Chair thanked Councillor O'Brien for dealing so efficiently with this and all the other queries raised at the last meeting.

CC149 *Correspondence*

Correspondence received: Planning newsletter; Anne McGuire surgery dates; closure dates of Balfour Local Office; Youth Update (newsletter); Scottish Government stakeholder survey; details of *Spring Clean*, organised by *Keep Scotland Beautiful*.

A conciliatory reply had been received from Jeanette McGinty, HBOS, regarding the bank cash dispenser. There had been only two occasions in the last month when cash was unavailable, one due to a fault and the other because cash had run out. All other occasions were routine servicing, which meant the machine was unable to be used for a period of 30 minutes. The Chair suggested that it would be helpful if information could be given on the screen, explaining why the machine was out-of-service and when it would become available again.

CC150 *Reports of Meetings Attended*

NHS Partnership Meeting Heather Wright attended the meeting at which the business plan for the Stirling Community Hospital and the travel plan for the Royal Forth Valley Hospital were discussed, she also brought copies of the bus timetable and connection for the hospital; additional copies will be left at the post office. The report of the meeting was available on the Community Council website.

Rural Area Forum The Chair, together with other members, attended the Area Forum. The meeting began with a presentation from the Chief Executive, Bob Jack, explaining how Stirling Council intended to deal with the reduced income to the Council. All departments were subjected to an efficiency audit, and priority services identified. Where necessary, services would be placed to receive the best value. The intention was to drive down costs, while retaining the best possible services.

The second half of the meeting was a consultation exercise on *Rural Bus and Demand-Responsive Transport Services*. It was explained that the Council had no control over commercial bus operators and could only influence the subsidised services, which in Killearn were evening and Sunday services. All such contracts would expire at the end of March 2012 and new contracts would require a nine-month lead time. The aim of the subsidised services was to meet community needs with best value for public funds. A lively discussion followed with arguments on the respective merits of scheduled services and demand-responsive ones. Concerns were raised that the removal of Sunday or evening services could have a detrimental impact on visitors and the non drivers of the village, and that this service was a link route to the Forth Valley Royal Hospital. The only fact that became clear was that there would be insufficient funding to meet the demands of the communities for a comprehensive public transport service.

CC151 Any Other Business

Super Fast Broadband An email from a local person noted that only 3% of the residents of Killearn had visited the *BT Infinity* website to register an interest in super fast broadband. If Killearn wants to get this facility, it was important that as many users, regardless of their present broadband supplier, register an interest, as the figure had to reach 85% for BT to respond. There was no obligation involved by registering on the site.

The Chair wished all members and residents a very Happy Christmas and a good New Year and gave thanks to the Janitor and cleaning staff for their excellent service over the year.

CC152 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 19 January 2011 at 8.00 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2010

- Present:* J. Duncan; B. Pell(*Chair*); P. Rea; P. Wilks; H. Wright.
- Apologies:* Nigel Kelly; Cairi Macintosh; Aileen May; Jenni May; Betty Smith; Derek Stuart.
- In Attendance:* Councillor G Lambie; Councillor Colin O'Brien; Pam Campbell and an invited audience representing Killearn organisations. (*See Appendix I*).
- Invited Speaker:* Brian Simmers *KCFC Village Hall Development Group*

Brenda Pell welcomed all present and explained that KCC were pleased to host the meeting to enable Brian Simmers to present the plans for the renovation of the Village Hall. This first public presentation was to an invited audience of the major organisations in Killearn, together with representatives of users of the hall. She introduced Brian Simmers chair of the KCFC Village Hall Development Group.

SM1 Brian addressed the meeting and introduced the members of the working group. He explained that the request to renovate the hall had been brought to KCFC two years ago by several residents who believed this valuable amenity could better serve the needs of the village if improvements were made to bring it up to present day standards. A comprehensive survey of residents which included the views of school children showed that there was great support for the project which he emphasised was indeed a Killearn Community Project and reflected the aspirations of the community.

The survey revealed five key areas which have been addressed by selected architects McEachern MacDuff in the plans. Using these plans and a 3D model Brian demonstrated how the proposed renovations would raise the present floor level enabling the main hall and an additional space to benefit from the magnificent views to the rear of the building whilst providing considerably improved facilities. On a lower level additional space will be created as a designated area for young people.

Costs incurred to date have been met by grants from Stirling Council and Awards for All. A budget of £1 million was originally set for the project. VAT and fitting-out costs are estimated to bring the total cost to £1.2 million.

Funding will be sought from several sources but it is hoped that the Scottish Rural Development Programme might provide a major part of the funding. First steps have been taken in making this application.

The project has been approved by the Board of KCFC.

The next steps will be to submit an application to the Planning Department.

Details of the project will appear in the March issue of the Courier and two public presentations are planned: Sunday 28 March at 3pm. and Thursday 1 April at 8pm. to which all residents, including children and young people, are warmly invited.

SM2 Questions from the floor were invited and were responded to by Brian and members of the group. Subjects addressed: storage space; lift; disabled access and toilets; heating systems; evidence of village support and fund-raising.

SM3 Daye Tucker, convenor of KCFC was invited to speak. She paid tribute to the work of Brian Simmers and the VHDG group and what had been achieved in the past two years. Peter Wilks also paid tribute to David Clark, former member of the board of KCFC for his vision which helped to start the project.

SM4 The Chair signalled the end of the formal part of the meeting, announced that refreshments would be served and invited the audience to have a closer view of the plans and the model whilst continuing discussions informally.

APPENDIX I

Present:

VHDG

Brian Simmers
Bruce Montgomery Smith
Dudley Gee
David Clark

KCC

Brenda Pell
Peter Rea
Janet Duncan
Heather Wright
Peter Wilks
Iain Beaton

KCFC

Daye Tucker

KPHMC

Bill Richardson
Michael Pell
Jane Hunter
Iain Moreland

Killearn Trust

Jamie Parker
Gill Smith
Jim Fallas

Killearn Kirk Session

Rev. David Munro
Scott Macintosh

KVHUsers

Heather Farren (Rainbows)
Hugh MacArthur (Masons)
Jenny Malyon (Scouts/PTA)
Donnie Beaton (Football Club)
Stephanie Stevenson (PTA)
Peter Smith (All Killearn Archive)

Stirling Councillors

Graham Lambie
Colin O'Brien

Stirling Council

Pam Campbell

Apologies:

Rt. Hon. Anne McGuire M.P.
Bruce Crawford MSP
Councillor Alistair Berrill
Nigel Kelly (*KCC*)
Jenni May (*KCC*)
Aileen May (*KCC*)
Cairi Macintosh (*KCC*)
Betty Smith (*KCC*)
Derek Stuart *KCC*
Sue Beck (*KVHUsers Badminton*)

Ian Dickie (*KCFC*)
Joanna Donaldson (*KCFC*)
Richard Hunter (*KCFC*)
Jacqui McAlpine (*KCFC*)
David McNally (*Police*)
Kay Pollock (*Killearn Trust*)
Caroline Critchley (*KPHMC*)
Jim Wright (*KPHMC*)
Chris Williams (*Killearn Kirk Session*)

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 18 MAY 2010

Present: J. Duncan; B. Pell(*Chair*); N. Kelly; A. May; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

Apologies: P. Rea; Betty Smith; Jenni May

In Attendance: Councillor G Lambie; Pam Campbell and approximately 50 participants.

Invited Speakers: Tom Douglas (*Consultant Engineer*); Jamie Adam (*Community Energy Scotland*); Jonathan Padmore (*Stirling Council Transport*); David Riggle (*Stirling Council Waste Services*); Catriona Mackenzie (*Teacher*) and two pupils, Caris Nuttall and Callum Clark (*Killearn Primary School*).

SM5 Brenda Pell welcomed all present and explained that this was entitled a special eco meeting. The Council had been justly rebuked for not tackling many topics of current importance that are grouped together under the heading eco; green issues, carbon footprint; renewable energy; minimising resource use, recycling and so on. This meeting was intended to be the forerunner of a special Eco Fair to be held as an all-day event on 18 September 2010. It was hoped that it would arouse interest in these topics and would canvas the views of the community to determine what was of importance to the wider community.

The meeting was structured with short presentations from each of the invited speakers, which then broke up into separate groups under the leadership of each of the main speakers. The meeting ended with a short plenary session.

SM6 Tom Douglas congratulated Killearn Community Council for initiating this event as shortage of energy, water and food would be the challenge that we would have to meet and it was essential to plan for the future now. He then gave a short overview of the problems and some possible solutions. He said that there were a number of possible sources of renewable energy, including nuclear and it was not yet possible to say definitively if one single technology would dominate. The change in the provision of energy in the past twenty years from nationalisation to the private sector has rendered the energy business more complex and more dependent on market forces. This in turn has led to the issuing of regulations and the introduction of subsidies paid for by the tax payer. He discussed the problem of one's carbon footprint and said we would have to change the way we consumed. He then finished by saying that this was no short-term problem but required long-term endeavour.

SM7 Jamie Adam gave an overview of products that generated energy from renewable resources. He described the advantages and problems with pelleted wood and wood chip boilers, solar thermal panels, solar photovoltaic panels, different types of heat pumps, microwind generators and finally small hydro-electric generators. He then explained the function of CARES (*Community and Renewable Energy Scheme*), the grants available and the conditions attached to them. He finished by discussing the government's feed-in tariff scheme. The scheme guaranteed a minimum payment for all electricity generated by the system, as well as a separate payment for the electricity exported to grid. These payments were in addition to the bill savings made by using the electricity generated on-site. This was guaranteed for 20 years or 25 years in the case of solar PV.

SM8 Jonathan Padmore stated that there were big problems in providing rural transport and he asked what support was desired of the Council and Community Planning Partners. The key issues were the increase in car use and how it could be reduced. Buses were privatised and the Council could only subsidise those routes and times which were identified as being socially necessary. The Council needed feedback from the community on the services it provided, and how they could be improved.

SM9 David Riggle said he had an aspiration that the Council should work towards zero waste, and said that it was not an impossible goal. The Council was obligated to reduce the waste that goes to landfill and remove all bio-degradable waste as it produced the greenhouse gas

methane. The Council would soon provide all households with a bin to store and collect the food waste which could not go into the brown bin. This would be collected weekly. He concluded by saying that we must minimise waste and ensure that waste became a resource.

SM10 Catriona Mackenzie gave an interesting presentation about Killearn Primary School's participation in the *Eco Schools Programme*. This is an international initiative designed to encourage whole school action for the environment. Each class in the school has their own area of responsibility. These include a garden planted and harvested by the infant classes, energy conservation and litter prevention. The school has already achieved an Eco Schools Silver Award and is currently working on meeting the criteria for the *Green Flag*. Carys Nuttall and Callum Clark, both P7 pupils, then explained the work their class are doing as 'Power Rangers' to raise awareness throughout the school of energy issues and to improve energy efficiency within school. The commitment and enthusiasm shown by the children was evident.

SM11 The meeting then divided into four separate groups to discuss the topics raised by the speakers. The meeting then reconvened when Pam Campbell collated the major discussion points from each group. These would be taken into account by the committee charged with setting up the Eco Fair in September.

Thanks were given to the principal speakers, to Pam Campbell and to the audience for participating in this event.

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON 16 JUNE 2010**

Present: I. Beaton; J. Duncan; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; J. May; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Smith; D. Stuart; H. Wright; P. Wilks.

Apologies: A. May; P. Campbell

In Attendance: Councillor C. O'Brien; PC D. McNally; and 6 members of the public.

AGM1 Minutes of Last AGM

The minutes of the AGM held on 17 June 2009 were approved.

AGM2 Chairman's Report

The Chair presented the Annual Report for the year 2009/2010. Acceptance of the report was moved by P. Wilks and seconded by N. Kelly. The Annual Report is attached as Appendix 1 to the minute.

AGM3 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the Audited Accounts for the year 2009/2010

Acceptance of the accounts was moved by P. Wilks and seconded by J. Duncan. The Audited Accounts are attached as Appendix 2 to the minute.

The meeting declared a unanimous vote of thanks to the Treasurer and the Auditor.

AGM4 Election of Office Bearers

The Chair suggested that the Officers of the Council should be re-elected en bloc. This was moved by P. Rea and seconded by I. Beaton.

The Officers of the Council for the year were then re-elected: Chair: Brenda Pell; Vice-Chair/Minutes Secretary/Webmaster: Peter Wilks; Secretary: Heather Wright; Treasurer: Betty Smith; Planning Correspondent: Peter Rea.

AGM5 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

AGM6 Vote of Thanks

The Chair thanked all members for their contribution to the work of the Council during the past session. The meeting declared a unanimous vote of thanks to the Chair.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.16 pm.

APPENDIX 1
KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010

The past year has seen the ending in October of the previous Community Council and the installation of a new Community Council in November. The retiring members were Iain Moreland, Kay Pollock and Christopher Riches, all of whom have given excellent service. Killearn Community Council won an award for the Most Outstanding Local Group in the Stirling Local Newspaper Awards and this was presented to Kay Pollock as a mark of appreciation for having served with distinction on KCC since the formation of Community Councils thirty-six years ago.

Two new members: Jenni May and Nigel Kelly (who has seen previous service) were welcomed to the newly formed Council comprising: Brenda Pell (*Chair*); Peter Wilks (*Vice-Chair, Minutes Sec., Webmaster*); Heather Wright (*Sec.*); Betty Smith (*Treasurer*); Peter Rea (*Planning Correspondent*); Janet Duncan; Nigel Kelly; Aileen May; Jenni May; Derek Stuart with Iain Beaton and Cairi Macintosh (*Youth Members*). One vacancy remains. Any resident interested in serving on KCC would be welcome to complete the team.

Our meetings have been attended by one of our Councillors, in rotation, by our Community Police Officer, David McNally as well as by a number of residents. As well as dealing with concerns raised by residents, the regular business of roads and traffic management, planning matters and local projects, KCC has endeavoured to keep the community informed of new developments by inviting speakers to address meetings on specific subjects. Our guest speakers this year from Stirling Council, have been Tony Cain, Head of Housing and Sarah Winstone, Youth Services. Community Council members also attend a range of meetings, such as the Local Area Planning Forum, the NHS Forth Valley Forum and others, in order to participate in discussion of issues that affect or will soon affect our community. Reports are communicated at our regular monthly meetings and included in the Minutes.

Aileen May is to be congratulated for producing a KCC handbook which provides members with an easy reference manual for their Community Council work. Stirling Council also produced a handbook for Community Council members. These, combined with the excellent support we receive from Pam Campbell, Rural Villages Development Officer, and our three elected Councillors, have resulted in an improved communication system between us and Stirling Council and enabled us to transmit your concerns as speedily as possible.

The first stage of the traffic management plan, designed to address concerns about road safety and the speed of traffic passing through the village, was completed with the re-positioning of the bus stop and alterations to parking at Spar. Whilst there have been complaints about the narrow entry to this car park and sometimes drivers are guilty of thoughtless parking in this entry or even on the pedestrian pathway, on the whole this has eliminated the dangerous practice of reversing on to the carriageway and made this a safer area. It is hoped that the marking on the road surface and the new signage at the bank corner will improve the safety of this area. The installation of illuminated speed warning signs is helpful in reminding drivers to slow down as they drive through the village.

Drainage problems which caused flooding around the Well Green have hopefully been eliminated by remedial works to the culvert in that area. The severity of the winter caused further degradation to the roads in and around the village but Stirling Council has gradually been addressing these over the past months, although we should also like to see the pedestrian pathways improved.

The retirement of our Village Officer has meant that the cleansing of our streets is now conducted by the Mobile Squad who visit daily. The National Spring Clean Campaign was again supported by several youth groups and we are grateful to the Boys Brigade, Rainbows, 2nd. Killearn Brownies, 1st. Killearn Guides and P5/6 pupils of Killearn Primary School for their work in tidying up our village. Certificates were given to these groups as a mark of our appreciation.

Various projects, such as the renovation of the War Memorial, the adoption of the telephone kiosk at Dumgoyne and the improvement of footpaths are either ongoing or nearing completion. Major village

projects come under the 'umbrella' of KCFC but receive the support of KCC. Important at present is the proposed renovation of the Village Hall. KCC sees this as the means of providing the village with a valued facility suited to present day and future needs and signified its support by hosting a special meeting to present the plans to the village. Linked to this is our interest in the provision of amenities for young people which found expression in our Focus on Youth at a recent meeting when information was exchanged between those involved in working with young people. Our Youth Members have, throughout the year, given admirable leadership in pursuing ideas for expanding facilities for the young in our community.

Matters that are expected to arise in the near future are proposals for affordable housing on the 'turnip field', which has been held by Stirling Council as potential housing stock for as long as the village has regarded it as recreational land, together with the provision of changing rooms for the Football Club. In what could be a series of contentious issues it is hoped that a compromise solution may be found that will satisfy all parties. The new Local Development Plan, currently in production by Stirling Council, emphasises that change must come everywhere and certainly it is agreed that affordable housing in the rural areas is a must. Recent changes in planning legislation have relaxed some of the restrictions for building in the countryside but balancing this is the Open Spaces Strategy which encourages us to think about how we value spaces in our local area.

Finally, we are encouraged to turn our thought to broader issues which confront our civilisation. KCC held a Special Eco meeting in May. It was an 'awareness raising' venture and was designed as the preliminary to an Eco Fair planned for 18 September.

In our village there are a number of initiatives going on in an attempt to achieve a 'greener' lifestyle. It is our aim to spotlight these ventures and to encourage us all, as a community, to develop a more thoughtful and cooperative approach towards our use of scarce resources. We hope you will support your Community Council in pursuing this ideal.

KCC news can be found on the noticeboard, in the local press and on our website:
www.killlearncc.org.uk

*Brenda Pell
June 2010*

APPENDIX 2

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2010
NUMBER 1 ACCOUNT**

EXPENDITURE

Totals £0.00

INCOME

Interest £0.00

TOTALS £0.00

£0.00

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2009

LIABILITIES

Balance at 1st April 2009 £58.75

ASSETS

Bank Account £58.75

TOTALS £58.75

£58.75

(E.G.Smith) Treasurer

I certify that the above accounts have been prepared in accordance with the vouchers and information supplied to me.

(C. Delany) Auditor

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 2010
NUMBER 2 ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
		Grant Stirling Council	£373.35
Postage and Distribution	£161.36	Stirling Council Community Pride	£117.70
Website/Fax etc./Telephone	£35.11	Stirling Council Data Protection	£35.00
Information Commissioner	£35.00		
Photocopying and Printing	£50.00		
Administration Expenses (mileage etc)	£165.60	Stirling Council Error	£270.00
Audit Fee	£28.00	Stirling Council Error	£270.00
Refurbishing Noticeboard	£183.99		
Stirling Council – Repayment for Error	£540.00		
Scotways	£20.00		
		TOTAL	1066.05
Hall Hire	£12.00		
TOTAL	£1231.06		
Deficit for Year	£165.01		
TOTALS	£1066.05		£1066.05

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 2010

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Balance at 1st April 2009	£1502.61	Balance per Bank	£1780.55
Add Stirling Council Repay	£270.00		
	1772.61		
Less Deficit for Year	£165.01	Less Cheques not Presented	£172.95
TOTALS	£1607.60		£1607.60

(E.G.Smith) Treasurer

I certify that the above accounts have been prepared in accordance with the vouchers and information supplied to me.

(C. Delany) Auditor

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ADMINISTRATION COSTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31 ST MARCH 2010

HALL HIRE	12.00
WEBSITE	35.11
POSTAGE AND DISTRIBUTION	161.36
PHOTOCOPYING AND PRINTING	50.00
DATA PROTECTION CHARGE	35.00
ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES (MILEAGE)	165.60
AUDIT FEE	28.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS	20.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS	£507.07

SIGNED C.Delaney (Auditor)

INSURANCE WILL BE ARRANGED AT A COST OF £70 AND I UNDERSTAND THAT THIS SUM WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM OUR ADMINISTRATION GRANT

SIGNED E.C. Smith (Treasurer)