

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JANUARY 2012

Present: M. Burdon; M. Harrison; C. Macintosh; Hannah McLaren; B. Pell (*Chair*); D. Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

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

Apologies: J. Duncan; N. Kelly; P. Rea.

CC276 Election of Youth Member

Hannah McLaren was unanimously elected to serve as Youth Member, proposed by M. Burdon, seconded by P. Wilks.

CC277 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 December 2011 were adopted with the following amendment:

CC267: replace A873 by A875.

CC278 Matters Arising

Waste Bin at Village Hall Gate It was agreed that this could be better sited, and a new position would be found.

Arc Lights at Glengoyne Distillery PC McNally will speak to the Distillery Manager.

Emergency Committee The cascade phone system was nearly ready for use and approximately 12 volunteers would be available for snow clearing etc. The Kirk and Ballikinrain School would be part of the system.

CC279 Treasurer's Report

Annual Website Domain Renewal - £35.86. Balance £1236.47

CC280 Roads

Brian Roberts of Stirling Council would be invited to the March meeting to discuss the completion of the A875 scheme.

It was noted that there was a minor change to the start of the 40mph zone close to Dumgoyne Post Office.

It was agreed to report to Stirling Council the following damage to road signs: 3-bar pre-30mph limit sign at South entrance to village is bent down; post broken holding parking entrance sign to car park opposite Co-operative Store.

CC281 Police Matters

PC David McNally said it had been another low-crime month. Two persons were apprehended on the Killearn Hospital site. The wing mirrors of two cars were damaged in New Endrick Road, any information relating to this incident was sought.

PC McNally paid tribute to all who helped clear fallen trees and debris and got the roads open again.

New priorities had been identified — bogus workmen, scrap dealers and road safety. PC McNally asked residents to look out for vulnerable neighbours and report any suspicious workmen or traders. Daye Tucker stated that sheep and cattle stealing was also a problem in rural areas.

CC282 Question Time

The identity of Stirling Council's tree officer was sought. The officer was Hillary Kennedy, and it was the understanding of the Council that she only worked as tree officer for two days in each week. It was agreed to invite her to a future meeting.

CC283 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

11/00807/FUL Single storey rear extension, conversion of attached garage to form additional habitable space, new window to upper floor gable, removal of existing chimney and reduction in size of existing timber decking at 18 Branziert Road North

11/00842/FUL Renewal of previous consent 06/01000/HAE for extension to dwelling house under Regulation 11 of the Development Management Regulations 2008 at 8 Branziert Road, Killearn.

The Council does not wish to comment on the above applications.

Decision Approved by Appointed Officers

11/00708/FUL Application for consent over ridge levels at rear extension and an extra velux (3 number to 4 number) in the extension roof at Greenend Cottage 36 Balfron Road.

Decision Refused by Appointed Officers

11/00624/FUL Installation of replacement windows at Kirkland 69C Main Street.

Planning Panel Recommendations

11/00599/FUL Erection of 3 pairs of semi-detached bungalows (6 units) at land North East of Telephone Exchange and 22 Birch Road. Approve with Conditions.

11/00695/FUL Erection of one new dwelling at land at Killearn House Walled Garden. Refuse.

New Chairman of Planning Panel Councillor Berrill stated that the new Chairman was Councillor Graham Reid.

Draft Local Development Plan The Council had now submitted its response based on evidence from the public gathered at previous Council meetings and correspondence received. The Council tried to keep an open mind to reflect the views of the community. The response can be read on our website and the notice board.

CC284 Open Space Strategy

Stirling Council had asked Halcrow, a firm of consultants, to provide evidence to help the Council formulate an open space strategy. All residents had received a postal request for their views, as well as at the Draft Local Development Plan consultation in the Village Hall. The Community Council had also been asked to respond. It was agreed that all green spaces that are held dear by the community should be registered, including all those small areas of grass and flower beds which enhance the built environment. It was agreed that the field behind Abbeyfield was an example of such an area and should be protected from development. Such areas form important habitat buffer zones. The roundabout at the junction of Station Road and the A81 could be improved by planting. A disabled access to part of the Glen could be made at the Cedar Road entrance. There was scope for areas of fruit and vegetable planting by garden sharing and maybe in the future an allotment area.

The Council agreed to list areas that meet the test of being "held dear" and would formulate a response to the consultants.

CC285 Youth Matters

The Council welcomed Hannah McLaren as Youth Member and looked forward to her contribution to the work of the Council.

Cairi Macintosh stated that she had formed a small group of Balfron High School pupils from Killearn to meet and discuss the development of the Village Hall and will be meeting with Brian Simmers in the near future.

The Chair stated that the Courier group was looking for a BHS correspondent. Cairi Macintosh stated that she would ask around.

CC286 Correspondence

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

It was noted that the bothy at Killearn Cemetery, which was used for the storage of tools and machinery was no longer required and would be demolished in the near future.

CC287 Community Council Elections

The Council had two vacancies which it was eager to fill. The formal notice of election had been promulgated by Stirling Council, and candidates should apply on the official form before 3 February 2012. Information could be found on our website and the notice board.

CC288 Any Other Business

Voting for the QEII Fields Challenge Killearn Park received 210 support votes, the next highest in the Stirling area being 9 support votes.

Jubilee Celebrations Funds are available for events to mark the Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. Possibilities are a beacon on Dumgoyne, a village “Gardens Open” day, and co-operation with the Hoolie.

20mph Speed Limit Signs The speed limit signs around the approaches to the Primary School were not sufficiently prominent. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council.

CC289 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in the Primary School on Wednesday, 22 February 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.32 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 FEBRUARY 2012

Present: M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; Hannah McLaren; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks.

In Attendance: Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally and 20 members of the public.

Apologies: H. Wright.

CC290 Presentation by Banks Renewables

Because of illness, Banks Renewables was unable to make the presentation.

CC291 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2012 were adopted.

CC292 Matters Arising

Waste Bin at Village Hall The bin would now be placed in a less obstructive position.

A Litter Bin A Litter Bin had now been placed at the foot of Branziert Road.

Bothy at Cemetery This had now been demolished.

Arc Lights at Dumgoyne Distillery PC David McNally said that he had still to contact the management on this matter.

Emergency Plan The telephone reporting chain had now been set up and an emergency plan for the village was now complete.

Trees Officer Councillor A. Berrill reported that a new Trees Officer had been appointed by Stirling Council – Ingrid Withington. Her office days would be Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

CC293 Police Matters

PC David McNally said this had been another relatively quiet month. There had been a disturbance in Beech Drive, with some damage reported, caused mainly by youth from Kirkintilloch, fuelled by alcohol. One arrest had been made. There had been a fight in the Black Bull which had been dealt with. A cannabis factory had been detected in the village and dealt with, the drug being for domestic consumption only.

There had been five speeding tickets issued and three ‘use of mobile phone’ cases detected. PC McNally was gratified that none were Killearn residents.

There had been a problem with dog fouling on the ‘Turnip Field’, which had been reported to the dog warden. PC McNally reminded dog walkers to clean up after their pet as this area was extensively used by children. A member of the public also reported problems with a horse and rider in this area. PC McNally said he would look into it.

The Square would be closed for one day on 27 February to allow work to be carried out on behalf of British Telecom.

Concern had been expressed by a large police presence in Gartness Road. A loaded pistol had been found during renovation work and it was necessary to secure the building for 24 hours to allow a specialist team to check the property further. It was an old wartime weapon and no further action needed to be taken.

A member of the public reported broken bottles and other litter in the Crosshead Road/ telephone exchange path area. PC McNally said he believed he knew the individual responsible and would deal with the matter.

CC294 Question Time

There were no questions

CC295 Youth Matters

Cairi said that she had found two pupils from Balfron High School who would be prepared to be correspondents for the Killearn Courier. Their first article would be published in the next edition due for distribution at the beginning of March.

The Chair reported on an email from a young person asking if it was possible to get a skate park in the area. It was suggested that the individual join the group of young persons being consulted on youth provision in the Village Hall refurbishment. It was also pointed out that Daye Tucker had provided a rough biking area at Home Farm. PC McNally said the skate park at Fintry had fallen into disrepair and had been removed because insurance posed insoluble problems. The email would be passed to KCFC to see if there was any chance of a group being set up to pursue this.

CC296 Treasurer's Report

The balance stands at £1236.47

Members were asked to submit allowed expenses as soon as possible.

It was agreed unanimously to apply for a grant of £200 from the Community Pride Fund for the Thursday Club. This was to provide the annual meal at a restaurant for the old people.

It was agreed unanimously to apply for a grant of up to £1500 from the Community Pride Fund towards events to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The amount applied for would be determined when the actual cost of the planned events had been calculated.

CC297 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

12/00039/FUL Internal alterations and extension to adjoin existing dwelling house with studio conversion at Sandy's Cottage, Drumtitan Road, Killearn.

12/00037/PPP Erection of dwelling house at Land Adjacent To South Of Pendle Cottage, Killearn.

12/00069/FUL Erection of 19 metre high wind turbine (28.05 metres to blade tip) with associated meter housing and access track at Queens View, Blanefield

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

Decision Approved by Appointed Officers

11/00807/FUL Single storey rear extension, conversion of attached garage to form additional habitable space, new window to upper floor gable, removal of existing chimney and reduction in size of existing timber decking at 18 Branziert Road North

Planning Enforcement

12/00012/NONCOM Non compliance with condition at Killearn, G63 9LQ

Peter Rea stated that a new amendment to the law on permitted development would make it easier for householders to erect garages, conservatories, etc.

The Chair stated that she had had an email from Cameron Planning on behalf of the owner of Blaressan Field asserting that the intention of the development had been misunderstood, and asking if they could make a presentation to the Council on what was planned. The aim was to create a legacy development. It was noted that the Council were not responding to any specific plan but to the proposal in the Local Development Plan to designate Blaressan field as a site for 30 unspecified houses. It was agreed to ask advice from Stirling Planning Department if it would be appropriate for the developer to make a presentation to the Council.

CC298 Roads

The Chair said Brian Roberts had been invited to come to the Council to discuss further the management plan for roads and road safety in the village. To date a reply had not been received.

The Chair asked for a list of problems relating to roads to send to Stirling Council. The following were noted: footpath on Station Road, flooding at Westerton farm, blocked drain opposite Co-op, gap in centre of road in Main Street opposite Spar and also in Graham Road. There were a number of signs needing attention/re-erecting: T-junction sign in Graham Road, speed limit signs on south approach to village, P-sign opposite Co-op.

It was noted that a £440K resurfacing and re-alignment scheme was due to take place in March on the A81 close to the entrance to Quinloch. PC McNally said this would entail disruption to traffic on this busy road, including a period of closure with diversions.

A member of the public asked when similar action would be taken on the A809 at Finnich Glen as there had been two fatalities and the area was heavily used. The Chair noted that this was strictly in the Croftamie Community Council area, but improvement to the road layout would be strongly supported by the Council.

A member of the public said the chicanes installed in Beech Drive were responsible for a number of near-miss accidents and asked if a 20-mph speed limit could be imposed.

A member of the public asked why money was spent on major projects when there were so many problems that could be solved by resurfacing, white-lining, etc. Councillor A. Berrill stated that there was a split between capital and revenue budgets and funds were not transferred between them.

CC299 *Celebration for Queen's Diamond Jubilee*

The Chair asked for suggestions for events or projects that could serve the celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. After much discussion, the following were agreed to be put forward for further discussion: Plant oak trees with plaques labelling them 'Jubilee Oaks'; Funding Jubilee Celebration cakes to be served with the teas to be provided by the church at the Hoolie; a picnic table in the play park; public seats, including in the proposed seating area in the Woodland Cemetery; refurbishment of the Village Hall Coronation gate and posts; ask if some Hoolie events could reflect the Jubilee, for example the fancy dress theme; rename the Village Hall the Diamond Jubilee Hall; ask the Kirk to ring the church bell at the appointed time; liaise with Blanefield Community Council on the proposed beacon. A number of these required negotiation with other organisations and these would be undertaken before final decisions were made.

CC300 *Correspondence*

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

A number of events were noted: FRESH, a eco event by Fintry Development Trust; Forestry Commission on-line survey; free training on accounts for society treasurers; rally against wind farms at Queens View; GrowFORTH, a local food event in Stirling; NHS Community Health Partnership Forum on transport.

The Chair recommended that everyone downloads and reads the on-line Community News Sheet which contains a lot of relevant information.

An enquiry was reported from Cardiac Science, a commercial company, encouraging the community to purchase a defibrillator to be installed in or near to the telephone box at Dumgoyne, which is now used by the All Killearn Archives group. Monies would need to be raised to purchase this. After discussion it was agreed to pass this enquiry to KCFC but it was felt that the village already has access to health and emergency services and there was no pressing requirement to pursue this.

Enquiries from the Parent Council of Killearn Primary School had been received, asking the Council to support the Safe Routes for Schools Initiative and to support attempts to install a covered bicycle stand for the school grounds. It was agreed that KCC should give their encouragement to both of these matters.

The Council was asked to support the bill before the Scottish Government by Mark McDonald to give Local Authorities powers of last resort to deal with disputes over high hedges. It was agreed to write in support of this.

CC301 Community Council Elections

The Council welcomed David Scott to the Council as a newly-elected member. There was still one vacancy and the Council could use its powers of co-option to fill this post.

CC302 Any Other Business

Local Area Forum The Chair and Secretary attended the Local Area Forum.

There was a presentation on Community Learning Development to increase alternative forms of learning. There would be a Learning Community meeting in Balfron for residents of the area and of all ages. There would also be an area-wide inspection of community-based learning by HM Inspectorate.

Chief Inspector Findlater said crime in the area was mostly of a minor nature and sensible precautions should be taken such as not leaving valuables in car or be seen putting them in the boot. There was emphasis on community policing. He was upbeat about the forthcoming change to a national force which could give more local control.

Updates were given on emergency planning and the meals-on-wheels service. A pilot on the provision of frozen meals would be made in Bannockburn, whereas the WRVS contracts in the Killearn area would be extended.

The future of community councils would be discussed at a future meeting.

Public Toilets A member brought up the fact that the toilets were closed for the winter months and asked if alternative provision could be made.

Stirling Council Budget A member asked what was the consequence of Stirling Council not agreeing a budget. Councillor A. Berrill stated another meeting was scheduled at which it was hoped that the budget would be passed.

CC303 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in the Black Bull on Wednesday, 21 March 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 MARCH 2012

Present: M. Burdon; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; Hannah McLaren; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

In Attendance: Councillor A. Berrill; Councillor C. O'Brien, PC D. McNally, C. Anderson, S. Samson, G. Thompson and 29 members of the public.

Apologies: J. Duncan.

CC304 *Presentation by Banks Renewables*

Colin Anderson, Siobhan Samson, and Gordon Thompson of Banks Renewables stated that they were able to present their final proposals for the Ard Ghaoth wind farm near Drymen. A full scoping report had been presented to the statutory consultees: SNH, SPA, Historic Scotland and Stirling Council. A test mast had been erected on 5 December to collect site wind data. They then outlined the consultation process that had been followed – 4000 leaflets delivered to affected households, 15 community group meetings and exhibitions. The main concern was the visual impact of the masts in an area of outstanding natural beauty, and the affect on health due to noise pollution, and environmental degradation.

As a result of the consultation the final scheme of 10 turbines, each 115 metres in height, was decided upon and this will be the subject of a planning application in approximately two months. It was felt that this proposal would have the smallest visual impact. Village specific leaflets would be distributed before the application and an exhibition would be held at the end of May. The contract would be approximately £5M, providing some immediate employment during the construction phase and as much material sourced locally as possible. Community partnering would be a significant part of the project to try and strike a balance between the adverse impacts and the positive benefits. 4% of the gross revenue would be shared between five community councils to be divided and used by agreement between them. This could amount to an average of £300k per annum.

The meeting was then invited to submit questions or make observations.

The life of the turbines would be 25 years and they would be totally removed if no longer required. If Banks no longer exists in 25 years time, deconstruction is insurance-backed and there will be an operating company in existence to cover this. The concrete bases would not be removed, but would be buried, and the site restored as far as possible. There were no houses within 0.5 kilometre and one house within a 1 kilometre radius. There was a strong commitment to the local economy. During the construction phase there would be approximately 50 direct jobs and 200 indirect jobs, but it was admitted that many would not be local. During the running phase there would be no immediate employment but funding would be available for the provision of apprenticeships which, with matching funds, could provide opportunities for apprenticeships over the 25-year period. The exported power would be taken on medium voltage lines on conventional wooden poles. Access to the site was from the A811 near Ballat.

A number of speakers opposed the scheme on the viability of wind generation, stating that the turbines were inefficient, required base load nuclear or thermal power stations and large subsidies from all electricity users. It was questioned whether this way to generate carbon-free energy justified the damage to the visual environment. Information from Denmark was cited against wind farms.

The Chair thanked the speakers from Banks Renewables, and said that, as no formal planning application had been made, the Council did not have to come to any conclusion at this stage but would treat the presentation, together with the questions and comments from the public present as part of its deliberations when the planning application was formally discussed.

CC305 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2012 were adopted.

CC306 Matters Arising

Defibrillator at Dumgoyne Telephone Box As defibrillators would be available as part of the *First Responders* initiative, the Chair replied that there would be no requirement for KCC to purchase this equipment.

CC307 Police Matters

PC David McNally said this had been another very quiet month, the only incident being theft of scrap from the Killearn Hospital site. Some was left, therefore surveillance was set up, but the thieves did not return to recover it until the watch had been stood down.

Dumgoyne Distillery was very co-operative and the lights at the parking area had been adjusted as far as possible and residents were asked to report if they were still causing a problem. They could not be switched off as Custom and Excise regulations require the area to be illuminated.

Reports had been received that eggs had been thrown at cars in Crosshead Road and Beech Drive, that glass was still found around the garages by the primary school and that there was damage to a gate at the play park. These incidents of vandalism were taken very seriously and any information regarding these incidents should be given to the police.

There had been a number of cases of sheep worrying and dog owners were reminded to keep dogs under close control near livestock, particularly at lambing time.

A number of cases of speeding were detected through the village. A member of the public noted that motorists were ignoring the speed limit through the road works at Glengoyne.

A member of the public said a child's scooter was wedged in the oak tree by the play park which could constitute a danger. David said he would investigate.

CC308 Question Time

A member of the public said, while walking her dog in the Glen, she was challenged by a dog enforcement officer when her dog defecated in the rough. Despite bagging and binning the offending item she was issued with a £40 fixed penalty, being told she had not picked it up fast enough. There were concerns that there were no warning notices at the entrance to the Glen and that there was now an accepted method of disposal that was more environmentally-friendly, which goes by the term 'stick and flick', which allows the substance to rot rather than decompose in a bag in landfill or, worse, end up hanging from a bush. In particular, a warning would have been more appropriate in this case. Councillor O'Brien said he would pursue the matter.

CC309 Youth Matters

Cairi said she had invited the young man, who had posed the question of the provision of a skate park, to join the youth group liaising on the Village Hall refurbishment and he had accepted. The Chair congratulated Cairi on the work she was doing in generating interest in youth provision in the new hall.

CC310 Treasurer's Report

The balance stands at £1029.79.

Expenses of £56.50 were paid to Peter Rea and £150.18 to the Chair.

Application for grants had been made to Stirling Council for the Thursday Club and the Jubilee celebrations.

CC311 Planning

Decisions Approved by Appointed Officers

11/00659/FUL Revision to previously approved Application Ref S/06/00708/HAE incorporating demolition and replacement of existing conservatory with new sun-room extension, and construction of new double garage at 9 Drumbeg Loan.

11/00842/FUL Renewal of planning permission (Reference 06/01000/HAE) for extensions and alterations to dwelling house under Regulation 11 of the Development Management Regulations 2008 at 8 Branziert Road.

11/00560/FUL Proposed relocation of existing access (restricted vehicular & pedestrian) from Main Street into site of 3 & 5 Main Street; comprising Old School and Old School House, all for residential use at Land Between 5 And 7 Main Street.

Planning Enforcement

12/00023/UNAUTH Unauthorised erection of shed at Killearn, G63 9RQ

CC312 Roads

Nigel tabled a list of concerns that had been raised at the last meeting.

Flooding had occurred on the A875 corner at Westerton Farm and was persistent and dangerous. Flooding had also occurred on the A875 by the Co-operative shop. Gullies on both sides of road were not draining. They had been cleaned, but still there was significant flooding. It was believed that the gullies connect to the culvert conducting the burn. The flooding persisted even when the burn was not in spate and the culvert would not be expected to be surcharged; therefore there must be a blockage. The drain cleaning vehicle had caused further damage to the curb area of some roads.

A number of road signs throughout the area required cleaning and were obscured by vegetation. The car park 'P' sign opposite the Co-op had collapsed. The direction sign at the top of Station Road B834 had slipped to the base of its pole.

Footpaths at the top of Station Road and at Spar shop were in a bad condition and trenches were forming along centre lines of Main Street (A875) near the Spar shop and in Graham Road. These required repair.

The A809 at Finnich Glen required upgrading. It had been the site of several accidents, some fatal. The road was narrow, there were sharp bends approaching the bridge, the white lines had faded and the surface was in poor condition. Although outside the KCC area, the road was used regularly by Killearn people and it was commented that the funds being expended realigning the A81 at the distillery would have been better directed towards this hazard.

Provision was urgently required for proper disabled access to Killearn Health Centre. There was no designated disabled parking bay in the main car park, from which there was a long, level path. An access ramp had been provided from the staff parking area, but there was no designated bay there and no indication that access might be available to patients.

Speeding occurred in Main Street, Station Road, Graham Road and Beech Drive.

It was agreed to forward these concerns to Les Goodfellow at Stirling Council.

It was stated that double yellow lines in appropriate locations of the parking areas of the Spar, the Co-op and the bank would improve access requirements, but as these were on private land, the companies involved would have to be approached.

It was suggested that local volunteers could undertake small tasks that Stirling Council no longer did, such as sign cleaning, cutting back vegetation, etc.

CC313 Celebration for Queen's Diamond Jubilee

It was agreed to liaise with Strathblane Community Council on the beacon on Dumgoyne. Peter Wilks stated that what our Council would require to provide was still to be decided. Agreement had been reached with Sir Archibald Edmondstone by Strathblane Community Council on the site and provision of wood for the beacon and it was hoped to transport material by helicopter. More information should be available at the next meeting.

Quotes had been received for the refurbishment of the Village Hall gates, originally gifted to mark the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, to update them to celebrate the Jubilee. It had also been agreed to provide cake at the celebratory tea at the Hoolie.

CC314 Correspondence

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

An email had been received from Fiona Anderson, a Senior RCCW working at The Old Meal Mill, Branshogle. She stated that they accommodated up to 4 children on the Autistic Spectrum and they were keen to involve themselves in the local community. One of their managers was present at the meeting and introduced himself. It was agreed to invite him or Fiona to explain who they were and talk about autism at the next meeting.

An invitation had been received to the ASCC conference in Dunblane. Peter Rea offered to attend.

CC315 Reports from Meetings Attended

Heather attended the Stirling Community Health Partnership Public Partnership Forum. The meeting reinforced the recent move for the Minor Injury Unit (MIU) to the ground floor of the old maternity unit of Stirling General Hospital. The MIU is open from 9am to 9pm seven days a week and is staffed by emergency nurse practitioners who can prescribe medication and deal with a wide range of minor ailments and injuries, such as minor burns and scalds, infected wounds, sprains and strains, cuts and grazes, minor eye and ear injuries, minor head and neck injuries.

The main item dealt with transport. The Scottish Ambulance service discussed the changing roles and responses of the service to prioritise their work to those who need emergency attention. They would relocate their call assistants with NHS 24 so a series of triage questions could be taken. A more accurate picture of the response required would be generated and advice given to support the patient until the crew arrived. Information would be relayed from the call centre to the ambulance while on route. The ambulance service was also supporting and training *First Responders* as part of the larger plan for rapid response. *First Responders* were individuals trained in providing early life saving resuscitation and stabilisation to avoid death or severe damage while awaiting the paramedics. These schemes were particularly useful in more remote areas, but would be set up in any area where a group of 6 or more volunteers came forward. All resuscitation equipment was provided and the volunteers were alerted by the central communication centre to attend. It was reported that there was a *First Responder* scheme running in Buchanan.

The role of the patient transport service was highlighted. This service could relieve the emergency ambulance service where the client required transport on medical grounds but did not require treatment during transfer (e.g. clinics, hospital transfers, planned admissions). There would be a more coordinated service to allocate patient transport and avoid emergency ambulances being used where alternative transport could be accessed. Dial-a-journey would also transport patients to hospital and clinics. This service had to be pre-booked, and one had to be registered for the service.

The Chair and Margaret had attended an excellent Planning Aid Training Workshop. This dealt with the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Strategy on waste collection, recycling and landfill. From the current 66% that goes to landfill, the aim was to reach 70% recycling and composting. Up to 25% of waste could be used to generate heat and the proportion would be capped at that level to ensure that Energy from Waste was not used as a large scale alternative to recycling. It was desirable to treat waste locally as far as possible and it was noted that this was not part of the current draft Stirling Council Local Development Plan. It was also noted that there would be an extension of permitted developments without planning permission.

The Chair and Margery had attended a Community Development Workshop run by Stirling Council. This focussed on opportunities for Learning in the Community for all ages. Attempts are being made to map what opportunities for Community Learning already exist in the Balfron High School catchment area, how this makes a difference to health and well being and what challenges are experienced in delivering a range of learning opportunities.

CC316 Any Other Business

It was noted that an appeal had been submitted in respect of the refusal of planning permission of a house in the walled garden at Killearn House.

It was noted that the ceiling had fallen in the public toilets. Graham Lambie would take up the case for its repair.

High hedges are a continuing problem. It was agreed to invite the new tree officer to talk to the Council.

There was an increase in unauthorised advertising notices in the village, including the banners outside the bank.

There would be a free *Sustainable Killearn* event in the Village Hall with information, entertainment, country crafts and skills. The event would, it is hoped, encourage everyone to lower their carbon footprint.

The refurbishment of the Village Hall was close to agreement. The transfer of the ownership of the hall to KCFC was almost complete, a bridging loan to facilitate payment for the construction had been agreed, all the requirements to access the grant from the Leader Fund were almost there and a fixed-price contract for the hall was currently under negotiation. The work was expected to start late summer. Councillor O'Brien said a similar transfer of ownership of a hall from Stirling Council to a local trust had recently occurred at Gargunnoch, and he wished every success for the venture in Killearn.

There were trees growing in the wall of the Old Kirk which were causing damage to the fabric of the building. It was agreed to report this to Stirling Council.

There were complaints about the increase in traffic in Crosshead Road to the primary school. It was hoped a walking scheme would alleviate some of this traffic.

The Chair thanked Councillor O'Brien for all the service he had given to Killearn as one of the team of three elected local councillors. The Council would miss his help and advice and offered their best wishes on his forthcoming retirement from Stirling Council.

The Chair expressed the thanks of KCC to the manager of the Black Bull and his staff for kindly accommodating the meeting and for providing tea and coffee for all gratis.

CC317 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 18 April 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.18 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL 2012

Present: M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; C. Macintosh; Hannah McLaren; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

In Attendance: Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally, L. Battles, F. Anderson, C. Sinclair and 8 members of the public.

CC318 *Presentation by Staff from the Old Mill Community Learning House*

The Chair introduced Laura Battles, Director of Autism Services at *Spark of Genius*, together with Fiona Anderson and Calum Sinclair, staff members. *Spark of Genius* was a provider of education, residential care, autism services, community support and post-16 programmes to support children and young people. Laura gave a review of her career in a large residential school for autistic children and found that there were problems reintegrating the children back into the community as they came into adulthood. She felt that a small unit would be better, so she approached *Spark of Genius* who operated a number of small therapeutic residential homes and two years ago they opened the Old Mill Community Learning House, which was their first home specifically designed for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. It was modelled on understanding the significant difficulties young people with autism had in generalising their learning. Young people were given opportunities throughout the day; evening and weekends, to develop and practise skills, supported by highly trained care and educational practitioners, based on the principles of best practice in the field of autism research.

The 20-strong staff of the Old Meal Mill Community Learning House offered 24-hour, 365days-a-year residential care to four children with the provision for on- and off-site education depending on the specific needs of the child. Families and carers formed part of the care and education their children received. To help come to terms with the support needed for their child, family members or carers were helped to understand the service and how it could be beneficial to wellbeing. These included supported home visits, holidays and short breaks for families coupled with training programmes and workshops relevant to the field of autism.

The staff then answered questions. They wanted to have a strong relationship with the community and although they did not have a formal structure like the *Friends of Ballikinrain School*, they were willing to consider the idea. The average age of the children was thirteen, the children being referred and funded by Local Authorities. The children were educated in the *Spark of Genius School* in Drumchapel. Laura said that diagnosis of autism was improving; however social workers and psychiatrists had difficulty distinguishing between autism and mental health problems. The staff would welcome approaches from youth organisations in the village as they are keen to integrate the children into the local community as far as possible.

CC319 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2012 were adopted.

CC320 *Matters Arising*

There were no matters arising.

CC321 *Police Matters*

PC David McNally said that there had been an incident of a stolen number plate. Wheels had been taken off a bicycle stored at the Old School and three car tyres had been stolen from a property in Drumtitan Road.

There had been a number of instances of vandalism at the Playpark including damage to a gate and a straining post. The most serious was a fire set on the platform of the flying fox. Luckily an alert resident noticed the fire and put it out with a fire extinguisher, minimising

the damage. PC McNally asked everyone to be vigilant when in the park and report any incidents.

There had been a number of incidents involving dogs, including a lamb killed at Home Farm and an old lady attacked, although not in the Killearn area. PC McNally asked all dog owners to keep their pet under control and not allow them to enter a field with livestock.

At the last meeting a resident reported that she had received a fixed penalty for dog fouling in the Glen. PC McNally said fouling in public places was a problem and provided some notices for vulnerable areas of the village. The Chair stated she had been in contact with Brian Friel of Stirling Council who stated that the Glen was Council property and the Dog Fouling Regulations applied. However he said he was not conducting a campaign but responding to a complaint from a resident about professional dog walkers allowing a number of dogs to run free and not clearing up. The Chair stressed that the Glen was not a park and had wild areas where it was not necessary to pick up. She had talked to one elderly lady who said she was now afraid to go in the Glen. Peter Wilks also said he had contacted Brian Friel on a personal basis and was not expressing the view of the Council. Peter alerted Mr Friel to the "stick and flick" method advertised by the Forestry Commission and the English National Trust and showed Mr Friel the notice displayed in Mugdock Country Park by East Dunbartonshire Council which asked dog walkers to pick up in areas of short grass and on or near paths. This is a request that no responsible dog walker could object to. The Chair stated that she would reply to Mr Friel. PC McNally said he would look out for the professional dog walker.

CC322 Question Time

A member of the public reported sewage discharge from the pipe that runs in the field behind Abbeyfield from Chestnut Avenue toward the Glen. She stated that it had been reported to SEPA however no action appeared to have been taken and she had received no feedback. It was apparent that the discharge only occurred in high rain conditions. Peter Wilks agreed to contact SEPA.

A member of the public reported that local bus times had changed but there were no local timetables available, except for the notices at bus stops. One had to go to Glasgow or Stirling to collect local timetables. It was agreed to ask First Bus to provide timetables in the local shops.

CC323 Youth Matters

Cairi said .that there were no outstanding items this month.

CC324 Treasurer's Report

The balance stands at £974.87.

Chair's expenses were £54.82

A grant of £200 had been received from the Community Pride Fund to take the Thursday Club on a lunch and outing to Stirling.

A maximum grant of £1500 had been received from the Community Pride Fund for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebration. Details of the distribution are minuted in CC327

It was unanimously agreed to request the Community Pride Fund for a grant of £100 to hire a wheelchair-adapted minibus take the residents of Abbeyfield on a trip to the Falkirk Wheel with the Seagull Trust. This will provide the residents with a much appreciated outing in July.

CC325 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

12/00161/FUL Erection of garage/workshop to replace existing car port at Elibank, 4 Greenend Road.

12/00200/FUL Erection of porch to front of dwelling house at 4 Branziert Road North.

12/00214/FUL Two storey extension to dwelling house with removal of existing car port at 7 Napier Road.

12/00217/LBC Proposed installation of gabion mattresses to bridge pier for scour protection, with associated works including removal of vegetation from structure and repairs to masonry at Endrick Aqueduct Pipe Bridge, Killearn.

The Council decided not to comment on the above applications.

12/00187/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 1 at land to north of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road.

12/00188/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 2 at land to north Of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road.

12/00189/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 3 at land to north Of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road.

These applications came in too close to the meeting of the Council to allow the Council to give due consideration to them. It was decided to delay deliberation on these planning applications to the next meeting of the Council and to ask Stirling Council for an extension to the date for final submission.

Decisions Approved by Appointed Officers

12/00037/PPP Erection of dwelling house at land adjacent to south of Pendle Cottage, Killearn. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

12/00039/FUL Internal alterations and extension to adjoin existing dwelling house with studio conversion at Sandy's Cottage Drumtitan Road. Decision: Approve

Planning Enforcement – Case Closed

12/00023/UNAUTH Unauthorised erection of shed at Killearn, G63 9RQ. No breach of planning control

Local Review Body Decisions – Appeal

11/00624/FUL Installation of replacement windows at Kirkland 69C Main Street Killearn. Appeal Allowed. It was noted that this was the first Killearn appeal to the Local Review Body.

Margaret Harrison reminded the Council that there were significant changes to the planning system and planning law being considered by the Scottish Government. If implemented as proposed, it would affect many aspects of the present system, including the fee structure and neighbour notification. The idea was to streamline the planning process and save costs. A consultation paper has been issued by the government. It was considered important to respond to this consultation, and it was agreed that Margaret would circulate a summary report for consideration at the next meeting after which a response could be drafted.

CC326 Roads

Nigel said that he had added a number of extra items to his list tabled at the last meeting. Beech Drive had been added to the list of roads with trenches. A pot hole in Station Road and the general state of the village car parks had been included. Nigel had been in contact with the Practice Administrator at the Health Centre who said Stirling Council were considering three disabled parking bays in the public area of the car park, but there was no proposal for disabled parking in the private area.

It was noted that the A81 would be closed for resurfacing by Duntreath for approximately ten days in May. Bus services would be affected.

Peter Rea reported that vehicles used in the road repairing operation had been parked dangerously at the end of Branziert Road, making exiting onto Main Street at the mini roundabout hazardous. There were no warning signs. Councillor Lambie agreed to pass this complaint back to the Roads Department.

CC327 *Celebration for Queen's Diamond Jubilee*

Peter Wilks stated that help would not be required for the beacon on Dumgoyne as the material would be transported by helicopter and the mountain rescue service would be supervising on the hill. However help was requested with a bonfire on the George VI playing fields on the same date and time. Peter Wilks agreed to contact the fireworks group of KCFC.

CC328 *Correspondence*

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

A letter from Keep Scotland Beautiful asked for help with a clean-up. It was agreed to ask local youth groups to take part as in previous years. David Scott agreed to co-ordinate.

A visit to the Polmaise waste facility was planned for June. Margery would circulate a list of possible dates to those interested in going.

CC329 *Reports from Meetings Attended*

Peter Rea stated that he attended the conference of the Association of Scottish Community Councils at Dunblane. The role of community councils was set to change with the introduction of the *Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill* in the Scottish Parliament. This bill endeavoured to bring the delivery of services closer to the community. However there seemed to be a lack of trust between the various levels of government, local, regional and national and COSLA showed income to be reducing. It was evident that there were cost-savings inherent in the legislation and it was asked how re-vamped community councils could serve their local community. There was no apparent consensus at present, and it was questioned whether, through consultation, community councils could influence government policy.

CC330 *Any Other Business*

Norman McNab, chair of the Paths Group of KCFC, had informed the chair that there was a proposal to route the proposed long-distance path, *the John Muir Trail* (from Dunbar to Helensburgh), along the pipe track from Strathblane, through the village and then across the fields to the West Highland Way. This could bring economic and tourism benefits to the village and he asked if the Council would support this. It was unanimously agreed to support the proposal.

The Tree Officer of Stirling Council would attend the next meeting of the Council. It was asked if she could outline the regulations regarding trees on private land.

CC331 *Date of Next Meeting*

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 16 May 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 MAY 2012

Present: M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; B. Pell (*Chair*); P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks.

In Attendance: Councillor G. Lambie; Councillor I Muirhead; PC D. McNally, I. Withington and 22 members of the public.

Apologies: C. Macintosh; Hannah McLaren; H. Wright.

The Chair welcomed Ian Muirhead, the newly-elected councillor for the Forth and Endrick ward.

CC332 *Presentation by I. Withington, Stirling Council*

The Chair introduced Ingrid Withington, Trees Officer with Stirling Council. She stated that she was not an arboriculture specialist, but was a landscape architect, who had worked both as a freelance and with other councils. She explained that she worked with other tree experts, Neil White in the Countryside Section, Jim Hamilton in Roads, Jenny Elliot, Grounds Maintenance and Street Cleaning, and with the Housing Department. She then went on to say why trees were important to the health of people and the environment. Her main duties were dealing with the law in relation to trees, and this was summarised in a Stirling Council document: *Draft Supplementary Guidance 32, Trees and the Law – Control of Tree Felling & Tree Preservation Orders*. This was available online from the Stirling Council website. It explained the responsibility of landowners. Three categories of trees enjoyed protected status – trees protected by planning conditions, trees protected by tree preservation orders (TPOs) and trees in conservation areas. It was the responsibility of the owner to determine the status of a tree they wanted to fell or lop, and it was an offence not to do so. If you wished to carry out work on a protected tree, the Council's Tree Officer must be given a minimum of six week's notice of any pruning or felling works, using the *Protected Tree Work Application Form*, clearly identifying both the tree(s) and the proposed work. The tree(s) would then be inspected, factors taken into account being amenity value, tree health, proximity to buildings and any evidence of damage caused to building or surrounding surfaces. Killearn had three TPOs and three conservation areas.

Ingrid then went on to discuss the problem of high hedges. At present there was no legislation allowing a council to take enforcement action as in England, but a bill was currently before the Scottish Parliament to give councils similar powers to take action as a last resort. The best advice was to try and get agreement with a neighbour.

Ingrid gave some advice on the trees best suited to small gardens, the most important advice being read the plant label to determine final height and spread and suitability for the soil conditions. Decide on deciduous or evergreen according to taste. For safety, she recommended that a tree should be planted at a distance at least its estimated final height from a property.

She said that Killearn had a number of significant ancient trees and the Council wished to record them. The Council Archaeologist, Murray Cook was organising a dig in Killearn Glen to investigate the site of the *Place of Killearn*, once a residence of the Duke of Montrose in the 17th century, and to survey the landscape.

Work would be carried out in Killearn Glen in June 2012 by a specialist contractor based on the findings of an independent arboriculture inspector. She finished her talk by showing pictures of some problem trees in Killearn.

Ingrid then answered questions from those present. Many queries concerned particular trees affecting their property and she said that a tree owner was responsible in law for any damage caused by the tree either by falling or undermining foundations, but not consideration of light. It was best to try and come to an agreement with a neighbour. It was possible for a householder to trim overhanging branches, but one could not enter a neighbour's property without permission. In open areas, it was still the owner of the land who was responsible,

which might be the Council, a developer or the owners of surrounding properties. It was suggested that she contact the Cemeteries Officer to review the approved trees in the Woodland Cemetery. She agreed to do so.

It was stated that trees by the Branziert Road mini-roundabout were heavy with ivy and were shedding branches. She said she would pass the information on to Roads.

The Chair thanked Ingrid for an interesting and informative talk.

CC333 Minutes of the Last Meeting

A correction was made to the last paragraph of CC318. Replace *autism and other mental health problems* with *autism and mental health problems*. The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 2012 were then adopted.

CC334 Matters Arising

Dog Fouling The Chair said that PC McNally had provided the Council with information notices which had been erected in appropriate places. Peter Wilks said he had been in correspondence with Brian Friel, Public Health Team Leader of Stirling Council, to explain that many bodies such as the National Trust, Forestry Commission and even Mugdock Park had adopted a policy of “stick and flick” to deal with dog faeces in rough grass areas, as abandoned filled plastic bags were becoming a problem, as well as the environmental significance of such waste going into landfill. Brian Friel remained unconvinced and reiterated that the law would be enforced even in rough areas of the Glen. It was hoped that eventually common sense would prevail.

Sewage Discharge Peter Wilks stated that he had been in contact with SEPA and, as predicted, it appeared that foul water was leaking into the surface water drain during high rainfall. Scottish Water was aware of the problem and it was being dealt with.

Keep Scotland Beautiful Clean-Up David Scott said that Ballikinrain School had cleared the Spar and Co-op car parks of litter and would also clean the Black Bull car park. It was disappointing that the shops had not done this. Other youth groups would be undertaking to clean other areas and *thank you* certificates would be issued.

CC335 Police Matters

PC David McNally said that it had been another quiet month. Two sheds had been broken into and machines stolen. David said it was important to keep sheds locked and machines such as lawn mowers chained to make it difficult to remove them even if access to the shed was gained. A house in Dumgoyne was broken into, but nothing taken. A window in the Church hall was broken, and information about this incident is sought.

There would be speed traps in the village as speeding had become an issue.

CC336 Question Time

A member of the public stated that there would be a programme on recently deceased local resident, David Peat, photographer, on STV this evening.

CC337 Youth Matters

There were no youth matters.

CC338 Treasurer's Report

The balance stood at £974.87.

The Treasurer introduced the audited accounts for the year ending March 2012 prior to presentation at the AGM. It was unanimously agreed to accept the accounts, proposed by Peter Wilks, seconded by Derek Stuart.

CC339 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

12/00187/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 1 at land to north of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road. By a majority of 8 making no comment and 1 objecting, it was agreed to make no comment.

12/00188/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 2 at land to north of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road. By a majority of 7 making no comment, 1 supporting, and 1 objecting, it was agreed to make no comment.

12/00189/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 3 at land to north of Red Cottage, Blane Smithy Road. By a majority of 7 making no comment and 1 supporting it was agreed to make no comment.

It was agreed to inform SEPA of our response to these three applications.

12/00234/FUL Installation of plant on existing concrete platform and new handrail to existing ramp at 56 Main Street.

12/00295/FUL Alterations and extension to dwelling to create new entrance porch and new, single-storey kitchen/garden room at Crowhill House, Endrick Road.

The Council was not asked to comment on these two applications

Planning Enforcement

12/00044/UNAUTH Deviation from approved application in respect of garage at Balfron Road, Killearn, G63 9NW

Margaret Harrison presented a paper on the changes to the planning system and planning law being considered by the Scottish Government. It was agreed to set up a small sub-committee to consider and submit the Council's response. Members were asked to state if they wished to serve on the sub-committee or forward any comments they wish to make before Monday next. Peter Rea said, at a conference he attended, a paper given by Alistair McKinley on proposals by the Scottish Government to give greater relevance to community councils was important for these proposals.

Councillor Lambie said ornamental ridging had been placed on Greenend Cottage which appeared to be contrary to the agreed plan. He had asked officers to comment.

Councillor Lambie said that he would ask for a site visit to the proposals for the thatched house *Drumwhirn* in Drumbeg Loan as residents were concerned by the refusal of the planning application.

CC340 Roads

Nigel said some patching work had been done in Birch Road and Beech Drive. The Square would be closed for works on 3 June.

Three disabled parking bays would be provided at the Health Centre car park by Stirling Council. It was agreed that three bays would be excessive in a small car park and further discussion should take place over the number and placing of these spaces.

The proposed visit of Brian Roberts to address KCC has been postponed until after the summer; Brian has indicated there is no budget for further work in the current year.

There was concern expressed on the effect on local businesses by the temporary closure of the A81.

CC341 Celebration for Queen's Diamond Jubilee

The bells in the Kirk would be rung on 2 days by Jim Fallas.

£1500 had been received by the Council from Stirling Council for the Jubilee Celebrations, which would be spent on the refurbishment of the Village Hall gates and the provision of cake for the street party tea at the Hoolie.

CC342 Correspondence

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

A visit to Polmaise Waste Facility had been arranged for 14 June, all welcome to attend.

The oak tree in Birch Road had been confirmed as diseased by an arboriculture specialist but it had been shown that the tree was not on land owned by Stirling Council and therefore was not its responsibility. Correspondence with Persimmon Homes, who own the land, stated that the neighbouring feuers were responsible.

Rutherglen Community Council said they admired our website and intended to prepare one like it. Peter Wilks had replied giving advice.

Energy for All stated in correspondence that they had been unable to reach agreement with Banks Renewables to enable local residents to invest in the projected wind farm at Ard Ghaoth. They gave notice that they had now withdrawn from further discussions.

Area Forum There would be an Area Forum meeting on Monday 21 May in Balfron High School. All are welcome to attend. The *Single Outcome Agreement* would be discussed.

Big Debate Brian Taylor's Big Debate would be broadcast on Radio Scotland from Fintry on Friday 18 May; tickets from the BBC website.

CC343 *Reports from Meetings Attended*

There were no meetings attended this month but further details of the meeting attended by Peter Rea and reported at the last meeting were available on the ASCC website.

CC344 *Any Other Business*

Recycling An additional recycling box was being piloted and will be introduced to all areas of Stirling Council in due course. This brown box would be for cardboard.

CC345 *Date of Next Meeting*

The AGM would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 20 June 2012 at 8.00 pm., followed by the next monthly meeting at approximately 8.15pm.

The meeting closed at 10 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2012

Present: M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; H. McLaren; P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks(*Chair*); H. Wright.

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

Apologies: B. Pell C. Macintosh.

CC346 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The following correction was made to CC342: Replace paragraph 3 by: *The oak tree in Birch Road had been confirmed as diseased by an arboriculture specialist but it had been shown that the tree was not on land owned by Stirling Council and therefore was not its responsibility. Correspondence with Persimmon Homes, who own the land, stated that the neighbouring feuers were responsible.* The minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2012 were then adopted.

CC347 Matters Arising

Oak Tree in Birch Road Margaret stated that it was claimed by Persimmon that the neighbouring proprietors were responsible for maintenance of the open spaces, including the ground and the oak tree on Birch Road which Persimmon own. Clarification was being sought.

Visit by Ingrid Withington, Tree Officer Ms Withington emailed that after consultation with the Biodiversity Officer and Tree Officer (Woodlands), she had suggested alternative tree species for the Woodland Cemetery to the Cemeteries Officer. The Biodiversity Officer had also suggested a suitable wildflower mix. The roadside trees identified by Peter Rea as covered with ivy were in private ownership and therefore not the responsibility of Stirling Council. Peter said the ivy was encroaching on the road verge and might therefore be their liability and he had sent photographs as proof to Stirling Council. Ms Withington said that she had spoken to Mrs Dunkinson about the use of trees to support fencing behind the pharmacy and had suggested ways to resolve the problem. Stirling Council did not have complete records on land ownership, and for records that they do not hold, the chargeable service by the *Registers of Scotland* could be used.

Dog Fouling There was no further correspondence on this subject. It was noted that the dog fouling notices had been changed to replace *paths, grass verges, etc.* to *any public place*, which widens the scope of the offence. The Chair stated that this was in line with the current legislation.

Keep Scotland Beautiful Clean-Up David Scott said that areas had been cleared of litter by 1st Killearn Guides, the Primary Department of Ballikinrain School, Killearn Primary School and Killearn Beavers, and certificates had been awarded. He noted however that the areas were now as bad again as before they were cleaned. It was suggested that perhaps the organisations could undertake this more often, or even take over responsibility for a given area. Heather suggested that perhaps notices should be put up after cleaning, stating that: *this area has been cleaned by, please keep it looking beautiful.* It was agreed that this would be a good idea for next year. Sue Beck from the floor stated that litter clearance had also been undertaken by 1st Killearn Rainbows, 2nd Killearn Rainbows and 1st Killearn Brownies. It was agreed to give them certificates. Nigel stated that a party of youngsters had erected tents and were partying in the field behind Abbeyfield on the Jubilee holiday. Although they caused no trouble they left a large amount of debris, which Nigel public spiritedly cleared up the following day.

CC348 Police Matters

PC David McNally said an 18-year old was reported by Spar for buying cigarettes on behalf of younger youths and was charged. Spar was to be congratulated on their responsible attitude to this matter.

Two bicycles were stolen on the weekend 26th - 27th May from a house in New Endrick Road. They were found the following day having been abandoned in the lane linking New Endrick and Endrick Road; it was suspected that it might be related to a number of youngsters, who erected tents in the field and were partying on the Jubilee holiday. Information was sought.

CCTV showed that bunting at the Primary School had been brought down by about 15 young girls acting recklessly in the playground, which was a case of vandalism.

A water bowser on hire was stolen from the A81 roadworks.

The Girl Guide tent was badly damaged during the last night of the Hoolie; the damage appeared to be caused by vandalism. Despite this incident, the Hoolie went well with no other police issues and was enjoyed by all.

A member of the public inquired about speeding on Main Street between Beech Drive and Branziert Road. David said he was actively targeting this. There had been a problem with workmen parking vehicles on the pavement of Main Street close to the junction with Drumbeg Loan and they had been warned about this.

David said that a new police office in Blanefield Primary School would soon be operational. In answer to a question, he said it was probable that a direct-call point would be provided outside the gates of the school.

David said that he would be on annual leave from 24 June to 21 July, and if assistance was required in his absence please contact Balfron Police Office.

CC349 Question Time

There were no questions.

CC350 Youth Matters

Hannah said that Eilidh Robertson was willing to replace Cairi Macintosh as youth member. The Council unanimously approved Eilidh as a youth member. The Council expressed its appreciation of all the excellent work done by Cairi in the last three years as youth member and wished her well in the future.

CC351 Treasurer's Report

The balance stood at £2416.87.

Income: grant from Stirling Council for Abbeyfield visit to Falkirk Wheel - £100; grant from Stirling Council for Diamond Jubilee celebrations; - £1500.

Expenditure: Audit Fee - £28; Cakes, etc for Hoolie - £130.00

CC352 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

12/00389/FUL Extension to rear of dwelling house at Normanhurst, 1 Lampson Loan. Tree Preservation Order. No consultations sent or requested.

Decisions of Appointed Officers

12/00161/FUL Erection of garage/workshop to replace existing car port at Elibank, 4 Greenend Road. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

12/00200/FUL Erection of porch to front of dwelling house at 4 Branziert Road North. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

12/00214/FUL Two storey extension to dwelling house with removal of existing car port at 7 Napier Road, Decision: Approve with Conditions.

12/00295/FUL Alterations and extension to dwelling to create new entrance porch and new, single-storey kitchen/garden room at Crowhill House, Endrick Road. Decision: Approve.

12/00189/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 3 at Land To North Of Red Cottage Blane Smithy Road Decision: Approve with Conditions. There has been no approval yet given for Plots 1 and 2.

12/00234/FUL Installation of plant on existing concrete platform and new handrail to existing ramp at 56 Main Street. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

Planning Appeals and Public Inquiries

11/00695/FUL Erection of house, Killearn House Walled Garden, Killearn. Outcome: Appeal Dismissed – Planning Permission Refused

Supplementary Information: This appeal was dismissed and planning permission refused for the following reasons:

- 1. The Reporter agrees with the Council that the proposal to erect a second house within the walled garden is not supported by the Council's supplementary planning guidance, Policy H10A: Housing in the Countryside, either in relation to its support for single houses within substantially intact walled gardens, or in relation to its support for houses on brownfield land.*
- 2. The appeal proposal, involving the erection of a second house and associated sub-division in ownership, use and design of the garden, was also considered by the Reporter to conflict with the aims of its restoration. As such, the restriction in the provisions of Policy H10A to single houses only was confirmed as being logical and reasonable.*
- 3. The Reporter also concluded that little weight can be attached to the terms of the Council's draft supplementary guidance as it requires awaiting the adoption of the new Local Development Plan and is also subject to its own consultation and approval procedures. It is for these reasons that the appeal proposal has been dismissed and planning permission refused.*

Planning Enforcement – Case Closed

12/00044/UNAUTH Deviation from approved application in respect of garage at Balfron Road, Killearn, G63 9NW. Garage position does not deviate from the approved plans.

CC353 Roads

Nigel said there had been a welcome number of road repairs in the last month, including a top dressing on the A875 from the mini-roundabouts to the junction with the A81. The marking out of the car park at the Health Centre had now been approved by Stirling Council. There would be two disabled bays marked by the path to the Centre entrance.

There followed discussion on the re-aligned road by Glengoyne Distillery. There was general consensus that the road now allowed traffic to flow faster and there was concern that this increased the likelihood of accidents at the unimproved section of road. Helen Loudon stated that because of improved visibility, vehicles now tended to overtake on the stretch between the distillery and the entrance to Quinloch, which made it hazardous exiting this drive. Double white lines on this stretch of road would prevent overtaking, and it was agreed to write to Stirling Council requesting this. A suggestion was made that a 40-mph limit could be imposed, but this was unlikely to be granted on a main A-road outwith a built-up area. It was reported that the distillery manager had not expressed any concern about pedestrians crossing from the distillery car park. A question was asked on parking for walkers now that the number of parking spaces had been reduced by the formalising of the parking on the verge opposite the distillery. There were rumours of plans to create a car parking area close to the storage area at the junction of the A875 and the A81, but there

were no known plans. It had been previously reported that a car parking area beside the distillery had been projected, but no plans had been published to date.

CC354 *Celebration for Queen's Diamond Jubilee and Hoolie*

The Council congratulated the Hoolie Committee and the Church for a successful week of celebration despite the weather.

CC355 *Correspondence*

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

It was noted that the planning application for the wind farm at Ard Ghaoth had been put on hold for twelve months as measurements of wind speeds had not come up to expectation.

A new website, www.tellmesotland.gov.uk, had been set up as a portal for accessing public information notices issued by local authorities across Scotland. A search could be made for public notices such as planning and licensing in the local area, check roadworks and restrictions on any route, search archived notices, and register to receive alerts by text or email on notices in the local area. Publicity material was circulated at the meeting and a link would be put on the website.

A resident complained that a neighbour was leaving the waste bins and blue box permanently on the pavement. It was noted that the only sanction would be if the bins were obstructing the pavement.

CC356 *Reports from Meetings Attended/Visit to Polmaise*

Lower Polmaise Margery stated that the visit to the Stirling Council Lower Polmaise Waste Management and Recycling Centre at Lower Polmaise was very successful. The group from both the Council and local residents were welcomed by Paul Charters, the site manager. He was obviously very proud of the facility and was keen to promote visits from other groups. The visit started with a tour of the new offices which will house site staff and other Stirling Council staff relocated from Viewforth. It was an impressive new building, constructed with green credentials; a biomass boiler run on chipped waste wood, mostly redundant palettes, natural ventilation, electricity generated from both bio-gas collected from the land-fill site and solar panels. The staff facilities were good, with 'clean' and 'dirty' lockers for the site workers. The one problem was the lack of public transport to the site.

The visit then continued with a visit to the non-recyclable waste shed, where waste from the grey bins was tipped to be compacted and then taken to the Avondale landfill site near Polmont. This was followed by a visit to the composting area where the content of the brown bins was sorted, shredded and then turned into compost in large heaps which reach a temperature sufficient to kill weed seeds and other pathogens. The party was shocked by the amount of contamination by plastic, which it was impossible to remove, and also by the knowledge that many other non-biodegradable items found their way into the brown bins and had to be hand-picked out. There was obviously a need for education of the public here. The Council would be supplying residents with another box for cardboard, thus removing this from the brown bin. It is hoped that this would reduce contamination and give the Council another revenue stream by selling the cardboard.

The party then proceeded to the disused landfill site which had been capped for some years. The site was still producing significant quantities of contaminated liquid which was made safe by treating with bacteria fed with molasses in large ponds. There was also a significant volume of biogas (mainly methane) which was used by a private company on the site to fuel a diesel generator which produced electricity for both the complex and the grid. The whole site was being carefully managed to provide habitat for wildlife.

The visit concluded with a visit to the Household Waste Recycling Centre where the public brought their waste. The waste was sorted into different categories and sent to specialist companies.

It was enlightening to see the complex story of what happens to your waste and thought-provoking on our consumer society. It was obvious that the staff was enthusiastic about reducing the waste going to landfill and was proud of Stirling Council's record on recycling. The group were made very welcome.

SW Area Rural Forum SW Area Rural Forum held on 21st May Margery stated that the meeting discussed progress towards a revised Single Outcome Agreement, called Stirling Outcomes which will seek to implement the recommendations of the National 'Christie Commission' and to meet the challenges of the Statement of Ambition for Community Planning, published jointly by the Scottish Government and COSLA. It was stated that The Scottish Government and COSLA remained fully committed to Community Planning and Single Outcome Agreements. The reform aimed to deal with financial restraint and how public bodies could deliver services more effectively on common outcomes. Stirling Council is currently gathering evidence for the consultation exercise. It expected that a draft Single Outcome Agreement will be circulated for comment in the autumn. Peter Rea asked if the consultation exercise on Community Empowerment & Renewal Bill would be genuine and if notice would be taken of submitted comments. Pam Campbell said the government would take into account submitted evidence before legislation. The Forum then heard a presentation on Building the Resilience and Capacity of Community Councils, a project which is currently being undertaken by a Community Council Short Life Working Group, of which Helen Geddes of Stirling Council is a member. It was recognised that there was a wide variation in the way community councils operated in Scotland, and ways would have to be found to make them more meaningful. After publication of the group's report, Stirling Council would explore how to widen dialogue with its community councils. The Chair said that the English model of Parish Councils gave some autonomy over the way money was spent locally, to the extent that many Parish Councils had local employees. Pam Campbell said the next Forum meeting, to be held on 17 September, would discuss reshaping of services for older people. Some changes had already taken place, for example re-enablement services up to six weeks were provided by Stirling Council, but longer term support was outsourced to one of two preferred private companies, ILS and Sue Ryder. In answer to a question on level of service provided, Pam said there were strict monitoring procedures in place. Bob Jack, Chief Executive of Stirling Council will be present and Jennifer Kerr/David Blair to discuss the Change Agenda (Older People Services) at the September meeting of the forum.

CC357 Any Other Business

The Chair asked if the public toilets would be reopened or if there was any news of a *Comfort Partnership Scheme* at the Black Bull. It was unsatisfactory that the village was still without public toilet facilities. Councillor Berrill said he would check the status of this.

Janet asked if there was a start date for the six bungalows. Councillor Berrill said issues with road service had caused a delay, but a start should be made shortly.

Nigel said there was a plethora of unauthorised signs and banners in and around the village. Pam said these fell under street legislation, and roads or trading standards should be contacted as they had powers of removal.

CC358 Date of Next Meeting

The Chair said the Council would break for summer and wished everyone a good holiday. The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 19 September 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.22 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2012

Present: M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; H. McLaren; B. Pell(*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Robertson; D. Scott; D. Stuart; P. Wilks;

In Attendance: Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally, J. MacMillan; J. McGrory; P. Cookson; L. McAllister and 21 members of the public.

Apologies: H. Wright.

The Chair welcomed both members and public to this first meeting of the new session. She also extended a warm welcome to our new youth member, Eilidh Robertson.

CC359 *Housing*

The Chair welcomed John MacMillan of Stirling Council Housing Department who would update the meeting on the progress of the construction of 6 bungalows on the 'turnip field'. John stated that the footpath across the field from the school would be closed for approximately 6 – 8 weeks while the access road was constructed. A temporary path on the grass would be available until a new path is opened alongside the road. It was hoped that this temporary path did not become too wet, but bark could be spread if required. The houses were scheduled to be completed and occupied in March 2013, and allocation of tenants would take place in the next 3 – 4 months. A question was asked on the future of the trees on the site. John said they would be carefully removed and new sites found as well as new planting on the site. A question was asked if winter gritting would be improved on Beech Drive as a consequence of the increased housing, but John was unable to give an answer as it was not the responsibility of the Housing Department. A number of residents congratulated the team on the low incidence of mud on the roads and the minimum amount of disturbance.

CC360 *Green Aspirations Scotland*

The Chair welcomed Paul Cookson and Louise McAllister of *Green Aspirations Scotland*. Paul explained that *Green Aspirations Scotland* was established to assist communities raise their aspirations for a better, vibrant and healthy local environment. It was a company of professional people who were able to bring enthusiasm, creativity, experience and knowledge to community projects and support the local people on that project. The project belonged to the community, would be led by and for the community. The company operated out of a new base in Carbeth Home Farm, Killearn. Young people would be trained in rural skills and personal development to fit them for jobs in the rural workplace. Practical certification could follow. Louise said they were currently running courses in green woodworking, building a boardwalk and willow weaving. Workshops in bush craft, coppicing, sawmilling, charcoal making, path building, and pole barn construction were planned. A question was asked about links with local education. Paul said they were in touch with Balfour High School with the hope that they could resurrect the Standard Grade Course in Rural Skills. They also worked on educational projects with the Forestry Commission. The Chair suggested that they contact the new Head Teacher of the primary school to see if they could work with the children there. Peter Wilks said that Green Aspirations had been given a contract to make seats for the new area in the woodland cemetery using timber donated by Carbeth Home Farm.

CC361 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2012 were adopted.

CC362 *Matters Arising*

Public Toilets Councillor Lambie said that the toilets in the Health Centre car park were now repaired and operational.

Oak Tree in Birch Road Margaret stated that legal opinion had been obtained that because the local authority had been maintaining the open space for 40 years, the oak tree would be their responsibility. There was evidence from neighbours that Stirling Council had done remedial work on the tree in the past. A large branch had recently fallen from the tree and therefore required urgent attention. Councillor Lambie said that the tree should be made safe without felling if at all possible. Nigel said he understood that Stirling Council would be sending a tree surgeon to look at the tree. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council expressing concern at the danger to the public and ask that they attend to the tree as soon as possible.

CC363 *Police Matters*

PC David McNally reported on crime and other matters over the three months since the last meeting. An individual who had targeted the farming community, stealing agricultural tools, had been caught and sentenced to a term in prison. It was hoped that the individual responsible for the graffiti in the village had now been identified thanks to a teacher at Balfron High School. A serious disturbance had been caused in the Birch Road area by youths from Milngavie. Several 999 calls were received and the matter dealt with by putting the offending youths on a bus back to Milngavie. A complaint had been received that the police did not contact the caller immediately, but the police were attending the situation, and would always deal with it before going to the informant. A number of shops with pay point terminals had been targeted by a sophisticated fraud, pretending that the terminal needed an update and persuading the shopkeeper to provide information that the fraudsters then used to transfer cash.

A serious robbery took place at the Co-operative store when thieves broke in and stole a large quantity of cigarettes and alcoholic drinks. They were heard by a local resident who gave details of their van, which was intercepted by police in Kippen. Four men abandoned the van and escaped on foot. They were tracked by dogs to Blair Drummond where they were arrested. The police thanked the resident who contacted the police which led to the arrests. David said that the vigilance of the public was the best defence against crime.

The road accident at Blane Smithy was caused by the driver dying of a heart attack and no other vehicles were involved.

David was asked about the chaos caused by a large number of cyclists apparently on a race. They had the appropriate permissions but notice of the event had not filtered down to the local office.

The problems caused by thoughtless parking in the streets around the primary school at the start and end of sessions were raised once again. David said he would continue to monitor the area. A request had been made to have the multicourt lights switched on in the evening. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council asking for them to be on from lighting-up time to 2130 hours.

It was reported that parking at the top of Station Road was causing a traffic hazard. David said he would look into it. It was also reported that tipper lorries were driving at excessive speed. David said he would write to the company involved.

A member of the public said that he had been in correspondence with Stirling Council about the priority signage at Blane Bridge and they had admitted that it was not working satisfactorily. Traffic from Stockie Muir could not see approaching traffic which was given priority. Traffic lights would be the ideal solution, although just reversing the priority might be an improvement. Nigel agreed to take it up with Stirling Council.

Peter Rea asked if the white lines could be replaced on the A875 from Branziert Road to the junction with the A81. Nigel agreed to write to Stirling Council. It was also noted that the white lines at the entrance to the Co-op car park need repainting.

CC364 *Question Time*

There were no questions.

CC365 Youth Matters

Hannah said that she had nothing to report at this time.

CC366 Treasurer's Report

The balance stood at £2584.72.

The administration grant of £373.35 had been received. £105.50 had been paid for repairs to the noticeboard. £100 had been paid for a trip to the Falkirk Wheel by the residents of Abbeyfield, this was payment of a grant from the Community Pride Fund.

Peggy Gardener, who has replaced Betty Smith as President of the Thursday Club, had made a request for a grant for the club. It was agreed unanimously to apply for a grant of £200 from the Community Pride Fund to taking them out for a Christmas lunch. The Council expressed its gratitude to Betty Smith for the years of service that she had given to the club.

CC367 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

12/00476/FUL Proposed decked area at 11 Branziert Road.

12/00521/FUL Erection of new dwelling house with partial retention of existing dwelling house and erection of free standing double garage at Woodneuk, 13 Drumbeg Loan.

12/00537/FUL Alterations and extension to existing dwelling house at Beechknowe, 6 Drumbeg Loan.

Decisions of Appointed Officers

12/00187/FUL Erection of dwelling house on Plot 1 at Land To North Of Red Cottage Blane Smithy Road. Approved with conditions.

12/00389/FUL Extension to rear of dwelling house at Normanhurst 1 Lampson Loan.

Officer: Peter McKechnie. Approved with conditions.

12/00476/FUL Proposed decked area at 11 Branziert Road. Approved with conditions.

Planning Enforcement — Case Closed

12/00084/UNAUTH Deviation from approved plans at Drumbeg Loan, G63 9LG.

Other Planning Issues

Erection of ten wind turbines (max. hub height 79 metres and max blade tip height 120 metres) and associated infrastructure works at Land at Merkins Farm Auchincarroch Road Jamestown. Although not in the Killearn Community Council Area, this application by West Dunbartonshire Council affects Killearn and the full response by Stirling Council can be found on their website.

After discussion on the merits and demerits of wind farms, it was generally accepted by members that these turbines would be an intrusion into an area of great landscape value. It was agreed by a majority of 9 to 2 that the Council oppose the granting of planning permission for this development.

CC368 Roads

Nigel said that Spar agreed to paint the double yellow lines if the Council provided the labour to clear the area and cut back vegetation. Volunteers completed this task and some lines had been painted, but more needs to be done and the disabled bay repainted together with a second disabled bay, so that shoppers used the car park at the rear. Motorists were still parking on the pedestrian area at the front of the store. It was suggested that the large planter be moved to prevent this, but this was deemed to be impractical. It was decided that

Colourful Killearn would build another large planter at right angles to the existing one if Spar agreed. The cost would be approximately £440 and funding would need to be sought.

Nigel stated that the storm drain in the field behind Abbeyfield had been attended to by Scottish Water and SEPA and now appeared relatively clean. The oil pollution in the burn in the Glen had been traced to a leaking oil tank in Main Street which had now been emptied and sealed.

Councillor Lambie stated that improvements to the A81 from Duntreath to Strathblane were scheduled for 2013 - 2014. The road budget for 2012 – 2013 would be increased by £750K subject to expected capital receipts. The walkers' car park at Glengoyne Distillery had received planning permission and work would commence shortly on a facility for 12 to 15 vehicles, which could be extended in the future.

CC369 Current Issues

Local

Seat in Play Park This was provided by the Council and was now at the end of its life. Consideration would be given to its replacement.

Trees A number of large trees were giving concern. It was agreed to ask the Trees Officer to survey them.

Dog Fouling It was reported that the fine imposed on a local resident for allowing a dog to foul in the Glen had been cancelled on a technicality. The new notice at the Glen was too small and placed too high on the tree.

Japanese Knotweed It was reported that Japanese Knotweed could be present on the newly-cleared site at the junction of Lampson Road and Station Road. It was agreed to ask Stirling Council to investigate. It was noted that this was a matter for Scottish Natural Heritage, however Stirling Council would carry out a check.

Regional and National

Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill A small group had considered responses to the Bill which was circulated to all members. It was unanimously agreed to forward the responses to the Scottish Government.

Single Outcome Agreement The Stirling Single Outcome Agreement was the means by which the Stirling Community Planning Partners had agreed their vision for the Stirling area and the strategic priorities that needed to be addressed to achieve this. Priorities were expressed as outcomes to be delivered by the partners, both individually and jointly. It was basically a method of making the communities views count and endeavouring to improve service delivery. It was agreed to consider this further at a future meeting.

Local Housing Strategy The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) was one of the key planning documents produced by the Council. It was being developed in tandem with the Local Development Plan and jointly with partner agencies in the Strategic Housing Forum. It was now open to consultation and members of the public were directed to the consultation document by notices on the notice board and the website.

CC370 Reports from Meetings Attended

Area Planning Forum Bob Jack, Stirling Council Chief Executive gave an overview of Stirling Council's finances stating that because of diminishing government support and the freezing of Council Tax savings had to be made of £24M over the succeeding four years. Because of national agreements, it was difficult to cut the education budget which was about 50% of expenditure and social care which was 25% and increasing.

There was a large agenda with reform of fire and police services and greater emphasis on community planning, making it more effective and more efficient. Community planning was a relatively new term asking what the needs of the community were and how they could be provided. The Single Outcome agreement addressed these problems.

If community councils took on greater responsibilities, how were they to be supported? There were the same number of service managers as community councils, therefore it was feasible to allocate on a 1:1 basis, but there would have to be investment in staff training.

Housing development was contentious, with Balfron unhappy with developments, but the Scottish Government had requested Stirling to provide 10,000 houses, but there were only 6000 in the Local Development Plan. There would be further consultation on the plan after publication in October.

Jennifer Kerr of Stirling Council discussed social care. Stirling Council was reshaping care for older people, a process driven both by cost and the desire of elderly persons to stay in their own home. There was also the aspiration to integrate health care and social care.

Scottish Government has established an 18-month *Change Fund* to support the implementation of the *Reshaping of Social Care of Old People* programme throughout Scotland. Ideas for supporting older people and their carers would be welcomed. There was 8 months remaining for applications to the fund. It was noted that the day care centre in Balfron now cost £48 per session with diminishing numbers.

CC371 Correspondence

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

It was reported that the Balfron Community Futures Development Trust had produced an excellent map.

CC372 Any Other Business

A provisional date of 1 November had been fixed for a public meeting to discuss the local development plan. The Chair said the proposed development at Blairessan was not in the plan, but the houses would probably be moved to the Station Road site. It was noted that the hospital site had been largely ignored by the planners.

CC373 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 24 October 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.09 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 OCTOBER 2012

Present: M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; H. McLaren; B. Pell(*Chair*); P. Rea; E. Robertson; D Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

In Attendance: Councillor Ian Muirhead; PC D. McNally, M. Cook and 26 members of the public.

Apologies: D. Scott.

CC374 Murray Cook, Stirling Archaeologist: recent work

Murray introduced himself as Stirling Council's archaeologist. He said he was mainly concerned with planning, but occasionally was involved in research and fieldwork. He would speak about the work he had done on the *Place of Killearn*, a 17th-century house that was located near Killearn Glen, but was completely destroyed early in the 19th century. It was shown on Roy's 1750 Map of Scotland, but more accurately on the Grasson 1817 map of Stirling. Surviving features were mainly horticultural; a deliberately planted line trees was used to determine the likely site of the building. A trial dig was undertaken in March, but apart from some pottery shards and other demolition material there was little evidence of the building. Ladies Linn which survives, was probably the site of a grotto as evidenced by the yew and the canalisation of the burn. Evidence of the transformation of common land into a more regularised form of occupation was evident. Coppicing showed that there had been economic activity on the estate. The remains of an imposing gateway to the estate were still present on the footpath across the field from Abbeyfield. Murray said the site would benefit from further research, and grants were available from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £2000 to £20,000. Also, further research could lead to the compilation of teaching resources for Killearn Primary School in support of *Curriculum for Excellence*. He could not access these grants himself, but would help any charitable body interested to follow up his research.

Murray was asked who owned the house and estate. He said the house was built on behalf of the Montrose family, probably trying out architectural features on a smaller scale. It was finally owned and demolished by Robert Scott Montgomery. He said in answer to a question that the house was probably demolished because of changing fashion, and the stone from the house was used to build a more fashionable mansion, *Killearn House*. On being asked what had happened to the road to the estate, he said roads then were not metalled and there is still evidence of tracks on the ground.

The audience much appreciated the enthusiasm, and interesting way in which Murray presented his material. The Chair thanked him for an excellent talk.

CC375 Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2012 were adopted.

CC376 Matters Arising

Oak Tree in Birch Road The tree had now been felled after a report from two arboricultural consultants stated the tree was unsafe. It was agreed that the Council try to ensure an oak tree was planted in its place. It was agreed that Stirling Council be asked to designate the land as open space.

Path across Turnip Field. This was closed until the new access road for the six bungalows was completed. A temporary bark path had been installed by Stirling Council.

Spar Parking The final marking out of the double yellow lines and two disabled places at the gable end had still not been completed. A new manager had recently been appointed and he had reviewed the correspondence with C J Lang and promised to expedite things. A notice would inform customers of available parking at the back. It was reported that a number of cars were parked in the car park whose owners were not customers of Spar.

Dog Litter Bin Stirling Council would not provide a bin at the entrance to the Glen in Cedar Road. It was now Stirling Council policy to reduce the number of litter bins to encourage people to take litter home. It was stressed that dog waste could be deposited in any litter bin but, in the absence of a public bin, should be taken home and disposed of in the grey bin. It was remarked that it would be helpful if Stirling Council could take a lead by providing adequate visible notices of their policy.

Japanese Knotweed. Stirling Council had checked the site at the corner of Lampson Road and Station Road and confirmed that there was no Japanese Knotweed present.

CC377 Police Matters

PC David McNally reported that it had been a very quiet month with no reported crime, although a gate post at the entrance to the Old Kirk Cemetery had been knocked down and police were seeking anyone who could shed some light on who had done this.

About 100 young people turned up on Saturday last, 85% of whom were not from Killearn, the village being a convenient place to meet. The evening was fairly chaotic with 30 litres of alcohol confiscated and 25 drunken young people dealt with. It seems that many parents had no idea that their youngsters were in Killearn and had thought they were staying the night with friends. Parents should check thoroughly where their children are going. It appeared the incident was somewhat exaggerated in reports by the local press. Hannah McLaren said that S1 to S4 pupils at Balfron High School did get classes in the dangers associated with alcohol use and the risks to personal safety.

David said that the cones he had put out to restrict parking at the top of Station Road had been squashed or disappeared. He was asked if the notice warning of the work on the Village Hall could be placed further down Station Road; he said he would discuss this with the contractor. He said that he would close Station Road for the duration of the firework display.

CC378 Question Time

Brown Bin Service It was asked if the brown bin service would be suspended during the winter months. The Chair said there had been a trial in two areas but had not heard when the winter suspension of brown bins was to commence. In areas such as Killearn, because of the late leaf fall and the number of large gardens, the brown bin service was necessary, despite the new boxes for cardboard collection. Councillor Muirhead agreed to look into the matter and to report back.

Bus Shelter It was reported that the bus shelter by Well Green was damaged, with hazardous sharp edges where the Perspex was shattered.

Road Defects It was reported that there was a sunken drain cover in Graham Road. There were also defects at the entrance to the Co-op car park and in Branziert Road North.

CC379 Youth Matters

Hannah said she had no report except that, following the report of young people partying in the Glen, she had spoken to a member of staff at Balfron High School and received assurance that pupils are given classes about the dangers and illegality of under-age use of alcohol.

CC381 Treasurer's Report

The balance stood at £2509.72. It was noted that much of this sum was ring fenced for the refurbishment of the Village Hall Coronation Gates to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee.

During the month, expenses of £40 and £35 for data protection were paid.

CC382 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

12/00593/FUL Planning application under Section 42 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to remove Condition 9(b) attached to full planning permission reference no. 11/00560/FUL at Land Between 5 And 7, Main Street.

This application was to vary a requirement to carry out a structural survey at 7 Main Street. The Council would wish to make no comment.

12/00631/FUL Single storey rear extension to dwelling house at 22 Branziert Road North.

The Council would wish to make no comment.

12/00632/FUL Erection of changing facilities at Land South Of Baikal, The Square, Killearn for Killearn Football Club/Killearn Community Futures Company per The Grand Plan 29 Stuart Drive Drymen G63 0BZ

Bob Ballantyne explained that this was a project of KCFC which had been well received when discussed at a previous Community Council meeting, the only objections being the flat roof and the effect of the structure on the view of the Old Kirk Graveyard. The roof was now pitched slate in a traditional manner and the position was as far down the field as tree roots would allow. Other locations were explored but none were as suitable. There would be no vehicular access.

Donnie Beaton said the club needed these facilities as they were the only club in the league without them. They had asked for alternative suggestions but had received none. The site was convenient for parking nearby, not near houses and out in the open so would not attract undesirables.

In discussion, concerns were expressed about the height of the roof and the effect of a modern building on the iconic building of the Old Kirk. Disappointment was expressed that there were only two-dimensional plans of the building with no artist's impression of what the building would look like in the landscape.

The Chair asked the meeting if they approved of giving consent to the planning application, and the meeting voted 10 in favour, 6 against, with 10 undecided. The Chair then asked the Councillors for their opinion. They voted 7 for, 2 against with 2 abstentions. The Chair regretted that a three-dimensional impression of the building in the landscape had not been available prior to the discussion of the application, and requested a note to this effect be added to the formal response to the Planning Department.

Decisions of Appointed Officers

12/00521/FUL Erection of new dwelling house with partial retention of existing dwelling house and erection of free standing double garage at Woodneuk 13 Drumbeg Loan. Approved with Conditions.

12/00537/FUL Alterations and extension to existing dwelling house at Beechknowe 6 Drumbeg Loan. Approved with Conditions.

Local Review Body Decisions - Appeal

11/00427/FUL Erection of new dwelling house at Garden Ground At Drumwhirn 7 Drumbeg Loan. Appeal Refused.

Local Development Plan

The Chair said Stirling Council's Local Development Plan was now published and there were differences to the draft plan promulgated for consultation a year ago, notably the removal of Blairessan as a development site and the increase in the number of houses on the Station Road site to 50. She stated that the plan would not be discussed at this meeting as the Council would be holding a special meeting solely dedicated to this topic on Thursday 1

November in the Church at 8.00 pm. Mr Graham Sword and a representative of Mr Clumpas, owner of the Blairessen site would be present, but Stirling Council would not be sending representatives. An objection was raised that Mr Clumpas should not be present as his site had been removed, but the Chair said all views should be heard. A further objection was raised that there was no representative to talk about the Station Road site. The Chair agreed to invite a representative from the Gordon Trust.

CC383 Current Issues

Local

Killearn Community Futures Company (KCFC) The AGM of KCFC would be held on Thursday 25 October to which both members and non-members were invited. The Chair said she had represented the Council on the board of KCFC for the past year as a nominated director. She was willing to serve a further year. Brenda was elected unanimously to serve for the next year as a nominated director of KCFC.

Provost's Award The Council was delighted to announce that Brian Simmers was a winner of this award for services to the community. This was in recognition of his dedicated work on the Village Hall project for KCFC over the last 2 – 3 years. The Council was also pleased to announce that Iain Somerville has also been awarded this honour for his work with youth sport with Strathendrick Rugby Club.

John Muir Coast to Coast Trail This trail across Central Scotland was due to open in 2014. The route was still being surveyed and there was a possibility it could pass through the village. The Council had been asked if it would support this and agreed to do so unanimously. It was agreed this decision would be communicated to Scottish Natural Heritage.

Regional and National

None.

CC384 Reports from Meetings Attended

NHS Forum Heather attended this meeting which was on dental services and changes to patient transport. A full report was published on the website. The changes to patient transport were significant in that it was now the patient or carer's responsibility to book transport if required; it would no longer be arranged by the hospital. The patient must also cancel transport if the clinic was cancelled or the patient could not attend.

Area Planning Workshop Margery said the meeting was mainly concerned with the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) which would be in place by April next. The Stirling SOA was intended to bring together the Stirling Community Planning Partners to agree a vision for the Stirling area that would make a difference to the lives of its citizens and communities. The SOA set out the strategic priorities that would need to be addressed to achieve this vision.

CC385 Correspondence

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

If an email was sent to any Stirling Council officer on any matter, it should be copied to info@stirling.gov.uk where it would automatically be logged and followed up.

CC386 Any Other Business

Hannah circulated a questionnaire on crime in middle class areas and asked members and public present if they would take part in this survey for her school work.

CC387 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 21 November 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2012

Present: M. Burdon; M. Harrison; B. Pell(*Chair*); P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

In Attendance: Councillor A. Berrill; Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally, and 79 members of the public.

Apologies: J. Duncan; N. Kelly; H. McLaren; E. Robertson.

CC388 *Minutes of the Last Meeting*

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 October were adopted with the following correction: CC374, paragraph 1: Replace *Heritage Fund* by *Heritage Lottery Fund*. Replace *Also, Curriculum for Excellence could be a source of funding* with *Also, further research could lead to the compilation of teaching resources for Killearn Primary School in support of Curriculum for Excellence*.

CC389 *Minutes of the Special Meeting*

The minutes of the special meeting held on 1 November 2012 were adopted after the following corrections:

SM14 Other Questions/Statements. Insert after paragraph 3: *David Asquith stated that in Killearn more land was needed for housing and we had a derelict hospital site. Let us protect the environmental assets we had and let us seize the opportunity to make improvements where they were most needed. He said say yes, loud and clear, to the regeneration of the old hospital site to satisfy all of Killearn's target of 50 houses and say no, also loud and clear, to the loss of a greenfield site, no to biting into the conservation area and no to a roundabout or a T junction on Station Road.* Replace in paragraph 4: *Another contributor said by Another contributor agreed and said.*

CC390 *Matters Arising*

Spar Parking There was still no further progress. While Nigel was away, the Chair stated that she would pursue this matter.

Dog Litter Bin Notices had now been provided by Stirling Council and are now on all normal litter bins which could now be used for dog waste.

Brown Bin Collection All households that had been provided with a new brown box for weekly cardboard collection would have their fortnightly uplift of garden waste suspended during the winter months (December through February). Collections would resume on the first scheduled uplift on or after 1 March 2013.

CC391 *Police Matters*

PC David McNally reported that there had been no reported crime during the last month. On bonfire night a dog waste bin had been blown up by a firework, and the damaged bin had been removed and not replaced. Information was sought on this matter. Station Road was closed for approximately one hour during the firework display and bonfire; this was successful and may be repeated next year. Householders were warned that this was the season for housebreaking, and therefore they should keep houses and outbuildings securely fastened.

Derek asked about the road accident in Graham Road. David said that a car damaged a gas pipe which caused a temporary evacuation of a number of households. The driver had come forward and been dealt with.

A member of the public stated that a large lorry delivering material to the Village Hall site had been causing an obstruction at the junction during the busy time in the morning and asked if these times could be avoided. David said he would talk to the site foreman.

CC392 Planning

Valid Planning Applications Received

12/00706/FUL Replacement of car park at Killearn Parish Church, Balfron Road.

Sue Beck stated that the damaged surface would be removed and replaced by block work. The surface would be porous to conform to current legislation. The Council agreed to support this application.

12/00711/FUL Erection of dwelling house at Land At Killearn House Walled Garden.

This was a reapplication because the applicant believed that an amendment to a policy that led to the application being refused had been modified in the Local Development Plan, thus the development would now fit the policy. The Council felt unable to decide how this fairly abstruse planning matter would affect the application and decided to make no comment.

Decisions of Appointed Officers

12/00593/FUL Planning application under Section 42 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to remove Condition 9(b) attached to full planning permission reference no. 11/00560/FUL at Land Between 5 And 7 Main Street. Refused.

Local Development Plan

The Chair welcomed the large turnout to the meeting and was mindful of the fact that the majority had come to express their views on the Local Development Plan and to hear what the Council response to the plan would be. The Chair said she would endeavour to give everyone a chance to speak and their contribution would be taken into account in framing the response. A paper laying out the history of the Stirling Council's formulation of the plan was tabled at the meeting (Appendix 1).

A large number of speakers spoke very strongly against the proposal to consent to 50 houses on the Station Road site, maintaining that such a large-scale development would alter the character of the village. Another estate was not needed in the village and would inevitably lead to further expansion on the site. The area allocated on the plan for 50 houses was not large enough for the size of development. Graham Knox said he was the focus of a group opposing development of this scale on the site and had over 150 replies stating their objections. He stated that 10 planning restrictions had been breached by the planners in proposing a development on this greenfield site.

It emerged from the contributions of a large number of speakers that to build on a greenfield site when a brownfield site was available at the old Killearn Hospital was bad planning, and development on that location should be considered before more agricultural land was taken. A large number of speakers were concerned about pollution on the hospital site and the cost of decontaminating it. Councillor Lambie said there were no fixed costs available, but he had heard estimates that ranged between £1M and £8M. At a previous application for this site, it appeared that the only viable way to pay for the decontamination was a large number of expensive houses. At that time, the Community Council opposed the designation of the hospital site for housing development because it was opposed to more luxury housing and the fear that the development could attract development on the fields between the village and the A81. If a way could be found to have a mix of housing on the hospital site and mechanisms found to prevent development on the land between Beech Drive and the A81 then this would be the preferred alternative.

A number of speakers declared that there were sufficient large houses in Killearn and these were not selling in the current market, but there was a shortage of smaller affordable homes for downsizing and as starter homes.

Councillor Berrill said he voted for the acceptance of the Local Development Plan because the only option was to select or reject the whole plan. He was opposed to the development on the Blairessen site of 30 houses, but did not expect in winning that argument that the 30 houses would simply be shifted to Station Road. In the original plan 20 was just about acceptable, but 50 was not. He went on to explain the on-going timetable, in which Stirling Council would consider the responses received to the plan. After the formal closure on 10 December 2012, Stirling Council officers would prepare a schedule of these responses (Schedule D) grouped by issues. This would go to Stirling Council for approval in May 2013. If approved, the Local Development Plan as published, together with Schedule D would go to the Scottish Government. They were required to reply within 28 days whether an Examination, (a formal hearing) was required. If so, a reporter or a number of reporters would be appointed to carry out examinations of the contentious issues and determine them.

The Chair then summed up. She stated that she was very disappointed in the planning process as there was no indication of the substantial change between the draft plan and the final plan. The proposal for 50 houses did not meet the criteria set out in the first part of the plan including: *that all new development should consider and respect site topography, and any surrounding important landmarks (built or natural), views or skylines and that Development within a Conservation Area and development outwith, that will impact on the conservation area, shall preserve or enhance its character, appearance and setting.* The Council reflected local feeling that the Blairessen development did not match the village needs and that it was the wrong development on the wrong site. This had been accepted by the planners and removed, however the most unimaginative solution was applied; viz to add the 30 houses lost to the proposed development of 20 houses on Station Road. There was no consultation on this. Neither in the draft plan, nor the final plan was the hospital site considered as a solution to the need for housing, not only in Killearn, but also in the surrounding villages. The only way forward is for every concerned person to make their views known to Stirling Council before 10 November 2012, preferably on the official feedback form, obtainable online, from local libraries and Graham Knox. The Council will take its paper (*Appendix 1*) as a starting point and prepare a response which will be considered at the December meeting. The Council had been given an extension until 23 December 2012 to submit its formal response.

A vote was taken among those present who would not want the development of 50 houses on Station Road, which was carried unanimously. A vote was then taken on who would wish for a limited number of houses on the Station Road site and the remainder developed on the hospital site; this was carried by 53 votes to 1 against. A vote was then taken on who would wish no housing on the Station Road site and all the allocation of housing built on the hospital site; this was carried 42 for and 21 against.

CC393 Finance

The balance stood at £2509.72. A grant of £100 was received from the Community Pride Fund for the Thursday Club Christmas Lunch. £50 was remitted to the Kirk for the use of the Kirk for the special meeting.

CC394 Correspondence

A record of correspondence was now circulated as an Appendix to the Minutes.

The broken plastic window in the bus shelter by Well Green would be replaced.

Stirling Council could not replace the felled oak tree in Birch Road as the land did not belong to the council. They could confirm that the land was recognised as community open space.

CC395 Any Other Business

Derek asked if Stirling Council were attending to the blocked drains outside the Co-op and the Co-op car park entrance. The Chair said Stirling Council was aware of the problem and would deal with it as soon as possible.

CC396 *Date of Next Meeting*

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 19 December 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.

Appendix 1 - Killearn Community Council Correspondence Record November 2012

Ref	Date	Sender	Contents	Action
11/2	14/7	Colin Mackay (SC)	Letter seeking support or otherwise for SC's proposal to nominate Killearn park for Queen Elizabeth Fields challenge	Awaiting outcome
11/18	25/08/11	Robert Horne	Email from Robert to Brenda asking for formal letter of support for transfer of 'turnip field' to Council's General Account	Letter sent by Brenda 26/08 No further information received to date.
~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~ <b>2012</b>	~~~~~
12/169	3/10/12	J Elliott	Email detailing poor state of Birch Rd oak tree – complete removal is the only option. Various other correspondence regarding this.	Tree has now been removed. Possibility of a 'replacement' raised
12/176	11/10/12	N Kelly	Email regarding new planter for outside Spar	
12/181	8/10/12	Local resident	Copy of letter sent to primary school regarding possible dangers from trees in school grounds	
12/183	22/10/12	P Campbell	Emails to council officers – copying to <a href="mailto:info@stirling.gov.uk">info@stirling.gov.uk</a> ensures that these are logged in and progress is monitored	
12/184	22/10/12	H Geddes	Community Health News Autumn 2012	
12/185	22/10/12	H Geddes	Notification 'It's good to talk' Conference in Edinburgh 30/10	
12/186	24/10/12	H Geddes	Message from Scottish Gov – new online page for Ready for winter? Campaign: <a href="http://readyscotland.org/partnership">readyscotland.org/partnership</a>	
12/187	25/10/12	H Geddes	SC priority areas for action 2012-2017. Indicates prominence of support for progress on community planning and Single Outcome Agreement	
12/188	25/10/12	H Geddes	SC looking for 3 people to contribute to work of Beaully to Denny power line legacy steering group.	
12/189	25/10/12	H Geddes	Info regarding campaign to raise awareness of dangers of looped blind cords.	
12/190	26/10/12	J Teven	Workshop on Single outcome agreement 20/11 Balfon HS	Cancelled – lack of support
12/191	26/10/12	National network CCs	2 new posts	
12/192	30/10/12	N McNab	Proposals regarding John Muir Coast to Coast trail	Letter sent to SNH – support for route through Killearn 13/11/12
12/193	30/10/12	H Geddes	Info on proposed Forestry and Woodland strategy (meeting Stirling 22/11)	
12/194	2/11/12	K Martin	Youth Services newsletter	

12/195	1/11/12	J Teven	Oct edition Communities newsletter	This will now be put on the KCC website
12/196	4/11/12	Ian Muirhead/ D Hopper	Info regarding brown bins – confirms no collection garden waste Dec/Jan/Feb	
12/197	2/11/12	I Muirhead/J Elliott	Info regarding leaf sweeping in Killearn	
12/198	7/11/12	H Geddes	Roads maintenance programme 2012/13/14	
12/199	13/11/12	H Geddes	Help plant a tree at Forthbank loop 1/12/12	
12/200	13/11/12	N Hagen	Pane in bus shelter will be replaced asap	
12/201	14/11/12	J Thomson	Correspondence regarding SNP councillors' views on LDP process	
12/202	15/11/12	H Geddes	Draft forestry and woodlands strategy	
12/203	16/11/12	M Harrison	Request to SC to plan a new oak tree in Birch Rd	Request turned down 16/11, but recognised as 'amenity open space'
12//204	1/11/12	Jean Cowie	Confirmation that Thursday club will receive £100	



**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 DECEMBER 2012**

*Present:* M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; B. Pell(*Chair*); P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

*In Attendance:* Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally, Mr G Sword and 12 members of the public.

*Apologies:* N. Kelly; H. McLaren; E. Robertson.

**CC397 *Minutes of the Last Meeting***

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 November were adopted.

**CC398 *Matters Arising***

***Brown Bins*** A number of brown bins were not dealt with last week as their lids were frozen shut. Stirling Council would return to empty these. There would be no further brown bin collections until March and residents were asked to ensure their bins were not left out on the streets during the winter period. Cardboard would be collected weekly in the brown boxes.

***Oak Tree in Birch Road*** Stirling Council Tree Officer, Ingrid Withington, had confirmed that a replacement tree was normally required when a tree covered by a tree preservation order had been felled. She advised a delay in replanting until next winter when the Meriplus fungus spores should have died. Resistant species such as cherry or sessile oak would be suitable.

**CC399 *Police Matters***

PC David McNally reported that it had been another uneventful month. A case of vandalism to a BMW car had been reported and a previous offender was arrested attempting to pass a £20 counterfeit note at the Beech Tree. There had been a number of thefts of farm machinery but not in Killearn.

The Chair stated that it had been reported that there had been fly-tipping of garden waste at the Woodland Cemetery. It subsequently transpired that the material had been placed there by Stirling Council and would be incorporated in the soil to improve it. As it was rather unsightly, it was suggested to Stirling Council that a notice indicating what was being done should be placed at the entrance to reassure people visiting the cemetery. It was also suggested that information of any significant works be passed to the council through Helen Geddes.

A letter had been received from Councillor Martin Earl requesting views on the new scrutiny arrangements for the Stirling Area command after the establishment of the single Scottish police force in April 2013. David was asked for any information which he had on this matter. In answer to a question about the proposed scrutiny panels being set up as a consequence of the reorganisation of the police into a single national force, he said there would be a scrutiny panel for each local authority area but there was little information at the present time. He said it was important that the present strength of 16 officers at Balfon should be maintained. He hoped to be able to give more information at the March meeting. A response would be sent to Councillor Earl emphasising the council's strong support for community policing

**CC400 *Question Time***

There were no questions.

**CC401 *Youth Matters***

There were no youth matters.

**CC402 Treasurer's Report**

The balance stood at £2559.72.

A grant of £100 towards the cost of the Thursday Club lunch had been passed to the club and expenditure of £50 for use of the Kirk for the Local Development Plan meeting.

**CC403 Planning**

***Valid Planning Applications Received***

*12/00745/PPP Change of use from a brownfield former water pipe store for the Katrine Aqueduct to housing at land 65 metres north of Endrick Cottage, Killearn.* The Council noted this application.

*12/00749/FUL Erection of changing facilities at land South West of Baikal, The Square.* This application referred to the proposed construction of a changing room for KCFC on behalf of Killearn Football Club. The proposed site had been relocated to an area beside the play area where the see-saw and large swings were currently placed. This was a great improvement over the previous site below the Old Kirk. However, as the playpark had been completely refurbished at a cost of £75,000 by KCFC, with the aid of a number of grants from charitable bodies, care had to be taken that this was not compromised and that the play equipment, trees and shrubs were suitably relocated to reflect the original design at no expense to the Playpark Group of KCFC. Any plant material lost must be replaced. The changes to the layout of the playpark should be subject to public consultation and agreement. The Playpark Group of KCFC should be kept fully informed. With these provisions, the Council unanimously supported the application.

*12/00764/PPP Proposed new dwelling house at land some 250 metres North West of Drumtian House, Drumtian Road.*

The Council supported this application in principle as it was a requirement for the operation of the farm; however, Stirling Council must ensure that the detailed application was for a house commensurate with this need.

***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

*12/00631/FUL Single storey rear extension to dwelling house at 22 Branziert Road North.* Decision: Approve with Conditions.

***Planning Applications Withdrawn***

*12/00632/FUL Erection of changing facilities at Land South Of Baikal, The Square.* This had been replaced by Planning Application 12/00749/FUL (*see above*).

***Local Development Response***

The Chair presented the final response of the Council to the Local Development Plan. Discussion between members and those present felt that point 2 of the conclusion should emphasise the almost unanimous opposition to the scale of the proposed development in Station Road and also give a definition of *small-scale*. It was also agreed that point 3 of the conclusion that *revised* be replaced by *amended*. It was then agreed unanimously by both members and those present to give authority to the drafting group to change points 2 and 3 of the conclusion and then forward the revised paper to Stirling Council. The paper is attached as Appendix 2.

Mr Sword answered questions about his proposed development of the old hospital site. He said it remained separate from the development plans in the village but would not object if Stirling Council decided to move some of the village allocation of housing units to the hospital site as it would be a 'pump primer' for development on the site. He could not give a figure for the cost of decontamination. It was an important brown-field site which should be considered in the context of development in the wider area.

**CC404 Current Issues**  
**Local**

**Co-option of a New Member** The Chair indicated Gail Campbell was willing to serve as a co-opted member of the Council to fill a current vacancy. The Council agreed that Gail could make a significant contribution to the work of the Council and therefore unanimously approved this appointment.

**Spar Parking** There was still no further progress. The Chair stated that she had discussed this matter with the manager, but there was no money available at present to carry out the necessary painting.

**Trees** The Chair said that she recognised the concern felt about trees and high hedges by neighbours. She had contacted one house owner who had arranged to contact a tree surgeon to ensure that the trees were safe.

**Blocked Drains** Stirling Council were aware of flooding in the area of the Co-op and will carry out a detailed investigation in the New Year.

**Gully Cover in Branziert Roads.** Stirling Council would carry out the necessary repairs as soon as resources were available.

**Winter Emergency Plan** This had now been updated and was operational.

**Bungalows** The bases and infrastructure of the bungalows on the 'turnip field' were now almost complete and the timber kits were scheduled for delivery in February, weather permitting. The fencing would be re-sited in January to allow pedestrians the use of the newly-constructed pavement. Stirling Council thanked residents for their tolerance using the temporary footpath while work had been proceeding.

**Regional and National**

None.

**CC405 Reports from Meetings Attended**

**NHS Forum** Heather said that she had attended the forum on the plan for services for the elderly. Development of the plan was still on-going as there has to be reassessment of how care was delivered and how the responsibility of the NHS and the responsibility of Local Authority Social Services could be shared. The prime question was who picked up the costs. There was now a full-partnership agreement between the services.

Part of Stirling Community Hospital site was to be given over to a "care village" with two residential units, sheltered housing and General Practice services.

**Area Planning Forum** The Chair attended a workshop on outcomes. This was a further step on the path to empower local communities to say what services they require and how they should be delivered.

**Forum on Drugs and Sudden Deaths of Young People** A forum on this very sensitive subject was held in response to concerns about five suicides in the Balfron catchment area in the past year. There was an impressive number of support agencies represented and information was available, but it was pointed out that there are no facilities operating in the immediate area which might be helpful to young people. An offer was made for a professional worker in this field to come to the village to carry out confidential counselling if suitable premises could be found; it was agreed to pursue this. Heather stated that all NHS workers, including dentists and pharmacists were being trained in suicide prevention and pharmacies now had consultation rooms.

**CC406 Correspondence**

A record of correspondence was now circulated as Appendix 1 to the Minutes.

A letter had come from *Trossachs Search and Rescue* asking if the village would consider raising £2000 for a public defibrillator to be sited in the village, but operated by them.

Heather pointed out if the village could get six volunteers to undertake training and form a response team, this equipment would be provided free of charge by the NHS. If an ambulance or paramedic was not available to respond, two members of the locally-trained response team would be contacted to attend the casualty and use the equipment if necessary. Volunteers were forthcoming at the meeting, so it was decided to ask Heather to co-ordinate the formation of such a team, and to reply to *Trossachs Search and Rescue*. This was our preferred option.

**CC407 Any Other Business**

Peter Rea asked who he should contact about problems using the car park beside the Co-op in Balfron. Councillor Berrill said the car park was half owned by the Co-op and half by Stirling Council, who were aware of the problem. It was suggested that Peter write to the secretary of Balfron Community Council outlining his concerns.

**CC408 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 16 January 2013 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm. The Chair wished all those present a very Happy Christmas and good wishes for the New Year.

## KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON 1 NOVEMBER 2012

*Present:* J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; B. Pell(*Chair*); P. Rea; D Stuart; P. Wilks.

*In Attendance:* S. Clumpas; B. Hampton; Councillor G. Lambie; G. Sword; S. Taylor;  
R. Thomson; W.Gordon; K. Goodman; Prof. S. Brymer and 124 members of the public.

*Apologies:* M. Burdon; H. McLaren; E. Robertson; D. Scott; H. Wright.

#### **SM11** *Welcome*

The Chair introduced Local Councillor Lambie. He would be able to get a sense of the reaction of the village to the plan. She also welcomed the speakers from three parties with an interest in developing different sites in the village. They were not invited; the Council listened to their requests to come and address the meeting, and as one of the remits of the Council was to foster an exchange of views, the Council was pleased to allow them to present their respective cases.

#### **SM12** *Purpose of the Meeting*

The Chair stated that this was a special meeting of the Council to consider the Proposed Stirling Council Local Development Plan. This meeting would give residents an opportunity to hear proposals to implement the housing development part of the plan, question the speakers and express their views of the final draft of the plan. Observations expressed at this meeting would be taken into account by the Council in framing its response to the plan. It was not the intention of the meeting to discuss the Plan in detail, but everyone was encouraged to read the Plan, including the Killearn settlement statement which could be downloaded from the planning page of the Community Council website or viewed in the local libraries. The Plan designated 50 houses within the village envelope, which were originally split between two sites, Station Road and Blaressan Field, but in the final Proposed Plan the 50 houses were concentrated on the Station Road site. Many people opposed further development in the village, but national and local policies had identified a need for an increase in the housing stock and Killearn would be required to take its share, the status quo was not an option. The meeting would allow the Council to formulate its response in the consultation process to take account of the views of as many people in the village as possible.

#### **SM13** *Presentations*

***The Gordon Trust*** The Chair introduced Robin Thomson on behalf of the Gordon Trust. The Trust owner of the site off Station Road, which had been identified as suitable for 50 houses in the Local Development Plan. Robin identified himself as someone who had lived in the area for many years and was sympathetic to a development that would be appropriate to the site and its environs. He then went on to explain how Stirling Council had come to the decision that the Blaressan site was unsuitable and that the Station Road site could sustain 50 houses. It was based on the spatial strategy in the Plan, which would concentrate development within settlements where services existed and help sustain those services through increased diversity in the population. There should be controlled small scale expansion consistent with their current size. In the draft plan 8 supported and 14 objected to the site, compared to 2 who supported and 56 who objected to the Blaressan site. The speaker stated there had been some support for the Station Road proposal in the draft plan.

He then went on to describe a proposed development for the site. He explained it would be phased development, 25 up to 2019 then a further 25 to 2024. He then showed images taken along Station Road showing that the development would not be visible until the 30mph sign and would then be screened by trees. The site was 2.5 Ha of rough grazing. It would help define the village boundary. Stringent conditions were set by the Plan; the Station Road frontage would be houses set in plots of 20m minimum width and set back 12m. All buildings would not exceed 2.5 storeys and would have predominately rendered finishes. There would be 50% affordable housing. There was easy access to the school. The

development would have limited environmental impact and would not affect the conservation area.

**Killearn Hospital** The Chair introduced Graeme Sword, owner of Killearn Hospital site. The Hospital Site is not considered under housing in the Plan, but under employment. In addition to employment possibilities, it states that part of the site not identified as part of the business land supply could be considered for housing.

Graeme said this was the largest brown-field site in Stirling District. A number of schemes had been proposed in the past but none had proved financially viable. Increase in the land value would be required. The site is 11 Ha of which 2.5 Ha was identified as part of the building land supply. The site had good access from the roundabout which had been built as access to the nursery. He then went on to show plans for a proposed development of 4 workshop units, 3 shop units, office space, a crèche and nursery, bed and breakfast, bunkhouse, and self-catering accommodation. The housing would consist of 6 live-in/work units, 16 2-bed flats (affordable housing) and 55 self-build plots, which would give Stirling Council Planners control over the development. The site currently suffers from some asbestos contamination and this would require to be cleansed before allowing development. The proposal was for a limited development to fit the nature of the surrounding landscape. He estimated that it would generate £180,000 rate income, give employment opportunities and reduce the traffic impact on the village.

**Blairessan Field** The Chair introduced Stuart Clumpas, owner of Blairessan with associates, Bruce Hampton, Steve Taylor and Kieron Goodman. The Draft Plan originally proposed 30 houses on the site, but these were removed in the final Proposed Plan.

Stuart said he was not a New Zealander, but was Scottish from Glasgow and knew the area well. He apologised that the original plan that had been put to the village had never been intended as a serious proposal for the site. It was an off-the-shelf development for an English village. In the plans for Blairessan there was never intended to be a community hall, large numbers of trees felled or a mini-roundabout. His ambition for a small part of the 5.6Ha site was to provide housing needed by the community, suitable for older people and young families. There may also be room for community allotments if desired. He was in the fortunate position of not having to maximise the profit on the development. Current plans are not definitive; he wished to find out what the community wanted. He had appointed a new team, and Mansell, the building company, who were part of Balfour Beatty, had produced a brief which excited him.

Bruce Hampton of Mansell and Steve Taylor, environmental adviser and Kieron Goodman, architect, explained their vision for the site. Prof. Stewart Brymer, legal adviser was also present. They showed a provisional plan for a screened development consisting of 12 2/3 semi-detached/terraced, 6 4-bed semi-detached, 5 4-bed detached, 5 5-bed detached and 2 6-bed detached houses. There would be variation in density and scale with, small informal squares for social interaction. There would be a mix of affordable and other housing, with an emphasis on the whole development being of high quality. A new countryside footpath would be made across the site joining Drumtian Road with Station Road.

**SM14 Open Discussion  
Station Road Site**

*What would be the impact of this development on services, such as the schools, bus service and health centre?* Robin Thomson said he had no further information above that in the Plan. These factors would have been considered by the planners in formulating their proposals in the Plan.

*Had the drainage problems on the site been considered, it was more a bog than rough grazing?* When definitive proposals for the site were made, the engineering consultants would come up with technical solutions which would be evaluated by Stirling Council and Scottish Water. The effect on surrounding properties would be considered and be within the legal requirements.

*Had the site been extended to the north?* Yes, to accommodate the extra houses.

*Was not the density of the site too great?* The frontage will be the same density as current houses along Station Road, but, yes, the houses behind will be much higher density with a large proportion terraced.

*Would not the impact on the village be reduced by building on the hospital site?* This was a question for the planners.

*Would the Stirling Council representative give his views on the impact on services and the environment?* Councillor Lambie said he was shocked at the transfer from Blaressan to impose 50 houses on the Station Road site, and had voted against it. He would favour a larger-scale development on the hospital site rather than the village. The question of the impact on services had been considered by the planners who had concluded that there would be sufficient capacity at the High School but the 'placing request' capacity, which allows pupils from outwith Stirling Council to be admitted, may need to be reduced.

### ***Killearn Hospital Site***

*What was the scale of contamination?* Graeme Sword said it was mainly asbestos cement sheeting which was low contamination, mixed with some high-contamination asbestos pipe lagging, etc.

*Should you have known of the contamination when you bought the site from the Greater Glasgow Health Board?* The site was sold as seen, and the ideas about contamination were very different in the 1970s. No public body would pay to remove the contamination, it needed development to pay for this.

*How much would it cost to decontaminate?* Past estimates were in seven figures. Graham Lambie stated he had seen different estimates ranging from £1M to £7M.

*How would the sewage be treated as the old hospital plant was out-of-date and not fit for purpose?* Professional advice had been given that the sewage plant could be bought up to modern standards and this would be certified by Scottish Water. There was also the option to connect to the main sewage plant off Drumbeg Loan.

*Would not a large housing development encourage the spread of Killearn down to the hospital?* This was called coalescence. It was up to the planners to put in place policies to prevent this.

*Would people buy self-build plots on decontaminated land?* The company who decontaminated the land would be required to give a bond to verify that the land was decontaminated to the required legal standard. The idea for self-build came from Stirling Council planners.

*Would there be less risk if the site was decontaminated?* There was little risk at present, but it would obviously reduce that further. The Chair said that she understood local councils would ultimately be required to decontaminate land if the land-owner was unable to do so for financial reasons.

*What about transport?* A bus stand had been included in the plan, but it would be up to the bus companies and transport authorities to determine if a bus service could be provided.

### ***Blaressan Field***

*What was the strategy to restore housing on Blaressan Field in the Plan?* Representations would be made to Stirling Council to re-schedule part of the field from countryside to housing. The proposals for the site would be promulgated and it was hoped get the support of the community. Representations would also be made on the Plan during the consultation period.

*Could high quality and low-cost housing co-exist?* Yes, there is integration across the site, and quality will run from executive to low-cost housing. Stuart stated that he aimed to deliver something exciting.

*Could access be from Drumtian Road?* This had been considered but there were pros and cons for both accesses. There was no need for a mini-roundabout on Station Road, there was good visibility and a T-junction would meet all safety criteria. There would be no need to lower the wall opposite the entrance to the development to improve visibility.

*What was meant by affordable housing?* There were various definitions used by government and local councils and it could be provided in various ways; shared equity, housing association, etc. In general it came down to the size of the property.

*What about the fact that the field was very wet with run off into neighbouring properties?* The drainage scheme would have to be approved by Scottish Water and in fact should improve the current situation.

*What would happen to the rest of the field?* As explained, the purpose was not to make a huge profit and there were no plans for the remainder of the field.

#### ***Other Questions/Statements***

Richard Hunter asked permission to make a statement about the Station Road site in particular and development in Killearn in general. He said he was speaking on behalf of a number of people and asked like-minded individuals to join them. An estate of this size, 50 houses, was totally inappropriate for both the site at the entrance to the village and to the village itself. Modest development would be acceptable, not large estates. It was unrealistic for any houses to be affordable. The political process had let the people of the village down; it was not about nimbyism, but about thoughtless planning, which if this was allowed then nowhere would be safe. The vital object was to insist upon small-scale incremental development. The hospital site was more suited to larger-scale development.

Robin Thomson said that the Council had undertaken an extensive and prolonged planning process. In their final Plan they had attempted to retain the character of Station Road by restrictions of what could be built on the frontage and the higher density behind would reduce the impact on the village.

A number wanted to know why the Blaressan site had been removed without an explanation given. Councillor Lambie said that he had opposed this proposal as it would impinge upon the conservation area, it could be regarded as over development and there was a strength of feeling against it. He stressed that consideration of the plan was taken seriously by councillors.

David Asquith stated that in Killearn more land was needed for housing and we had a derelict hospital site. Let us protect the environmental assets we had and let us seize the opportunity to make improvements where they were most needed. He said say yes, loud and clear, to the regeneration of the old hospital site to satisfy all of Killearn's target of 50 houses and say no, also loud and clear, to the loss of a greenfield site, no to biting into the conservation area and no to a roundabout or a T junction on Station Road.

Another contributor agreed and said that more development within the village increased the problem of light pollution and development at the hospital site would be better.

Children of long-standing residents were unable to find work in the area and could not afford the local housing; therefore affordable housing and encouragement of local employment were required.

There seemed to be general agreement that the Station Road proposal was overdevelopment and that the hospital site should be investigated further.

#### ***SM15 Timetable of Consultation/KCC Meetings***

The next step was to take part in the consultation. The period for making representations to the Plan would run until 10th December 2012. Representation should be made on the official form, which could be completed online or a downloaded copy printed, then completed and posted to Planning and Policy, Economy, Planning and Regulation, Stirling Council, Viewforth, Stirling, FK8 2ET. Links to download the form were on the planning



page of the Community Council website, [www.killlearncc.org.uk](http://www.killlearncc.org.uk). If you were unable to access the internet, contact the address given for a copy.

Killlearn Community Council would discuss the Plan further at its November meeting and following that would prepare a response to the Plan for approval. It would help the Council in its deliberation that any responses sent by individuals to Stirling Council were copied to the Community Council.

It was essential that you make your voice heard.

**SM16** *Appreciation*

The Chair firstly thanked everyone for coming; it was encouraging to see such a large turnout. Thanks were expressed to the speakers for interesting and informative presentations and to the public for listening and asking questions in such an orderly manner.

The co-operation of the Kirk Session in allowing the meeting to take place in the church was appreciated. Thanks were also due to Scott Macintosh and Sue Beck for technical help with the sound and projection and in preparing the church for the meeting.

The Chair was thanked for the excellent conduct of the meeting.

**SM17** *Date of Next Meeting*

The next ordinary meeting would take place in the Primary School on Wednesday, 21 November 2012 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.05 pm.

*MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1 NOVEMBER 2012*

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**HELD ON 20 JUNE 2012**

*Present:* M. Burdon; J. Duncan; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; H. McLaren; P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks(*Chair*); H. Wright.

*In Attendance:* Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally, and 7 members of the public.

*Apologies:* B. Pell C. Macintosh.

***AGM1 Minutes of Last AGM***

The minutes of the AGM held on 15 June 2011 were approved, proposed by P. Rea, seconded by M. Harrison.

***AGM2 Chairman's Report***

The Chair presented the Annual Report for the year 2011/2012. Acceptance of the report was moved by N. Kelly and seconded by H. Wright. The Annual Report is attached as Appendix 1 to the minute.

***AGM3 Treasurer's Report***

J. Duncan presented the Audited Accounts for the year 2011/2012.

Acceptance of the accounts was moved by D. Scott and seconded by N. Kelly. 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***

All current officers agreed to stand for re-election. There were no other nominations.

The Officers of the Council for the year were then re-elected, proposed by H. Wright, seconded by D Stuart. The officers for the next year were Chair: Brenda Pell; Vice-Chair/Minutes Secretary/Webmaster: Peter Wilks; Secretary: Margery Burdon; Treasurer: Janet Duncan; 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 8.03 pm.

**APPENDIX 1**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012**

There have been a few changes in the membership of Killearn Community Council during the past year: Betty Smith retired after many years of valued service, most notably, as treasurer. We also said farewell to Youth Member Iain Beaton who went off to university. We welcomed Hannah McLaren, who, in January, joined Cairi Mackintosh as our second Youth Member. In February, David Scott, elected to fill a vacancy, was welcomed to the council. The current membership of KCC is:

Brenda Pell (*Chair*); Peter Wilks (*Vice-Chair, Minutes Sec., Webmaster*); Margery Burdon (*Secretary*); Janet Duncan (*Treasurer*); Margaret Harrison; Peter Rea (*Planning Correspondent*); Nigel Kelly; David Scott; Derek Stuart; Heather Wright plus our two Youth Members.

Due to changes in Stirling Council, Pam Campbell, Stirling Council Rural Villages Development Officer, is no longer a regular attendee at CC meetings. The support she has given and continues to give to a wide range of village activities as well as to the Community Council has been greatly appreciated over several years and KCC expressed their gratitude to her. We have continued to be ably supported by our three elected Councillors and by our Community Police Officer, David McNally. All have attended KCC meetings throughout the year, providing reports and information and giving advice on issues raised by residents. We are grateful to them all for their dedication in supporting the interests of our village. A special word of thanks is due to Colin O'Brien, who retired as Councillor prior to the recent Council elections. His support and contributions to our meeting have been invaluable. Following the elections at which Councillors Alistair Berrill and Graham Lambie were returned, we also welcomed to our May meeting newly elected Councillor Ian Muirhead.

The Agendas and Minutes of our meetings are put on the village notice board and on our website [www.killearncc.org.uk](http://www.killearncc.org.uk) and there is a news update in the Courier so that all may keep informed of the current issues with which KCC is engaged. It has been good to note the increasing number of residents attending our monthly meetings; this is an indication that the agenda contains matters that interest you, our public, and we welcome your involvement in our discussions.

Invariably it is planning matters that attract a good audience. During the past year we have had two presentations from Banks Renewables regarding their proposed wind farm at Ard Ghaoth (on the hillside between Ballat and Drymen). There were opportunities for questions from the audience at both meetings. Recent correspondence suggests a delay to the project and no application has yet been submitted to Stirling Planning Department.

That Department produced its Draft Local Plan in the late autumn. This presents Stirling Council's vision for the future development of its entire area and its plan to expand and to attract more people into both the city and the surrounding countryside. A certain amount of new building is proposed for virtually every community. In Killearn three potential sites are earmarked: the six old peoples' bungalows for part of the Turnip Field (already presented, accepted, with planning consent granted and work expected to begin shortly); an extended line of 20 houses in Station Road; 30 houses proposed for part of the Blairessan field. A brief reference is made to the possibility of the Killearn Hospital site being used for business development. Opportunities were given by Stirling Council for all to make comments on the Draft Local Plan and a considerable number of residents did so, both at KCC meetings and by sending their views directly to Stirling Council. KCC members gave their personal views and, together with comments received from the community, created a Community

Council response which was sent to the Planning Department. A further period of consultation is expected in the autumn before the final Local Plan is formulated. KCC also submitted an opinion on the Open Space Strategy.

Roads is another subject that excites comment. Weather conditions over the past two years together combined with a past history of minimal maintenance of our roads have brought forth many complaints about deteriorating surfaces. Whilst the budget for rural roads has been increased, it seems there is never enough funding to ensure an acceptable quality of road surface obtains throughout. Some patching has been done but the complaints about the state of the road surfaces and that of our pavements continue. Major road alterations have been greeted with mixed opinions, although the warning signage at the 'black spot' at the Devil's Pulpit (Stockiemuir Road) has been welcomed. Further implementation of the Traffic Management Plan, agreed a few years ago, has been postponed until the renovations to the Village Hall have been completed as it was felt that this project may create new but temporary traffic patterns in that area.

In partnership with Stirling Council's Winter Maintenance Policy an Emergency Group of volunteers has been set up. These people will be alerted via a 'telephone cascade' to respond if an emergency situation arises as a result of severe weather.

Recently a number of youth groups have taken part in the Keep Scotland Beautiful Campaign. KCC awards certificates to all youth groups who play a role in keeping our village tidy and is grateful to all the young people and their adult leaders who have taken part in this.

Dog Fouling is another issue which has been on our agendas. It has been brought to our attention that allowing one's dog to foul *anywhere but on one's own land* is against the law and is punishable by a fixed penalty. It has come as something of a surprise to learn that this legislation applies even in wild areas. KCC has made a plea to Stirling Council that a period of education for the public would have been preferable before a fixed penalty was enforced. PC McNally has produced some posters which are on display and now Stirling Council is installing signage in public areas.

We have been assured by Stirling Council that the section of the Turnip Field which remains, after the building of the Old Peoples' bungalows, will be passed to the village for leisure purposes. The park was nominated by Stirling Council to be a Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Field – one of the Fields in Trust which commemorates the Diamond Jubilee. Although there has so far been no public announcement of this, we understand that this nomination has been successful and we thank the community for the votes given in favour of our park. This will ensure that this land will remain secure for leisure and recreation in perpetuity.

Discussion took place earlier in the year regarding Killearn's preferences for ways in which to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. A number of suggestions were made and a vote was taken. As a result the choices selected were: the church bells to be rung, special jubilee cake to be served to all at the tea at the Hoolie and the wrought iron gates of the Village Hall to be restored and a commemorative plaque affixed in time for the opening of the newly restored Village Hall. Since these gates were erected to commemorate the Queen's Coronation, it seemed a fitting tribute to refurbish them to mark the Diamond Jubilee. Killearn was also invited to join with Strathblane at their Jubilee Bonfire Party and to enjoy the Dumgoyne beacon. We are grateful to Stirling Council for providing the funding for the Jubilee celebrations.

At some of our monthly meetings the Community Council has invited speakers to address us on subjects of interest. These have included David Hopper, Stirling Council's Waste Services Manager, on Recycling and Waste, Colin Anderson and Gordon Thompson of Banks Renewables, the staff of the Old Meal Mill Community Learning House, a residential educational unit for autistic young

people housed at Branshogle and the newly appointed Stirling Council Tree Officer, Ingrid Withington, who gave some interesting information about the trees in Killearn.

Several of our members have attended conferences/workshops on Severe Weather Policy, Zero Waste & Planning, Learning in the Community and the future role of Community Councils. Our members also regularly attend the quarterly meetings of the Local Area Forum and Forth Valley Health Board. Matters discussed at these meetings are reported to KCC and are published in our Minutes.

As we reach the end of another year, I would like to thank all the members of KCC for their time and energy spent voluntarily to enable us to form a link between the residents of our village and our governing authority, Stirling Council.

Your Community Council will continue to work for your interests. If you care about the village, do keep in touch with us. Keep a look out for notice of our meetings, advertised on the noticeboard, our website and in the local press. Finally, we need one more member to complete our team. Would you be interested in joining us?

*Brenda Pell*

*June 2012*

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2012**

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			<b>INCOME</b>	
Admin Costs	Postage & distribution	12.04		Stirling Council Grant
	Website/fax/telephone	35.86		373.35
	Data protection ICO	35.00		
	Photocopying/printing	52.94		
	Admin and mileage	136.62		
	Audit fee accrued at 31.3.12	<u>28.00</u>	300.46	
KCC expenditure	Scotway subscription	20.00		
	School Janitor gift	20.00		
	Farewell gifts to leavers	<u>40.00</u>	80.00	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>			<b>£380.46</b>	<b>Total Income</b>
				<b>£373.35</b>
	Total transactions		Surplus/(Loss on year)	<b>(£7.11)</b>
	Stirling Council Grant less Admin Costs		Surplus/(Loss on year)	<b>£72.89</b>
<b>Bank account resolution</b>				
Opening balances	No 1 account	491.75		
	No 2 account	<u>462.23</u>	953.98	
	Deduct expenditure excluding accrual		(352.46)	
	Add income		<u>373.35</u>	
	<b>Closing balance (accounts amalgamated)</b>		<b>£974.87</b>	<b>Balance shown on statement No4 at 2.4.12</b>
				<b>£974.87</b>

Signed by KCC Treasurer

*Janet Duncan*

.....  
Janet Duncan

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

*Catherine Delany*

..... Signed and dated by Auditor  
Catherine Delany