

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2013**

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

*In Attendance:* Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally, and 9 members of the public.

*Apologies:* J. Duncan.

The Chair welcomed Gail Campbell to her first meeting as a new member.

**CC409 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

CC408 After correction of the date of the next meeting to 16 January 2013, the minutes of the meeting held on 19 December were adopted.

**CC410 Matters Arising**

**Woodland Cemetery** The Chair said that the green waste at the cemetery had not been dumped, but was being dug into the soil by Stirling Council to improve the ground. The Chair said that she had requested the Cemeteries Officer to put a notice on the gate explaining the purpose of the works.

**CC411 Police Matters**

PC David McNally reported that it had been another uneventful month. There had been an incidence of vandalism in Birch Road with youngsters throwing eggs at windows. The perpetrators were made to clean the windows and the offence was unlikely to recur. There had been two incidents with cars: a car clipped wing mirrors at the top of Station Road and a woman crossing the road at the distillery was slightly bruised by a car. In both cases, the cars did not stop, but the drivers may have been unaware of the incidents.

Complaints of dog fouling in Allan Road and Graham Road had been made directly to Stirling Council; the dog warden had informed Killearn CC that action would be taken. Dogs should not be let out of houses into a public area without their handlers.

A large number of traffic problems were brought to the attention of David. There was evidence of a large vehicle on the recreation ground; tractors with obscured number plates were leaving mud on the road, especially at the entrance to the Gas House on the Fintry Road; speeding on Station Road and vehicles parked on Main Street close to the junction with Drumbeg Loan, at times causing congestion and at times parked on the pathway causing pedestrians to walk on the road; a suggestion had been made by a resident that a flashing 30 sign is installed on the Station Road entry to the village.

**CC412 Question Time**

A member of the public asked about the offer of a defibrillator from *Trossachs Search and Rescue* as she was afraid that this might compromise the local ambulance service. Heather Wright explained that the preferred option was to have a group of at least six trained responders with equipment supplied by the NHS, in which case it becomes integral to the emergency service. She will follow up the possibility of training for a group of volunteers.

**CC413 Youth Matters**

It was noted that there was a new Head Teacher at Balfron High School. There were no other youth matters.

**CC414 Treasurer's Report**

The balance stood at £2538.39.

It was noted that £1400 of this balance was earmarked for refurbishment of the gates at the Village Hall to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee. It was agreed to have a plaque to explain the significance of the refurbishment, and extra funds would be required for this.

## **CC415 Planning**

### **Valid Planning Applications Received**

*12/00805/PPP Erection of dwelling house at garden ground to north west of the Garth, Gartness Road.* It was noted that this was a reapplication after planning consent had expired. It was unanimously agreed to support this application.

### **Decisions of Appointed Officers**

*12/00749/FUL Erection of changing facilities at land South West of Baikal, The Square.* This application for changing rooms on behalf of Killearn Football Club had been given approval by Stirling Council and had also received a building warrant. The development would be on the recreation ground where the seesaw is currently situated.

### **Local Development Plan.**

The Chair explained that the response of the Council had been sent to Stirling Council and a standard acknowledgement received. She said that there had been a very large response from the community to the revised plan, overwhelmingly against the changes. She stated that the response was on the notice board and the website and went on to outline it. She said how disappointed the Council had been that the significant change from 20 in the draft to 50 houses in the proposed local plan on the Station Road site had not been discussed with the community before being included in the revised plan. The Council now awaited the next stage of the consultation which was scheduled for March.

Nigel said that congratulations were due to the group who prepared the response. This was unanimously agreed.

## **CC416 Current Issues**

### **Local**

**Balforn Car Park** The car park by the Co-op was now being upgraded by Stirling Council.

### **Regional and National**

**Broadband Provision.** Peter Wilks stated that he had attended a Stirling Council meeting which was set up to get feedback from rural Community Councils on how they would like to see broadband provision develop in the future. The meeting was led by Dr Muir from a firm of consultants, Farrpoint, who had been retained by Stirling Council to advise them on the Scottish Government strategy, *Step Change 2015*. This has an ambitious target to provide a superfast broadband (40MB+) service to 85 to 90% of the premises of Scotland. It was expected that two thirds of this service would be provided by BT and Virgin Media, so the remainder would require intervention by the Scottish Government. Discussion then took place. Killearn seems better served than many rural areas which cannot aspire to 1MB, let alone 40MB. The need for faster upload speed as well as download speeds was emphasised as more people are using cloud computing. There was evidence that a number of companies had moved out of rural areas because they could not access fast broadband. There was a good deal of scepticism that rural areas would see uplift to the extent planned by 2015. Councillor Benny concluded the meeting by stressing this was a fact-finding exercise to define the problems faced by rural communities, and to give Farrpoint more evidence for their report to Council. He said the Council would endeavour to ensure that the rural areas of Stirling would benefit from *Step Change 2015*.

## **CC417 Correspondence**

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

**Emergency Number for Electricity** The emergency service in Killearn was provided by Scottish Hydro, not SSE, with emergency telephone number 0800 300 999.

**Empowerment and Renewal Bill** The Council had replied to the consultation, despite the complexity of the questions. It was disappointing that only 7% of Community Councils had bothered to take part, and one must question the validity of the response with such poor participation.

**CC418 Any Other Business**

**New Bungalows** A complaint was received that access to the footpath to the primary school was still closed off to Birch Road. The Chair stated that she had been assured that footpaths would be opened as soon as possible. Stirling Council would be contacted to ask when this would take place. The site foreman Andy was praised for his positive public relations.

**Succession Strategy** The Chair said that a number of organisations in the village, including the Community Council, would soon need to find additional/replacement volunteers. It was noted that this was the last year of the term of the Council and that the present Council would disband in October and, following elections run by Stirling Council, a new Community Council would be inaugurated in November. All members were asked to reflect on this and, if they did not intend to stand again, to inform the Chair. Since word of mouth is often the best way of recruiting new volunteers the meeting was encouraged to discuss this matter with friends and neighbours and to encourage any interested residents to consider volunteering to serve on village organisations.

**CC419 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 20 February 2013 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.36 pm.

# Appendix 1–Killearn Community Council Correspondence record 12/01/2013

January 2013

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 info
~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~
<b>2012</b>				
12/176	11/10/12	N Kelly	Email regarding new planter for outside Spar	
12/204	22/11/12	Cllr M Earl	Re new Police Service of Scotland – invitation to comment on transition and new scrutiny arrangements.	Response sent
12/219	13/12/12	'Playpark 'group'	Emails regarding site for Changing rooms	
12/210	14/12/12	Peter Turner SC	SC is aware of flooding problem at Coop. Will investigate in NY	
12/211	19/12/12	H Geddes	Copy of Community health news	
12/212	19/12/12	H Geddes	Invitation to nominate to Scottish Civic Trust My Place awards	
12/213	20/12/12	H Geddes	Countryside volunteer newsletter	
12/214	20/12/12	Donald Saunders	SVE ebulletin	
12/215	20/12/12	H Geddes	December Communities news sheet	
12/216	21/12/12	J Anderson	Invitation to PINs steering group 17/1/12	Margery will attend
12/217	21/12/12	K Martin	Youth services rural newsletter	
12/218	29/12/12	Cllr N Benny	Invitation – Improving internet connectivity – 12/12 Council chambers	Peter W will attend
~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~
<b>2013</b>				
13/1	7/1/13	H Geddes	Grant application invitation – Local people local paths	
13/2	7/1/13	Pam Campbell	Balfron coop carpark – Balfron CC had also raised concerns – improved park with disabled bays will be implemented in new year	
13/3	8/1/13	D Saunders	Info regarding FV family support servicer	
13/4	8/1/13	D Saunders	Welfare reform summit – Stirling 8/2/13	
13/5	8/1/13	H Geddes	PINs update	
13/6	9/1/13	J Kerr	Family and child services volunteering fair 26/2/13	
13/7	8/1/13	D Saunders	Intergenerational course – training the trainer Stirling 29/1/13	
13/8	3/1/13	N McNab	Scottish Power has wrongly leafleted Killearn giving number for reporting loss of electricity. This is wrong – Scottish ans Southern are responsible	
13/9	9/1/13	H Geddes	447 responses received to Community empowerment and renewal consultation. Report is available – easy read version will be available soon. (87 out of 1200 CCs responded)	

13/10	9/1/13	J Teven	Social media training available – 5 Tues evenings Cornton	
13/11	11/1/13	H Geddes	TranServ consultation on roadworks on A85 at Leskine	

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY 2013**

*Present:* M. Burdon; G. Campbell; M. Harrison; N. Kelly; B. Pell(*Chair*); E. Robertson; P. Rea; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks.

*In Attendance:* Councillor I. Muirhead; C. Malley; and 11 members of the public.

PC A. Faulds was in attendance briefly but was called away.

*Apologies:* J. Duncan; H. McLaren; H. Wright; PC D. McNally.

The Chair expressed on behalf of the Council its deepest sympathy to Bishop and the family of Helen Loudon on her untimely death. She was an active member of the community who gave freely of her time and wisdom to many village organisations. She was regularly attended Community Council meetings and will be missed by all.

**CC420 *Conservation Areas and Planning Implications***

Catherine Malley, Stirling Council Planning Department spoke on conservation areas and planning implications. She started her talk by giving a definition of a conservation area as an area of specific or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it was desirable to preserve or enhance. She said the legislation was enacted in Scotland in 1967, with most areas in Stirling Council designated in the nineteen-seventies. Planning decisions were made at local level, not by government nor by Historic Scotland. Designation was not an embargo on change, but it gave the Stirling Council powers over development management, demolition control, tree works, preservation and enhancement within the Permitted Development Rights set by statute. The decision making process was governed by National Planning Policy, Historic Scotland environmental policy and Planning Advice note, *PAN-71 Conservation Area Management*. This was embodied in the Clackmannanshire and Stirling Structure Plan and the Stirling Local Development Plan. Each area in Stirling Council had a Conservation Appraisal Document, the one for Killearn being revised in August 2012. This gave an oversight of the conservation area, archaeology, character, buildings and townscape, open spaces and trees, with a summary of significance. She then described the things that required permission: alterations to property, including many actions that do not require permission outside the conservation area, such as a change to exterior paint colour, hard surfaces and decking, cladding and partitioning and of course, tree work. In fact, she said although some planning controls had been relaxed in general, they had been enhanced in conservation areas. A question was asked about areas which abut conservation areas, and she said extra care had to be taken in planning decisions. She said guidance was available on the Stirling Council website. She was not sure on the requirements to plant new trees in the conservation area if existing trees had to be removed and advised reference to the tree officer. Future plans included the preparation of a local list of unlisted buildings; this would not give listed status but would be an extra layer of information.

**CC421 *Minutes of the Last Meeting***

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2013 were adopted.

**CC422 *Matters Arising***

In response to the question in CC412, Heather Wright had arranged a meeting with the Scottish Ambulance Service to set up training for first responders. This would take place in the Black Bull on 11 March at 8.00pm. Further publicity about this will be circulated.

**CC423 *Police Matters***

As PC Andy Faulds had been called away, the police matters were held over to the next meeting.

**CC424 Question Time**

It was reported that no action appeared to have been taken to remedy the damage to the entrance to the main cemetery. There was also a fair amount of litter around the entrance. It was agreed to write to the Cemeteries Officer to report these matters.

It was reported that a Scottish Water works hydrant on the A875 close to Kings Mile had been unattended for some time and restricted the carriageway at this location was restricted. It was agreed to enquire when the work would be completed.

**CC425 Youth Matters**

Eilidh reported that Ms. Bannatyne, new Head Teacher at Balfron High School, wanted to introduce changes to the uniform; there was some opposition to this from pupils and a questionnaire was to be circulated. The Chair reported that she had met Elaine Bannatyne at the Local Area Forum and received a very positive message about the school. Hannah stated that an assembly on effective ways to revise for examinations was given.

**CC426 Treasurer's Report**

The balance stood at £2329.92 after payment of £208.47 expenses. The Chair asked all members to submit any outstanding expenses so that the Treasurer could prepare the annual accounts.

**CC427 Planning**

***Valid Planning Applications Received***

*13/00008/FUL Extension of period of permission of application reference 09/00775/FUL for erection of new dwelling house under Regulation 11 of the Development Management Regulations 2008 at land at Blairessan, Station Road*

This is a reapplication for planning permission previously granted and the Council wished to make no comment.

*13/00019/FUL Erection of dwelling house at Garden Ground at Drumwhirn, 7 Drumbeg Loan.*

It was reported that refusal of planning permission on this site was discussed by the Council in the minutes of November 2011. The Council was of the opinion that the objections to the development given in that judgement were still relevant and therefore the Council unanimously opposed this application.

*13/00044/FUL Installation of 324 ground mounted photovoltaic panels at Blairgar, Strathblane.*

The Council is of the opinion that this development was to be welcomed as a contribution to green energy production and would not be detrimental to the environment. The Council supported this application, 9 members voting for, with 1 abstention.

*13/00043/FUL Application under Section 42 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 for removal of Condition 6 of planning permission 02/01258/DET regarding occupancy restrictions on Walled Garden House at Garden House, Drumtitan Road*

*13/00061/FUL Proposed single storey extension to rear of dwelling house at 1 Harpers Road,*

The Council does not wish to comment on these two applications.

***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

The following applications were approved with conditions:

*12/00749/FUL Erection of changing facilities at land south west of Baikal The Square.*

*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*

*12/00805/PPP Erection of dwelling house at Garden Ground to North West of The Garth Gartness Road.*

The following application was withdrawn:

*12/00764/PPP Proposed new dwelling house at land some 250 metres north west of Drumtian House Drumtian Road.*

The following application was recommended for refusal:

*12/00711/FUL Erection of dwelling house at land at Killearn House Walled Garden.*

The Chair reported that she had been invited by Graeme Knox, organiser of residents' group opposed to the proposed development in the Local Development Plan, to a meeting with Richard Callender and Councillor Lambie. It was agreed that the Chair should attend.

The Chair reported that Graham Sword would like to attend the next KCC meeting to present the latest information regarding the Hospital site. It was agreed to extend him an invitation.

#### **CC428 Current Issues**

##### **Local**

**Clean Up Scotland** This annual initiative by *Keep Scotland Beautiful* was taking place next month. David Scott agreed to take on the organisation of a Spring Clean-Up campaign in the village.

**Roads** There was concern expressed by residents of Birch Road that the re-opening of the path was taking longer than expected. It was agreed to write to John MacMillan to find out when work on the building of the bungalows would be to be sufficiently advanced to allow access from Birch Road to the path which led to the school and recreation ground.

##### **Regional and National**

There were no outstanding issues.

#### **CC429 Reports from Meetings Attended**

**Local Area Forum** The Chair said there was a presentation from the newly-appointed officer in charge of community policing, Sergeant Anton Stevenson of Central Scotland Police. He spoke highly of the local officers and commended them for achieving a reduction of the crime rate in the area of 30% while still achieving a detection rate that had increased by 6%; it was a commendable feat to achieve both. The new unified force would present challenges with a blurring of roles, but was too early to say what the effects would be. He announced the retirement of Chief Inspector Kevin Findlayson, who was Area Commander. A programme of stopping cars at night to prevent crime was in action and he asked the public to be patient as it was an effective strategy.

The second half of the forum consisted of workshops on the revised Community Action Plan. Discussion took place on accessing services and transport, particularly to the Forth Valley Royal Hospital at Larbert. Roads and traffic management were discussed and it was noted that the A81 would be closed for repairs in the Duntreath area during the Higher examinations (May/June). Housing and economic development were also topics under consideration, including affordable housing, apprenticeships and welfare reform. Education, lifelong learning, improved use of Balfron High School were covered. There were also details of the 'Keep Warm This Winter' lunches at various venues, including Balfron Church Hall.

#### **CC430 Correspondence**

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

The report of the Community Empowerment and Renewal Consultation was available in easy-read and full versions, Only 87 out of 1200 community councils responded to the consultation. It was pleasing to note that the responses from the Council were well received

and taken into account as the Council had been quoted five times in the executive summary. Main findings were that community councils should be the first port of call and act as an interface between community and other bodies. Community councils could look for greater powers, but this would need legislation, although many were against delivering local services with their own budgets, although some were in favour. The Scottish Government would produce a draft bill in winter 2013/14 to invite responses.

Fergus Wood provided details of the Veterans' Welfare Service, which gave help and advice.

The Council was asked to comment on the suitability of the Church Hall for as a Polling place. It was agreed that it was very suitable, although concern was raised by one member on the state of the booths, which he declared were in poor physical condition. It was agreed to forward this reply to Stirling Council.

**CC431 Any Other Business**

There was to be a Waste Seminar in Perth on local anaerobic digester projects.

Imminent road closures – A81 Blane Smithy to Ballat in the first week of March and Fintry Road to Kippen.

Fields in Trust were offering an oak tree grown from an acorn from one of the Royal Estates ('A Royal Oak') to all parks selected under the scheme. Killearn Recreation Park was successful, but no formal recognition had yet been received from Stirling Council. This official designation was required for the Council to apply for one of the oaks. Councillor Muirhead would take this up.

The Council recommended everyone to read Stirling Council's monthly *Community Newsletter*. It would be placed on the notice board and there was a link on Notice page of the Council's Website.

The Courier was ready to go to print and would be distributed from the 16 March 2013.

There were still problems with parking of vehicles from the work on the extension to the Village Hall. It was confirmed that the contractor had been made aware of this, especially the problems caused to the Nursery and Health Centre and local businesses.

**CC432 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 20 March 2013 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

# Killlearn Community Council Correspondence record 16/02/2013

## February meeting 2013

Ref	Date	Sender	Contents	Action
11/2	14/7	Colin Mackay (SC)	Letter seeking support or otherwise for SC's proposal to nominate Killlearn 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 info
~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~
<b>2012</b>				
12/176	11/10/12	N Kelly	Email regarding new planter for outside Spar	
12/219	13/12/12	'Playpark 'group'	Emails regarding site for Changing rooms	
~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	~~~~~	
<b>2013</b>				
13/9	9/1/13	H Geddes	447 responses received to Community empowerment and renewal consultation. Report is available – easy read version will be available soon. (87 out of 1200 CCs responded)	Full and Easyread versions now available
13/10	13/1/14		SC minutes Sep to Nov 2012	
13/11	14/1/13		Rural Stirling Housing Association newsletter	
13/12	14/1/13	Jayne Baxter	New MSP introducing herself	
13/13	16/1/13	A Hemingway SEPA	Attaching SEPA guidance on Unconventional Gas production. Also offers to attend CC meetings to discuss (re Plean)	
13/14	18/1/13	H Geddes	Update on Affordable Rented Housing consultation	
13/15	18/1/13	H Geddes	SG consultation paper on options for redesigning Community Justice re reducing reoffending	
13/16	18/1/13	D Saunders	SVE ebulletin	
13/17	18/1/13	D Saunders	Invitation to AGM Stirling Area Acces Panel	
13/18	19/1/13	Cllr N Benny	Further info on Stirling Digital Connectivity Strategy	Passed to Peter W
13/19	19/1/13	T Mullens	Keep Scotland Beautiful – info regarding Climate Change Challenge Fun – to reduce carbon footprint and improve local facilities	Passed to Heather
13/20	21/1/13	Natl network CCs	2 new posts	
13/21	22/1/13	H Geddes	Update on Carse of Stirling project	
13/22	23/1/12	H Geddes	Consultation on draft Strategic Police Plan	Response sent
13/23	24/1/13	Fields in trust	Invitation to become a member £25pa	
13/24	14/1/13	Kit Campbell	Consultation on Stirling Pitches Strategy (football and tennis clubs have also received this)	Response sent
13/25	28/1/13	H Geddes	'Clean up Scotland'	David S will coordinate
13/26	28/1/13	H Geddes	Invitation to nominate for UK honours list	
13/27	29/1/13	H Geddes	Consultation on community justice – women offenders.	

13/28	1/2/13	H Geddes	Reminder re Scottish Water consultation	
13/29	1/2/13	D Saunders	SVE ebulletin	
13/30	4/2/13	P Campbell	Papers for SW area forum meeting 13/2/13	
13/31	4/2/13	Natl network CCs	Post re CCs and how they use the net	Circulated to KCC
13/32	5/2/13	D Saunders	Community learning and development upskilling survey	
13/33	5/2/13	H Geddes	Information Transerv – roadworks on A85 Leskine	
13/34	4/2/13	H Geddes	Review of polling districts and polling places	
13/35	7/2/13	P Campbell	Availability of Training on Employment Law	
13/36	11/2/13	H Geddes	Information about Stirling Reducing Doorstep Crime Partnership	Info will be sent to Margery
13/37	12/1/13	P Campbell	Keep warm this winter campaign – dates of lunches, including 22/3 Balfroon	
13/38	12/1/13	Scottish Gov	Complete analysis of responses to Community Empowerment consultation.	
13/39	8/2/13	Cllr Neil Benny	Follow up meeting – Digital Connectivity. Sat 16 March Stirling 9am.	
13/40	13/2/13	Cllr Fergus Wood	Information regarding assistance to veterans.	
13/41	14/2/13	H Geddes	Invitation to seminar on anaerobic digestion. Perth 6 March	

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**ADOPTED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 MARCH 2013**

*Present:* G. Campbell; M. Harrison; N. Kelly H. McLaren; B. Pell(*Chair*); E. Robertson; D. Scott; D Stuart; P. Wilks.

*In Attendance:* Councillor C. Lambie; PC D. McNally; Graeme Sword; R. Callender; C. Milne and 27 members of the public.

*Apologies:* M. Burdon; J. Duncan; P. Rea; H. Wright.

**CC433 *Minutes of the Last Meeting***

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 February 2013 were adopted.

**CC434 *Matters Arising***

***Cemetery Gates*** These have now been replaced and the cemetery entrance looks good; it was agreed to send a letter of thanks to the Cemeteries Officer.

***First Responders*** Heather set up a meeting, but no one attended. Despite this disappointing outcome, the speaker from the Health Board agreed to come and talk to the Council. It was agreed to invite him to the May meeting.

***Clean up Scotland*** David reported that he had made a preliminary survey of areas that required to be cleaned and had contacted local youth organisations, including the primary school, to get volunteers. It was expected that the clean-up would start after the Easter break.

***Footpath on Birch Road Building Site*** The request to have the small footpath reopened as soon as possible had been made by the Council. In reply, the site manager stated that at present reopening the path would constitute a safety risk because of a trench and the path surface material. The inconvenience caused by the path closure was recognised and every effort would be made to reopen it as soon as possible.

***Parking outside Village Hall*** Hadden's site manager was in regular contact with contractors and sub-contractors to remind them of their obligation to park responsibly. He realised that parking caused inconvenience to the nursery and local businesses, and would endeavour to keep this problem to a minimum. The Council was reminded that the car park by the Health Centre was a public car park and the Health Centre could not control parking there. Although the parking situation had been commented on, the Health Centre had received no actual complaints. The inconvenience was for a limited period and the Council asked residents to be patient.

***Fields in Trust*** To access the benefits of being a Field in Trust, including applying for the offered oak sapling, the Minutes of Agreement have to be signed and sealed. This requires action by Stirling Council legal department. Councillor Lambie would follow this up.

**CC435 *Police Matters***

PC David McNally stated that this had been a busy period after a succession of quiet ones. A person, not from the area, had been apprehended in possession of drugs in Endrick Road. There had been damage to a water bowser in Killearn Primary School and at a later date, theft of lead from the roof of the school. A person with intent to thief was apprehended on the Village Hall site. A theft of a valuable bottle of whisky occurred at the distillery; the person responsible was later arrested using CCTV evidence. Snares for fox control during the lambing season had been removed from the Duntreath Estate. A chain saw had been stolen from the Birch Road building site and youngsters had been using the site for skate boarding. Finally, a house breaking had taken place in Lampson Road with jewellery stolen.

David said that despite earlier fears, the change to a National Police Service on 1 April would not lead to major changes in the area. Reassurances had been received that there would be no cutbacks.

The new telephone number for contacting the local police would be 101.

David Young said that a Nissan X-Trail had accidentally gone off-road in Station Road, causing damage to a hedge and gate. The incident had not been reported. Any information about this incident should be reported to the police.

**CC436 Question Time**

There were no questions.

**CC437 Youth Matters**

Eilidh reported that S5 pupils were being fitted with prefect blazers which will be introduced next session. There had been a very successful visit by a group of French and German school pupils under the *EU Comenius Citizens & Games Project*. The European pupils were impressed by the friendliness of everyone they met.

**CC438 Roads**

Nigel reported that work was on-going with the drainage problem outside the Co-operative store. He was asked to investigate why the new culvert at the entrance to the car park opposite the Co-op had been left proud of the road surface.

A letter had been received from the Joint Paths Group requesting the support of the Council in asking Stirling Council to repair the dangerous footpath between Kings Mile and the crossroads. Margaret stated that the footpath was level with or below the road surface in places and there was evidence of vehicles driving onto the footpath. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council.

**CC439 Treasurer's Report**

The balance stood at £2329.92.

**CC440 Planning**

**(i) Valid Planning Applications Received**

*13/00074/FUL Install 16 photovoltaic cells ((4KW) in part of the roof Windyknowe - the panels will occupy an area of the roof extending to 27sqm in two rows of 8 panels at Windyknowe, Main Street.*

The project would not be visible from the road, and was sited on an extension and not on the main building. The Council supported this application.

**Decisions of Appointed Officers**

The following applications were approved with conditions:

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

*13/00008/FUL Extension of period of permission of application reference 09/00775/FUL for erection of new dwelling house under Regulation 11 of the Development Management Regulations 2008 at Land At Blairessan Station Road.*

*13/00061/FUL Proposed single storey extension to rear of dwelling house at 1 Harpers Road.*

**Planning Panel Decisions**

The following application was refused:

*12/00711/FUL Erection of dwelling house at land at Killearn House Walled Garden.*

**Proposal of Application Notices**

*PAN-2013-002 Proposed mixed use development comprising of 16 community houses (flats), 6 live work units, 55 self-build plots, workspace and commercial properties at Killearn Hospital.*

Graeme Sword said that he had presented this proposal at the Community Council meeting on the Local Development Plan and recently at an open consultation at the Black Bull. He would provide plans to go on the Council's website. When asked about the cost of decontaminating the site, he stated that he had a professional report, which had to remain confidential. He had been asked to submit this Proposal of Application Notice by Stirling Council Planning Department. The Council decided unanimously to support this application.

**(ii) Proposed Local Development Plan** The Chair welcomed Claire Milne, officer in charge of the plan, and Richard Callender from the same department. She said that this was an opportunity to understand the procedure that would now be followed in the next stage of the plan and not go over the issues that had been extensively discussed in previous Council meetings. The Community Council response had been made to the Proposed Local Development Plan and the present meeting was concerned with the next steps in the progress of the plan.

Claire then went on to describe the process. All representations that had been received in response to the proposed plan would be summarised and grouped by issues raised in those responses. 878 representations had been received from the whole of the Stirling Council area. It was expected that these would be grouped into about 58 issues. These would then be put onto the official form, Schedule 4, which would go to the Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals of the Scottish Government (DPEA). This form had four sections for each issue: These were: the summary of the issue; the modification being sought; Stirling Council's response and finally the Reporter's response. The completed Schedule 4 form would be presented to the full Council on 2 May and if approved by Stirling Council, sent to the DPEA. The DPEA would appoint a Reporter or Reporters to deal with any unresolved issues, which could be done by a written response or by a formal hearing. The Reporter would receive the full text of all the objections/comments. The Reporter could make an unaccompanied site visit, if necessary. The Reporter then filled in part 4 of the Schedule 4 form. Any modification required by the Reporter to resolve an issue was binding on Stirling Council. This was a change to previous local plans. The report was scheduled for adoption in May 2014.

Claire was then asked a number of questions:

*Did the community have the right to speak if a hearing was convened?* Nobody had a right to be heard, but the Reporter could decide to hear one representative speak on behalf of everyone who had raised a particular issue.

*Were the planning arrangements fixed for the whole period of the plan?* The allocations were for a 10 year period, ie until 2024. However, the plan would be reviewed after five years to keep it fresh and up-to-date; the review process would be similar procedure to the plan process.

*How could the community now influence what was in the proposed plan and could Councillors reject responses to issues prepared by the planners in the Schedule 4 form?* If Stirling Council approved it, the plan would go to the DPEA unchanged. If Stirling Council disagreed with the Schedule 4 recommended response to any issue which required a substantial alteration to the proposed plan, then a modified plan would have to be published and consulted on for a period of 6 weeks. This would cause considerable delay and was discouraged by the DPEA.

*What was a significant alteration?* A member of the public said that he had obtained legal opinion that a change to the number of houses on the Station Road site need not be considered significant with the right wording. Claire disagreed and said that in her professional opinion that would be significant and would require the publication of a modified plan. She was then asked about the requirement of affordable housing being changed from 10 to 4; would changing this back to 10 be considered a significant amendment? Again she said that it would. She was then asked what would constitute a non-

significant alteration. Claire replied that Stirling Council could accept minor textual amendments or correction of errors, such as spelling or punctuation changes. A further question was raised whether the development timescale could be altered, e.g. from 10 to 20 years, with out the publication of a modified plan? Claire replied probably yes. She further stated that the plan could be reviewed earlier than 5 years, e.g. if there was a shortage of land. Claire reaffirmed that if any significant changes were required by Stirling Council to the Schedule 4 form, it would require a new redraft of the plan.

The Chair then thanked Claire and Richard for attending the meeting and giving a clear explanation of the process.

**CC441 Correspondence**

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

Dumgoyne Post Office was closed because of illness. The Post Office had offered services elsewhere and would keep in touch.

An email had been received from Helen Geddes giving a set of guidelines on the use of social media by community councils.

An email had been received from the Black Bull indicating the takeover of the tenancy by Steven Cairns and Kerrie Robinson. They wished to bring the hotel back into the centre of village life and would be willing to offer free accommodation for meetings of the Council, including free coffee and tea. It was agreed to invite them to the June meeting.

A letter had been received from Harlequin Group giving information about an update to the mobile phone network at Pleau to allow network sharing between O2 and Vodaphone.

Two objections had been received via the website objecting to the football pavilion. It was pointed out that this had been discussed at a number of meetings and fully reported in the minutes of the Council, available on the notice board and the website.

The Council had been asked to respond to a consultation on how community transport could be improved. The following suggestions were made and would be forwarded to the Scottish Government. Better buses were required as the current stock was old, cold and uncomfortable. The evening service to Glasgow needed to be improved with a service suitable for attendance at theatres and concerts. Buses should link with trains at Milngavie Station. It would make sense to run small economic buses to link with the 119 service from Milngavie to Glasgow to provide a more frequent service to Glasgow.

**CC442 Succession Strategy**

It is possible that five current members will not stand at the next election of the Council due to be inaugurated in November. New members will be needed to ensure the continuity of KCC. Encouragement was given to members of the public to read the Agenda and Minutes of the Council and when possible to attend meetings in order to understand the work of the Council and then to consider putting themselves forward for this important public service. Information would be put on the notice board and website.

**CC443 Any Other Business**

**Rural Broadband** Peter Wilks reported that the report on Rural Broadband Strategy was now available and could be downloaded or viewed on the Council website.

**Service to Larbert Hospital** If patients required to return a medical device to Larbert Hospital it would be convenient if it could be routinely returned by the local Health Centre rather than requiring the patient to make another journey to Larbert. It was agreed to write to the Health Board to request this.

**CC444 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 17 April 2013 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2013**

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

*In Attendance:* Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally; and 14 members of the public.

*Apologies:* E. Robertson; P. Wilks; H. Wright.

**CC445 *Minutes of the Last Meeting***

The minutes of the meeting held on 20 March 2013 were adopted, subject to a change to the last paragraph in CC441: Scottish Government to replace Stirling Council.

**CC446 *Matters Arising***

***First responders*** It was hoped that there would be a presentation on the First Responders initiative at the May meeting

***Clean up Scotland*** David reported that the groups had started on Monday. There was significant work to be done with large quantities of litter having been blown into hedges. He suggested that the certificates should be awarded to the groups by a local personality at some kind of public ceremony. This would be a way of marking the groups' efforts and also of attracting some publicity. This was agreed.

***Fields in Trust*** The Chair stated that she was delighted to report that the Environment and Housing Committee had decided that Killearn Park was to receive Queen Elizabeth Fields status, this being the only nomination in the Stirling Council area and she was grateful for the high level of community interest shown. The remaining part of the 'Turnip Field' would be transferred from the Housing Revenue Account to the Park. This means that the Park will be permanently reserved for leisure activities and we will be eligible to seek funding for future possible developments and to apply for an oak sapling to be planted in the Park. A message of thanks will be sent to all Stirling Officers concerned. The meeting warmly welcomed this announcement.

***Birch Road site*** Nigel stated that a bin lorry had been seen driving across the football pitch, potentially causing damage. Derek agreed to look into this.

***Black Bull*** An invitation had been sent to the new tenants to attend the June meeting.

***Dumgoyne Post Office*** In response to a question, it was noted that there was no further information on the closure of the office.

**CC447 *Police Matters***

PC David McNally stated that there had been no reported crime in Killearn since the last meeting. There was now a Twitter site available (@StirlingPol). The identified priorities for Forth and Endrick, to which Killearn belongs, are: housebreaking, road safety and youth disorder. David stated that youth disorder was generally not a problem in Killearn. With regard to road safety there was currently an emphasis on speed checks and road checks, relating to, for example, the wearing of seat belts. Station Rd had been a frequent target for checks because of identified speeding issues.

Regarding crime statistics, David stated that there had been around 50 crimes in Killearn last year (including 15 to 20 at Ballikinrain), this figure being very similar to the previous year.

David Scott commented that a 40mph speed limit on the approaches to the village, similar to those applied in Buchlyvie and Arnprior might be worth considering. Another member of the audience suggested that the 20mph in Graham Rd was not always being observed. David McNally pointed out that speed guns are not always used in 40mph zones because of safety issues. Cllr Lambie said that it was not always possible to use camera vans as an alternative to speed guns.

In response to a question David said that he was unaware of any cases of dog theft in the area.

**CC448 Question Time**

It was stated that there is a problem with the gutters between Drumbeg Loan and Kirkhouse Road. The matter will be referred to Jennifer Elliott, Land Services.

**CC449 Youth Matters**

Hannah said that the Malawi Group in Balfroon HS would consider the possibility of coming to a future meeting of the Council.

**CC450 Treasurer's Report**

The balance stood at £2124.44.

The preliminary annual income and expenditure account for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 report was circulated. It was explained that the next step would be examination by the certified auditor. It would come back to the May meeting and then to the AGM in June. The report was approved for submission to the auditor. David commented on the fact that administrative costs were £96 greater than the Stirling Council grant. The Chair stated that this was due to increased costs, for example for photocopying, and, if this trend continued, the Council's 'reserves' would be depleted within a few years. Economies had already been made. It was agreed that it was important that members should be able to continue to claim for all expenses, otherwise membership would become restricted to those who could afford it. Cllr Lambie agreed to look into this matter.

**CC451 Roads**

Examining Issues in Boquhan

Jim Allan, a resident of Boquhan, outlined a number of issues in relation to traffic through the village. The current speed limit of 40mph had been introduced around 15 years ago. Since then a large number of houses had been built in Balfroon, and the volume of traffic had increased significantly. The 40mph limit appeared to be being exceeded in some instances and there had been a number of accidents and unpleasant incidents. There are 16 bends between Killearn and Boquhan, with 9 of these being quite tight. It was understood that there was a budget allocation to improve the road surface, probably in July. It was possible that such improvement would lead to additional speeding. Jim suggested a number of measures which could improve the safety situation: consideration should be given to a 40mph limit between Killearn and Balfroon, with the current 40mph limit in Boquhan being reduced to 30mph; rumble strips; more precise signage to indicate the nature of the bends and the dangerous exit from Jenny Gunn's Loan. He indicated that any other suggestions would be welcomed. It was noted that there are sometimes problems with parked vehicles, including cleansing vehicles. Dangerous overtaking was sometimes a problem and it was suggested that double white lines and more speed traps might help. David McNally said that overtaking in Boquhan was risky and thought that double white lines might help. He agreed to talk to his colleagues with a view to setting up more speed traps in Boquhan.

A proposed speed limit between Killearn and Boquhan would require wider consultation.

Cllr Lambie suggested that Brian Roberts of the Roads Department might be invited to a future meeting. Alternatively, establishing a small group of residents and community councillors could be a helpful way to consider what could be done. Previous concerns raised regarding the footpaths in this area could also be considered by the group. If it was found difficult to progress these matters, it might be useful to consider requesting a Petitions Panel, which had recently been done in Strathblane. It was agreed that establishing a small group would be helpful in the first instance.

Other Roads Matters

Nigel reported that Spar hoped to have the parking area relined and the disabled spaces marked out in the near future. Permission had been given to move the planter so that it will effectively block off the pavement area. Janet said that there were plans to repair the fencing at the back of the car park, to install CCTV and to paint the canopy at the front.

It is believed that the source of the problem with the drains at the Co-op has still not been identified, the hole dug in the Well Green being part of the investigation. It was noted that

there are possible dangers associated with the metal plates currently covering the hole and that, on occasions, cars exit from the car park in a dangerous way.

A list of roads which will be upgraded in this financial year had been received. These included stretches at Dumgoyne, Duntreath and Boquhan.

## **CC452 Planning**

### ***Local Development Plan***

The Chair summarised the current situation, noting the very strong local opposition to the proposal to build 50 houses on the Station Rd site and the fact that the possibility of developing the Hospital Site did not appear to have been given full consideration. This was a very large number of houses for a small village, and it would be preferable to seek smaller sites (ie no more than 10 houses), close to the centre where affordable housing could be built. KCC's proposals were clearly laid out in the last section in our response to the Proposed LDP. The very significant changes from the draft plan to the proposed plan meant that the community had, in effect, been disenfranchised. The Proposed LDP will go to Stirling Council on 2nd May. If adopted it would be sent to the Scottish Government, along with all the responses received. If the plan is judged to be unworkable, a Reporter will be appointed and an open hearing may be held. One representative of KCC would be invited, but it should be noted that landowners and developers would also be there to present their cases. There would be no guarantee that the Reporter's decision would be in our favour.

Cllr Lambie said that the proposed plan would not be rejected outright, but that amendments could be proposed. He noted that if the plan goes to the Scottish Government, then all local control would be lost. Cllr Thomson was looking at possible amendments to around five sites, including Killearn. It might be difficult to make the case for no houses on Station Rd. The Chair said that KCC's response had not requested the removal of the site. Cllr Lambie added that there was interest in the Hospital Site from other communities, with anecdotal evidence for support. He hoped that there would be no need to go back to full consultation if the five changes were agreed.

A member of the audience believed that a proper evaluation of the Hospital Site is not realistic until the extent of contamination and the costs of removal are known. Other potential developments in the area would also affect viability. Margaret said that, at the last meeting, Claire Milne said that amendments to the proposed plan were discouraged, but did not rule this out. Cllr Lambie noted that there was a fallback position in that there would be a review of the plan after five years, and said that a strongly worded statement from KCC would be required to pursue the option of seeking amendment at this stage.

The Chair requested the Community Council to vote on one of two options: either to take no further action and await the outcome of the meeting on 2nd May, or to request our three Councillors to seek amendments. The vote was unanimously in favour of the latter option. Margery then proposed the following motion:

*That Killearn Community Council asks its three Local Councillors to take all possible steps to seek amendments to the Proposed Local Development Plan that will meet the requests made in the last section of its response to Stirling Council*

The motion was seconded by Margaret and passed unanimously.

### ***Other Planning Issues***

#### ***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

The following application was approved with conditions:

*13/00043/FUL Application under Section 42 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 for removal of Condition 6 of planning permission 02/01258/DET regarding occupancy restrictions on Walled Garden House at Garden House Drumtitan Road.*

The following application was approved:

*13/00074/FUL Install 16 photovoltaic cells (4KW) in part of the roof Windyknowe - the panels will occupy an area of the roof extending to 27sqm in two rows of 8 panels at Windyknowe, Main Street.*

The following application was recommended for refusal:

*13/00019/FUL Erection of dwelling house at Garden Ground at Drumwhirn 7 Drumbeig Loan.*

**CC453 *Current issues***

Margery initiated a discussion on the topic of Communication. She said that there were a number of categories of information of potential interest to residents. These included: planning, transport, health, roads, events, funding and consultations. The existing channels for communication included: the Courier, KCC website, Stirling Council website, mystirling, tellmescotland, noticeboards, KCC meetings and minutes, local press, communities news sheet, rural forum, newsletters etc from individual organisations and Councillors' newsletters. Social networks and a customised emailing list might be considered in the future. She said that any comments on what information people wanted and how best to provide this would be very welcome.

In discussion the following points were made: Killearn Kirk's website and magazine could be added to the list of channels; a customised emailing list might be useful, with the 'blind copy' facility being used to preserve anonymity; the information needs of people who did not use computers must always be kept in mind.

**CC454 *Succession strategy***

The Chair emphasised the need to look for people willing to put themselves forward as candidates for election to the new Community Council in the autumn.

**CC455 *Correspondence***

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

The following were noted: 'Future delivery of Land Use Strategy' 25th June, Battleby; 'Generations working together' 29th April, Stirling. The Chair would send information on these to members.

It was reported that a facility to support young people with mental health issues was to be set up in Balfron on a referral basis. It had been suggested at a meeting of the Area Forum that a drop-in facility might be a more appropriate means of offering help to those in need.

**CC456 *Any Other Business***

There was none.

**CC457 *Date of Next Meeting***

The next meeting would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 15 May 2013 at 8.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.58 pm.

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 MAY 2013**

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

*In Attendance:* Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally; and 9 members of the public.

*Apologies:* G. Campbell; H. McLaren; P. Rea.

**CC458 *Defibrillator Training***

The Chair apologised that Murray McEwan of the Scottish Ambulance Service was unable to attend this meeting due to illness. Murray would be invited to give his presentation at a later meeting.

**CC459 *Minutes of the Last Meeting***

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 April 2013 were adopted with the correction: CC45: change *Boquhan* to *Balfron*.

**CC460 *Matters Arising***

***Clean up Scotland*** David Scott stated that he had received intimation of a new initiative, *Midsummer Madness*, which was to clean up paths. He would report back at the next meeting.

***Fields in Trust*** A report in the Stirling Observer praised Killearn for the support given to the successful campaign to have the recreation field created a Queen Elizabeth Park. Peter Wilks agreed to progress the possibility of the gift of an oak tree from *Fields in Trust*.

***Clearing Gutters*** The Head of Streetscape stated that Stirling Council had only two dedicated vehicles for the whole Stirling Council area. However Killearn was on the list for attention, and she had pushed our claim further up the list. Investigation had identified three blocked drains in the village.

***Black Bull*** The offer to invite the new management to the next meeting had not yet been taken up. Another approach will be made to see if the new managers wish to attend the June meeting. Their offer of a room to host Council meetings will be left for a future decision.

**CC461 *Police Matters***

PC David McNally stated that despite a number of speed traps in Boquhan at different times of the day, there had been no offenders detected. It was apparent that 40mph was too high for the village, and perhaps a limit of 30mph should be considered. In Killearn there had been 18 penalty tickets issued in the last month, all of the offenders coming from outwith the area.

A number of small thefts had been reported by elderly residents of Abbeyfield. No Abbeyfield staff members were involved but investigations were continuing in a particular area. In the early hours of an April evening, a disturbance between local residents in Endrick Road and revellers returning from a local inn got out of hand. One individual was arrested. It was stressed that persons leaving local inns should not make a disturbance in residential areas.

It was queried if the warning speed detector close to Kirkhouse Road was operational. David agreed to investigate.

**CC462 *Question Time***

A question was raised concerning the number of advertising banners on the hedge at the Bank corner. The legality of these was questioned and the issue of road safety was raised. The notices were considered unsightly in a conservation area. A number of councillors felt that a distinction should be made between commercial banners and banners that advertised local events which were only present for a short time. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council for clarification of the law regarding these banners.

**CC463 Youth Matters**

Eilidh said that Balfron High School was now in an exam period and years 4, 5 and 6 were on study leave. The Council sent their best wishes to pupils taking examinations. Trips had been arranged to London, Blackpool and Italy. It was hoped the group going to Malawi could come and speak to the Council.

Hannah McLaren would be leaving at the end of term and the Council wholeheartedly thanked her for the invaluable contribution she made to the work of the Council. Eilidh said that she was actively seeking a replacement. Councillor Berrill stated that Killearn Community Council was the only Council in his area to have youth members present at meetings.

**CC464 Treasurer's Report**

The balance stood at £2305.44. The Hoolie Group had contributed £185 towards the plaque marking the renovation of the Village Hall gates in commemoration of the Queen's diamond jubilee.

The excessive price of photocopying in Balfron and Strathblane Libraries was raised by the Chair and it was agreed to write to Stirling Council complaining about the large increase in cost. Heather stated that suitable copying equipment had been purchased by Sustainable Killearn and would be installed in the newly renovated Hall. Meanwhile these facilities could be used by KCC at a far lesser cost.

The audited accounts were presented to the Council. It was agreed to accept the accounts, proposed by Heather Wright, seconded by David Scott.

**CC465 Planning**

***Valid Planning Applications Received***

*13/00242/FUL Erection of single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling house, internal remodelling and replacement of existing rear window with french doors at 1 Greenend Lane.* The Council agreed to not comment on this application.

*13/00244/ADV Erection of 4 illuminated signs and 7 non illuminated signs at Black Bull, 2 The Square.* There was some concern about the level of lighting for the new signs and there was no indication where the large direction sign was to be sited. It was agreed to ask for further information before commenting on this application.

*13/00274/FUL Proposed 2 No. access points to sites for two houses at land adjacent and southwest of Blacklaw, Drumbeg Loan.* Concern was expressed on the access road of the house higher on Drumbeg Loan. It was on a steep slope on a very narrow section of the road. It was agreed to oppose this application until the Council could be assured that the road safety implications of this drive had been further assessed.

***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

The following application was recommended for refusal and subsequently withdrawn:

*13/00019/FUL Erection of dwelling house at Garden Ground At Drumwhirn 7 Drumbeg Loan.*

***Planning Enforcement***

*13/00042/NONCOM Alleged non-compliance with condition restricting development period at Main Street Killearn.* It was believed that this referred to the new access to the old school development.

***Local Development Plan Meeting***

Margaret Harrison stated that, together with the Chair, she had attended the meeting of Stirling Council to hear the discussion and decision on the Local Development Plan (LDP). Planning staff had analysed the responses sent through the consultation process, and prepared the necessary schedule 4 forms for submission to the Scottish Government. Various Councillors expressed concerns about aspects of the plan, particularly as it affected communities such as Bridge of Allan, Killearn and Fintry, and the proposed new village,

Durieshill, near Bannockburn. However the production of a modified plan would have resulted in a considerable delay. Such a delay would expose the whole Stirling Council area to the possibility of applications from maverick developers if no LDP was in place. Thus it was considered undesirable for the LDP process, which had involved a vast amount of work for Council staff and for Councillors, to be held up any further. The plan would thus be submitted to the Scottish Government without modification. However, it was recognised that the consultation process in Killearn and in some other areas had not been well handled, and Stirling Council resolved to write to the Directorate to express its concern on several matters, suggesting that the Reporter gave special consideration with hearings, where appropriate, to the community representations arising from the settlement statement in Killearn, especially around Station Road and the Hospital site. The agreement by Stirling Council to send an accompanying letter requesting a hearing for those areas with unresolved issues was received with some satisfaction.

All three of our councillors were fully committed to upholding the views of the community and Alistair Berrill spoke well and with force in pointing out the flaws in the plan and the process as it had affected Killearn. The Council greatly appreciated the work all our Councillors had carried out on this matter.

### ***National Planning Policy***

Margaret stated that two important public consultations had been announced by the Scottish Government, and the response of the Council was requested.

The first consultation, *The National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3) Main Issues Report*, was the first stage in the preparation for Scotland's next spatial framework and the second, *Draft Scottish Planning Policy*, set out the national planning policy on how development and land use matters should be addressed across the country.

There was much work to be done on these and it was agreed that the Chair call together a small group to consider the Council's response and circulate its conclusions for comment.

## **CC466 Current issues**

### ***Local Issues***

The Chair gave further information on the situation in Boquhan as reported by David in CC461. Jim Allan had submitted to Stirling Council a public petition on the speed of vehicles through the community and it had been arranged for the petition to be heard in the McClintock Hall, Balfron on 13 June 2013. It was felt that the limit needed to be set at 30mph in order to encourage drivers to reduce their speed below 40mph.

The planter at Spar had now been moved and the Council appreciated the work of a small team of volunteers from *Colourful Killearn* who carried out the work. It was agreed to send letters of thanks to both them and Spar. The disabled bays had still to be marked out.

The metal plate covering the pit at the entrance to the Co-op car park had shifted leaving a small gap. The new drain in the entrance to the car park opposite the Co-op was still proud of the surface. It was hoped that the ground on Well Green be properly restored. It was agreed to write to Stirling Roads Department on these matters.

### ***National Issues***

A letter from Bruce Crawford MSP had been received, enclosing details of bus services to be cut by Stirling Council. He believed that not all relevant factors had been taken into consideration before these decisions had been taken. He asked for the views of community councils, with a view to asking the Council Administration for a review. It was noted that the only service which affected Killearn directly was the C13 from Balfron to Balloch. During discussion, the following points were made: local school children use this service to visit their friends as the catchment area for Balfron High School is large and pupils find this bus service an asset for social purposes; tourists use the C13 to get to Loch Lomond and also as a link with the West Highland Way; some local residents use the C13 to access businesses and services eg dentist in other villages. It was noted that the proposed development in the LDP for housing in Station Road assumed a two-hourly bus service which was provide by the C13.

Local Transport strategy was to be discussed at the next Local Forum meeting, but only ten minutes had been allocated, which appeared inadequate.

A resident had been in correspondence with First Bus on the state of the vehicles and poor service. He had been assured that there were to be two newer double-deck and two newer single-deck buses allocated to the Balfron depot. It was suggested that smaller buses might be more economic, but larger buses were required for the school run. It was hoped to invite the Chief Executive of First Bus to a future meeting of the Council.

**CC467 Correspondence**

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

A letter had been received on the proposed new school uniform at Killearn Primary School. A reply was sent advising that the Council did not have a role in this matter and suggested it should be pursued through such channels as the Parent and the Pupil Councils and Stirling Council Education Services.

A letter had been received stating that it had been decided that the new long-distance route, the *John Muir Way*, would not be routed through Killearn.

An invitation was received to take part in a consultation event in Callander on reshaping the care for older people.

Information was received on a monthly 30-minute radio show spotlighting local groups and giving advice on funding.

Another inspection of the site at the junction of Lampson Road and Station Road had been requested by some residents to confirm the absence of Japanese knotweed. This had been done by Stirling Council and it was reported there was no evidence of the invasive plant.

**CC468 Any Other Business**

**Succession Strategy** The Council would be disbanded on at midnight on 24 October 2013. If more nominations are received that there are places, a postal ballot will be held, in which case the Council would be disbanded at midnight on 21 November, the day before the date of the close of poll. The Chair said that face-to-face contact was the best way to recruit new members and asked current members who were leaving to try to persuade friends and neighbours to consider putting their names forward for membership of KCC. One recent attendee at meetings had expressed an interest.

**Minor Injuries Unit** It was stated that it was not always widely known that there was a minor injuries unit at Stirling Community Hospital. There were also problems getting information on pharmacy out-of-hours services. The minor injuries unit had been fairly well publicised in the village, with information on the Council's website and in the Health Centre. Information on pharmacy services could be found by ringing NHS24.

**CC469 Date of Next Meeting**

The AGM would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 19 June 2013 at 8.00 pm followed by the monthly meeting at 8.15 pm.

The meeting closed at 10 pm.

## KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 JUNE 2013

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

*In Attendance:* Councillor G. Lambie; Councillor I. Muirhead; PC D. McNally; and 12 members of the public.

*Apologies:* D. Scott; P. Rea.

As reported at the AGM, Peter Rea had tendered his resignation. On behalf of the whole Council, the Chair thanked Peter for his eight years of invaluable service to the Council, latterly as Planning Correspondent.

#### **CC470 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 May 2013 were adopted with the following corrections: CC466, second paragraph: change *new* to *newer* on two occasions.

#### **CC471 Matters Arising**

**Clean up Scotland** David Scott stated in an email that only one organisation, Killearn Guides, had responded to the offer to take part in the clean-up. As the initiative would run all year, he would try and enlist more volunteers in the Autumn.

**Fields in Trust** Killearn was the only area in Stirling to be awarded status as a *QEII Jubilee Park* which would ensure that the recreation field and the remaining area of the 'turnip field' would be protected from development in perpetuity. The legal documentation had still not been processed by Stirling Council and the Council asked our Councillors to pursue this matter as the benefits available from *Fields in Trust* could not be accessed until this was done.

**Defibrillator** Killearn Hall Operations Committee were considering the purchase of a defibrillator and involving in training persons who were likely to be on the premises to use the equipment. The Council was still hoping to invite a speaker from the First Responders Scheme which was run by the Ambulance Service. Heather would follow this up.

**Notices at the Bank Corner** Margaret was in correspondence with the planners and was awaiting a more detailed response.

#### **CC472 Police Matters**

PC David McNally stated that there had been an incidence of vandalism by a youth at the nursery school, but CCTV was not clear enough to identify the perpetrator. There had been a serious disturbance at the Old Mill at closing time, when a fight ensued; the Old Mill was able to cope and was closing the bar 30 minutes earlier. A consignment of fish went missing from a van delivering to the Old Mill. An explosion on the West Highland Way was caused by a deliberate fire of a camping stove and gas canisters. The walker was taken into custody. A purse lost in the car park of the Black Bull was observed on CCTV to be taken by someone on a motorbike.

The speed sign on the entry to the village close to Kirkhouse Road was still not working.

The theft of money from Abbeyfield residents had been investigated; there was insufficient evidence to bring charges but the thefts have ceased.

It was reported that a white 4-WD vehicle was seen speeding and mounting the pavement around the village. David asked that the registration number be passed to him and he would investigate the matter.

It was reported by a number of residents that litter left by youngsters camping and partying in the field below Abbeyfield and lighting fires which caused damage was a cause for concern. David said he would keep a watch on it.

David said the new unified police service was settling in well. He said there was a new emergency number 101, which would put the caller through to any police office in Scotland.

**CC473 Question Time**

There were no questions.

**CC474 Youth Matters**

Eilidh said that Balfron High School now had a new uniform, including a blazer which would be worn from the new term in August. School prefects, heads of houses, etc. had been chosen and Killearn was well represented in these offices.

A group of 10 would be leaving for Malawi where they would help in a school there, and another group was leaving for North India. Eilidh was asked to contact the groups on their return and ask if they could give a short presentation to the Council on their experiences.

The Council congratulated Hannah on obtaining a place at Aberdeen University, wished her every success in her studies and thanked her for the excellent service she has given the Council. The Council also wished Eilidh success in her examinations and looked forward to her return in September and hoped that she would be able to find a replacement for Hannah.

**CC475 Treasurer's Report**

The balance stood at £2278.44. The grant of £100 from Stirling Council had been remitted to the Thursday Club.

**CC476 Planning**

***Valid Planning Applications Received***

*13/00303/FUL Single storey extension to rear including removal of existing single storey garage structure at 25 Allan Road.* The Council did not wish to comment on this application.

*13/00337/FUL Erection of dwelling house at garden ground at Drumwhirn, 7 Drumbeg Loan.* This was a reapplication of one previously submitted and then withdrawn which had been opposed by the Council. It was agreed to object on the same grounds.

***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

*11/00436/FUL Proposed erection of 2 dwelling houses with single garages at former sawmill at Branshogle Mill, Fintry.* Decision: Approve - Subject to Section 75, which was a contribution to affordable housing.

*13/00242/FUL Erection of single storey extension to side and rear of dwelling house, internal remodelling and replacement of existing rear window with french doors at 1 Greenend Lane.* Decision: Approve.

*13/00244/ADV Erection of 4 illuminated signs and 7 non illuminated signs at Black Bull 2 The Square.* Decision: Approve with Conditions. Margaret had contacted the Black Bull who stated that the signs were a package and they might not use them all. The conditions related to obtaining permission of the landowners where signs were to be sited. The staff had not been aware that the land in front of the Buchanan Monument belonged to the Buchanan Society.

*13/00274/FUL Proposed 2 No. access points to sites for two houses at land adjacent and southwest of Blacklaw, Drumbeg Loan.* The Council expressed concern at its last meeting about the access to these proposed developments. The Roads Department had stated that they would have no objection as long as certain conditions on sight lines were met.

***Planning Enforcement – Case Closed***

*13/00042/NONCOM Alleged non-compliance with condition restricting development period at Main Street Killearn.* This case had now been closed.

***National Planning Framework***

It was agreed to set up a small group consisting of Margaret, Margery and the Chair to consider the Council's response to this consultation.

### ***Football Club Changing Rooms***

It was hoped that the project would commence in September. The seesaw and large swings will have to be moved. The playpark group of KCFC will meet with Donald Beaton and Bob Ballantyne to find a suitable area for their relocation. Trees and bushes would be conserved and replanted, and both KCC and KCFC would keep an eye on the development of the project.

### ***Bungalows on 'Turnip Field'***

A question was asked about the slow development of this project. It was understood that this might be because tradesmen had been diverted from this project by Stirling Council to complete urgent work connected with the relocation of staff from Viewforth which was due to be vacated for demolition shortly. In answer to a question, the Chair said that the area would be returned to a playing surface suitable for junior football. Some trees had been relocated in this area. The bungalows would have small front gardens.

## **CC477 Current issues**

### ***Local Issues***

**Roads** Nigel said that the road had been marked out for imminent road works to try and rectify the drainage problem in Main Street adjacent to the Co-op store.

The Boquhan community presented a petition, which had received a favourable response from Councillors, to Stirling Council. The Petitions Panel did not have statutory powers and could only recommend. But when resurfacing works planned for July 22 take place, white lining, rumble strips, signs and delineation markers would be installed. Officers were asked to consult about the possible purchase of flashing speed signs by the community. They were also asked to provide further information about the suitability of changes in the speed limit along the Killearn to Balfroon Road. The petition will remain open and consultation with the community will be maintained. The Council will keep in touch with the residents of Boquhan regarding the outcomes.

### ***National Issues***

**Community Transport** MSP Bruce Crawford had written to the Chief Executive of Stirling Council about the removal of subsidies from some bus routes without proper consultation. It was understood that First Bus would trial some routes without subsidy but not in the Balfroon/Killearn area. A local resident had written to First Scotland East about poor service and condition of the buses. They had agreed to meet and the cancelled meeting had been rearranged for August. He agreed to report back to the Council. It was hoped that the Managing Director of First Scotland East would come and talk to the Council at a monthly meeting.

The Council had received the Stirling Council Towns, Villages and Rural Area Transport Plan and been asked to respond to it by means of a questionnaire. It was agreed to convene a small sub-group (Margery, Peter and the Chair) to consider the Council's response during the summer recess.

Councillor Lambie asked the Council to support his appeal for the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) area to be extended to the western villages. This would have significant cost benefits to the residents of this area. This was agreed by the meeting.

**Local Area Forum** Inspector Pat Scroggie updated the Forum on the newly integrated service. Police Scotland had similar priorities to Stirling Council's *PACT – Police and Communities Together*. A key priority for Police Scotland would be that residents had the right to go about their business without harassment. Each area will have an individual policing plan. A new website had been established which was easier to navigate. Councillor Lambie stated that the Public Safety Committee, similar to the old police and fire service boards, was working well.

Succession Planning was discussed. The problem of who could be approached to replace or fill vacancies in local community groups and when to target them was examined. The

commitment required to fill a post should be honestly explained and the satisfaction that could be obtained from it stated. It was up to us all to encourage volunteers..

Margaret Vass from Strathblane Community Council updated the Forum on the contaminated land problem in the area of the old dye works and thanked Stirling Council for their responsiveness and help.

**CC478 Correspondence**

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

A letter had been received from the Chairman of KCFC Paths Group detailing a proposal for a new all-purpose path from Drumtian Road to the Fintry/Ballochruin crossroads on land owned by Carbeth Farm. A consultancy plan has been approved and funding was being sought. The Paths Group asked for written support from the Council to send to potential funders. It was agreed to do this.

Information, in the form of a booklet available to the public, had been received on how Stirling Council would handle complaints to bring it in line with other public bodies. It was agreed to put a link to this on the Council's website.

An invitation to attend the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee had been received. Margaret would consider attending and would report back at the next meeting.

**CC479 Any Other Business**

**Speed Limit Signage** Derek stated that the signage indicating a 20mph speed limit around the primary school was not very visible. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council to see if it could be improved.

**Pollution in Endrick Water.** Gail said the water in the river at Drumtian Ford was very cloudy and asked if it was a hazard. It was explained that it was mud and silt from bridge repairs at Ballochruin, which included a large cofferdam. The works were now complete and the river should quickly clarify.

**Projects Abandoned** It was noted that the Banks Renewable wind farm project had been dropped because of unsatisfactory wind conditions. Tesco would not be building a superstore at Milngavie.

**Black Bull** Nigel stated that the new managers at the Black Bull had made significant improvements as demonstrated by the excellent meal enjoyed by members at the latest Rotary meeting in the hotel.

**Hospital Site** A question was asked on how developments were proceeding at the old hospital site. It was explained that this would depend on the outcome of the Local Development Plan.

**Local Improvements** The car park to the rear of the Co-op store had been newly tarmacked, parking bays marked and the whole area generally improved. There were now two clearly designated disabled bays. It was pointed out that a line delineating the car park drive-in from the pedestrian pavement was required for safety reasons. The Spar store had been repainted externally and disabled parking bays made clearer by official notices on the gable-end wall designating. Renewed yellow marking and logos on the ground of the bays would complete this work. The relocated planter had been damaged in the move and would be emptied, repaired and refilled in the autumn.

**CC480 Date of Next Meeting**

The Council would be in recess during July and August.

The next meeting would take place in Killlearn Primary School on Wednesday, 18 September 2013 at 8.00 pm. The meeting closed at 10.02 pm.

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2013**

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

*In Attendance:* Councillor G. Lambie; PC D. McNally; J. Hackett (First Bus Group); J. Burns (First Bus Group); and 15 members of the public.

*Apologies:* J. Duncan; N. Kelly.

**CC481 Local Public Transport**

The Chair welcomed members and public to the penultimate meeting of the council after the summer break. She then welcomed Jason Hackett and Jim Burns who represented Balfron Garage of First Group, who had agreed to talk to the council on the subject of the bus service. Jim gave some figures which showed that the major contributor to the finances of the depot was the school contract with Balfron High School. The customer base was served by an ageing fleet of vehicles, with an average age of 12.8 years. These buses were not suitable for elderly and disabled passengers. Buses were available elsewhere in First Group, but could not be transferred to Balfron depot because the height of Cornton Bridge was too low by 3" to allow these taller buses go for maintenance in Bannockburn depot. Although this bridge was being rebuilt by Stirling Council, there were no plans to raise the bridge by this small amount despite requests from First Group. Jim and Jason asked the council to ask Stirling Council to reconsider this, or alternatively, plane the same amount off the road surface. It was agreed to so do.

Councillor G. Lambie asked if they would support the extension of the SPT (Strathclyde Passenger Transport) area to cover the Balfron area, and they said they would, as SPT had a larger budget. It was also pointed out that there were advantages in fare structure and use of the Entitlement Card if the area was part of SPT. They stated that the closure of the C13 and C11 services was a decision of Stirling Council because of the withdrawal of the subsidy. They went on to stress the responsibility of everyone to ensure the safety of the buses, as well as the drivers and the passengers. Overhanging branches and greenery not cut back could cause expensive damage and be a safety hazard; it was the responsibility of the owner to keep the roadway clear of obstruction from their property. They finished by saying that there was high morale at the Balfron depot, despite the problems, and they aimed to give the best possible service. A member of the public praised the drivers for their courtesy and help to passengers which the whole meeting supported.

**CC482 Transport Plan**

The council had been asked to respond to the consultation by Stirling Council on Rural Transport by completing a questionnaire. Margery said that any consultation should define the purpose and desired outcome of the plan, show the sources of evidence on which the plan was based and give a reasonable timescale to respond. A small group of the council met to consider the plan and found it wanting in a number of these areas. It was stated in the plan that the evidence was based on the Community Action Plan produced by the community in 2003. Much of this was now out-of-date and there had been many changes. When cross-referenced, some of the points of concern in the Action Plan were not included in the Transport Plan and there were a number of items included in the Transport Plan that were not in the Action Plan, without the source being given. On contacting Stirling Council, it was said that these came from the knowledge and awareness of Stirling Council officers.

A budget of £282,000 was indicated in Appendix A for certain items in Killearn, such as footway improvements, traffic speeds, etc. However, in the report it was stated there was no current finance, and as monies became available, priorities would be based on evidence and fairness.

The Chair said that the questionnaire was difficult to complete because of these shortcomings, but the council would feed back what the council members and public identified as transport priorities. The following were noted: integration of bus and rail, affordability, better information, smaller buses, regular and more frequent buses (particularly on Sundays), safe and adequate parking, improved road and verge maintenance, cutting back of vegetation where it obscures traffic signs and endangers buses, better pavements, a zebra crossing at Spar, a footpath connection to the West Highland Way, reduction of traffic speeds and consistent speed limits, 20-mph limits through all villages.

**CC483 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2013 were adopted.

**CC484 Matters Arising**

**Defibrillator** Heather said this was still being negotiated with the Village Hall Operating Committee.

**CC485 Police Matters**

PC David McNally stated there had been a conviction for dangerous driving in Boquhan and another for the less serious charge of careless driving when a cyclist was knocked down. There had been break-ins in Gartness, Lampson and Allan Roads, with a suspect currently being held. There was also an attempted break-in to a garage in Lampson Lane. There were two cases of vandalism to a car and also at the Primary School. An arrest was made for possession of cannabis in Birch Road. There were seven cases of speeding, two serious enough to be reported to the Procurator Fiscal rather than by a fixed penalty. There had been some litter left by youngsters camping in the field next to the Glen and David said he would keep an eye on this. There had been a slight increase in breaking and entering, and householders were warned to be vigilant in securing their property, including outbuildings. A car was stolen in Blanefield when thieves broke in, took the key, and drove away. He warned that car keys should be stored out of sight.

**CC486 Question Time**

There were no questions.

**CC487 Current Issues**

**Waste Collection** Because of industrial action, waste and recycling collection was currently disrupted. Councillor G. Lambie said that he was concerned by the suspension of the brown bin collection earlier than planned and was putting a motion to Stirling Council to have it partially restored, with at least two more collections. He could not promise that this would be successful. It was noted that free composter bins were available from Polmaise and possibly Balfron. Heather, representing Sustainable Killearn, said that she would try and organise a collection point for the composters in the Village Hall, coupled with training.

**Cemetery** Peter said he had been in contact with the Cemeteries Officer to try and get the water standpipe restored in the cemetery. He was told that the cost of maintaining the pipe would be too high as health restrictions made regular testing for Legionnaire's Disease mandatory, as well as the problem of freezing in the winter. Councillor G. Lambie said he would take this up, as other villages were experiencing the same problem.

**Paths** It was noted that the KCFC Paths Group had successfully bid for a grant of £27,000 for a footpath linking Drumtian Ford Road to Ballochruin Road.

**Work outside Co-op** This work had been temporarily completed. The filled-in hole on Well Green needed to be properly finished as it had been left rough with large stones on the surface. The council agreed to write to Stirling Council.

**Bungalows** Work has progressed slowly, with a promised completion date of the end of October.

**Petitions in Boquhan** A group of residents were now raising a petition requesting remedial work on the pedestrian pathway at the Blackhill crossroads. The lack of effective curbing

adds to the potential dangers of the road passing through Boquhan. This is a second petition by residents aiming to bring the long history of unresolved safety issues in that area to the attention of Stirling Council for remediation.

**Football Pavilion** Work is planned to start in the Autumn. It was expected that access for construction will be via the lane from The Square. Re-siting of the swings was subject to negotiation between the Playpark Group of KCFC and the Football Club.

**Fields in Trust** Formalities had now been completed by Stirling Council and the final stage now had to be taken by Fields in Trust.

**Litter** David said there had been a poor take-up from local youth groups to join the *Clean Up Britain Campaign*, except for Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. There may be a further campaign in October. A request had been received for volunteers to survey dog fouling in areas around a community. It was felt that this was not necessary in Killearn as problem areas were already known. The Chair said it was incumbent for all dog owners to be responsible and pick up dog waste, although she had noticed that youngsters in control of dogs were sometimes more squeamish to undertake this task.

**Village Hall** The refurbished hall was now open and a welcome addition to village life. All agree that this provides an excellent amenity. There were good forward bookings for weddings. Plans are being made for use of the youth space.

**Parking** Disabled spaces at Spar and the bank still needed further ground level marking. The exit from the Co-op required the line repainted which indicated the pedestrian crossing area. Contact with these businesses has been made requesting these improvements. It was understood that the Co-op was to be revamped with an increase in parking space.

**Giant Hogweed** A request to assist with a survey on the spread of this plant had been received. This was an invasive weed which was the responsibility of the landowner to prevent spreading into the wild.

**Telephone Problems** The intermittent problems on telephone calls suffered by many in the village have now been identified and dealt with by Openreach. Thanks are due to one family in the village who took the considerable time and trouble, including contacting the Chairman of BT personally, to pursue the matter. They had received compensation of £50 for their inconvenience, which they had decided to donate to a village organisation selected by the council. It was agreed that Colourful Killearn should benefit from this, as then all could receive pleasure from the planting through the village.

#### **CC488 Planning**

Because of time constraint, the following planning applications, itemised since the last meeting, were placed in the record, but not discussed.

##### **Valid Planning Applications Received**

*13/00374/FUL Application under Section 42 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to delete Condition 13 of planning permission 11/00560/FUL and conversion of "annex" in old schoolhouse to residential unit at 3 Main Street.*

*13/00375/PPP Conversion and extension of old scout hall into two residential detached units at Hall, Main Street.*

*13/00380/FUL Extension and alterations to form sunroom, front porch and rear porch at 7 Main Street.*

*13/00397/FUL Replace 2 of three 1970s floor to ceiling windows with traditional sash windows, brick up the middle floor to ceiling window and brick up a doorway at 10 Main Street.*

*13/00466/FUL Replacement of existing timber garage with new prefabricated timber garage, together with various external works including erection of rendered low-level walling and new timber entrance gates at Achnagowan, 88 Main Street.*

13/00496/FUL Proposed alterations and extension of the existing sun lounge at the rear of the property at St Margarets, 3 Drumbeg Loan.

13/00506/FUL Erection of dormer window to front elevation to create upper floor bathroom and extend single bedroom. at 16 Lampson Road, Killearn.

13/00510/FUL Proposed utility and conservatory extension to dwelling house at Crowhill House, Endrick Road, Killearn.

**Decisions of Appointed Officers**

13/00274/FUL Proposed 2 access points to sites for two houses at land adjacent and southwest of Blacklaw Drumbeg Loan. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

13/00303/FUL Single storey extension to rear including removal of existing single storey garage structure at 25 Allan Road. Decision: Approve with Conditions

13/00375/PPP Conversion and extension of old scout hall into two residential detached units at Hall Main Street. Decision: Withdrawn

13/00337/FUL Erection of dwelling house at garden ground at Drumwhirn 7 Drumbeg Loan. Recommendation: Refuse

13/00380/FUL Extension and alterations to form sunroom, front porch and rear porch at 7 Main Street. Decision: Approve.

13/00397/FUL Replace 2 of three 1970s floor to ceiling windows with traditional sash windows, brick up the middle floor to ceiling window and brick up a doorway at 10 Main Street. Decision: Approve.

13/00510/FUL Proposed utility and conservatory extension to dwelling house at Crowhill House Endrick Road. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

13/00510/FUL Proposed utility and conservatory extension to dwelling house at Crowhill House Endrick Road. Decision: Approve with Conditions.

**Planning Panel Decisions**

13/00337/FUL Erection of dwelling house at garden ground at Drumwhirn 7 Drumbeg Loan. Decision: Refuse.

**Planning Enforcement – New Cases**

13/00068/UNADV Siting of advertisements Address: Killearn.

13/00077/UNAUTH Erection of Garage, Endrick Road, Killearn.

13/00081/UNADV Siting of Estate Agent Signage, Beech Drive, Killearn.

The following planning applications were considered by the council:

13/00465/FUL Change of use of land to form garden ground and erection of a boundary fence at land north and adjacent to 11, Maple Crescent.

The garden of 11 Maple Crescent is overlooked from Beech Drive, and the applicants wish to obtain more privacy by proposing that a section of the grass verge adjoining 11 Maple Crescent be converted from public open space to private garden. The area to be enclosed would extend to the electricity substation and telephone junction box, leaving only approximately 1 metre of grass verge at that point. The enlarged garden would be enclosed by a 1.8 metre high fence, and would enclose two of the three mature trees which form part of the landscaping of this area. All Council members present felt that the fence would be visually intrusive, the proposal would be detrimental to the landscaping of the estate and that significant areas of public open space or grass verge and mature trees should not be enclosed in a private garden. The desired privacy could be obtained by erecting a fence at the top of the slope, tapering to the corner of the applicant's back garden, with minimal impact on the public open space and the group of three mature trees, and this would be

acceptable to Council members. However the present planning application was not acceptable and it was agreed to oppose the application.

*13/00374/FUL Application under Section 42 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to delete Condition 13 of planning permission 11/00560/FUL and conversion of "annex" in old schoolhouse to residential unit at 3 Main Street. Decision: Approve.*

It was noted that the subject of the planning application was in fact the Old School, not the Old School House, which is no. 5 Main Street, Killearn.

This application was recommended for approval by a planning officer despite the opposition of the council and Roads Development Control of Stirling Council. Killearn CC would question what had changed since the granting of the original planning consent with conditions. The council asked that the decision be referred to the Planning Panel, together with our objection to this application. Councillor G. Lambie stated that he had asked for this referral, but as a member of the Panel could not say whether he was for or against the application.

**CC489 Youth Matters**

Eilidh said she had asked two High School pupils if they would be willing to come on the council, but had not yet received a reply. The Chair said she had received notification of a volunteer who was present at the meeting. Ellie Cairns, a sixth year pupil of Balfron High School, said she was interested in village affairs and would like to join as a youth member. It was unanimously agreed to invite Ellie on to the council.

**CC490 Treasurer's Report**

Because of time constraints this was held over to the next meeting.

**CC491 Correspondence**

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

Margery said that the council had raised no objection to the licensing applications from the Black Bull and Spar as the hours remained the same.

**CC492 Any Other Business**

**Home Insulation** Fintry Community Trust were holding a meeting on insulating your home on 2/3 October.

**CC493 Succession Strategy**

Notices advertising the Community Council Elections were posted around the village and the Chair asked all those present to consider standing or to encourage interested friends and neighbours to consider doing so. She reminded current members who wished to continue that they must seek nomination.

**CC494 Date of Next Meeting**

The final meeting of the current council would take place in Killearn Primary School on Wednesday, 23 October 2013 at 8.00 pm. *Note that due to the school holidays, this is the fourth Wednesday of the month.*

The meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2013**

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

*In Attendance:* Councillor G. Lambie; Councillor I. Muirhead; PC D. McNally; and 12 members of the public.

*Apologies:* G. Campbell; D Stuart.

**CC495 *Minutes of the Last Meeting***

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2013 were adopted.

**CC496 *Matters Arising***

***Transport Plan*** This had now been completed and returned.

***Killearn Cemetery Water Supply*** Councillor G. Lambie said this had affected other cemeteries and agreement had been reached that the supply could be marked with a warning notice that the water was not for drinking.

**CC497 *Police Matters***

PC David McNally stated there had been a number of cases of breaking and entering, with four different teams from without the area operating. Two of these had been caught and charged. Checks of vehicles entering and leaving the area would be made at night several times over the next month. Two cars and a bicycle were reported stolen. There was a minor assault in the Old Mill which was dealt with by a formal warning. A serious incident occurred in the Glen, when a bottle packed with explosive material from shotgun cartridges was detonated by minors. This could have caused injury or worse.

The cars apparently dumped in Killearn Co-op car park were known to the police; it was a case of mistaken location, the cars being intended for the car workshop behind Balfron Co-op.

The Balfron police office was not scheduled for closure in the reorganisation and the reception desk would be staffed from 9 am to 5pm Monday to Thursday and 9 am to 4pm on Friday.

There was a successful exhibition of stolen jewellery in Killearn Village Hall, and several items were reunited with their rightful owners.

The Council expressed its deep appreciation for the friendly and efficient manner in which David presented his monthly report. He has been one of the best Community Officers experienced by the Council.

**CC498 *Question Time***

There were no questions not on the agenda.

**CC499 *Youth Matters***

The Chair formally welcomed Ellie to the Council. Although both youth members were eligible to stand for full membership of the Council, both preferred to remain in their present role.

Eilidh reported on a debate held at Balfron High School on Scottish independence at which a majority voted in favour of the no campaign.

The recent inspection was welcomed by pupils as the inspectors involved the pupils in the exercise. It was understood that the inspectors were very satisfied by the achievements of the school. The report was due to be published at the end of the month.

Eilidh and Ellie reported on charity raising campaigns in the school including £987 for Jeans for Genes charity.

**CC500 Treasurer's Report**

The Council received its annual administration grant of £375.85. The Chair referred to a letter she had sent some time previously to Stirling Council pointing out that this did not always cover the running expenses of the Council, the shortfall being made up from the reserves. No formal response had been received to date.

The current balance was £1229.00 to be handed over to the next Council.

**CC501 Planning**

***Valid Planning Applications Received***

The Council decided to make no comment on the following applications:

*13/00592/FUL Erection of new garden store at Rhuellen, Main Street.*

*13/00597/FUL Proposed detached garage and extension to rear of existing dwelling house at 9 Cedar Road.*

*13/00558/FUL Erection of a double garage (retrospective) at Lovat Lodge, Endrick Road*

*13/00654/FUL New site access with gated entrance at Beechknowe, 6 Drumbeig Loan.*

***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

*13/00506/FUL Erection of dormer window to front elevation to create upper floor bathroom and extend single bedroom. at 16 Lampson Road. Decision: Approve with Conditions.*

*13/00466/FUL Replacement of existing timber garage with new prefabricated timber garage, together with various external works including erection of rendered low-level walling and new timber entrance gates at Achmagowan 88 Main Street Killearn. Decision: Approve with Conditions.*

***Planning Enforcement –Cases Closed***

*13/00023/NONCOM Deviation from approved plans at Birch Road, Killearn. There was no breach of planning control.*

***The following planning applications were considered by the council:***

*13/00603/PPP Erection of dwelling house at garden ground at 25 Station Road.*

It was felt that heavy construction traffic on Station Road and Endrick Road were a potential hazard to pedestrians, particularly schoolchildren, as Endrick Road was an access road to Killearn Primary School and lacked a footpath. Balfour High School pupils waited for the school bus on Station Road opposite Endrick Road. The Council did not object to this application but it was agreed to raise these concerns with the planning authority.

*13/00465/FUL Change of use of land to form garden ground and erection of a boundary fence at land north of and adjacent to 11, Maple Crescent*

It was noticed with disappointment that this had been approved. It appeared that no weight had been given by the planners to the arguments of the Council against this application. It was the duty of Stirling Council to consider carefully the opinion of a community council as it had local knowledge of similar situations. Both the chair and planning correspondent had written to the Head of Planning expressing their disquiet.

*13/00374/FUL Application under Section 42 of the Town & Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to delete Condition 13 of planning permission 11/00560/FUL and conversion of "annex" in old schoolhouse to residential unit at 3 Main Street.*

This application was referred to the Planning Panel on 8 October 2013 after recommendation for approval by a planning officer despite the opposition of the council and Roads Development Control of Stirling Council. The matter was not discussed on 8 October, as the applicants had requested a Public Hearing, which would be held on 12 November 2013. Since the initial objection to this application by the Council, the Chair and the Planning Correspondent had made a site visit and had been able to study the response of Stirling Council Roads Department to this application. The new access road was wide

enough for two vehicles to pass, and the Roads Department had no concerns about road safety, traffic impact or access to the Old School site. A discussion by members, including questions raised by a member of the public, then ensued. The argument revolved around what had changed since the imposition of condition 13. As the Council had already made its views clear to the planning department a majority of members felt there was no need to comment further. It was therefore agreed to make no comment.

*13/00337/FUL Erection of dwelling house at garden ground at Drumwhirn 7 Drumbeig Loan.*

It was noted that this refused application had now gone to appeal.

*13/00068/UNADV Siting of advertisements.*

The advertisement banners had now been removed from the hedge at the bank corner on Main Street, although one had returned recently. It was noted that advertising signs within a Conservation Area required planning permission and this was unlikely to be granted in this location. A member said that A-boards were still present on pavements which were a hazard to push chairs and disabled persons.

**Football Pavilion** There had been a delay in the start of this project. The Chair said that the next Council should monitor the project with care, ensuring that the dislocated play equipment is suitably relocated.

**Local Development Plan** Examination of the proposed Local Development Plan was still on-going. The Reporters were considering the issues raised by the various representations. They had seen all the comments and objections by Killearn residents, as well as the Schedule 4 analysis of these comments by Stirling planners. The Reporters had made site inspections and had lodged several requests for information. In Killearn the further information requested related to access from Station Road to Blaressan field and also information on the Killearn Hospital site. The replies received were currently under consideration, but the information obtained should be enough to allow the Reporters to form their conclusions on each issue. Councillor Lambie stated that a Public Hearing would be held on wind farms and he was hopeful that a Public Hearing would be held on Killearn issues. The progress of the examination of the Local Development Plan can be followed by accessing Stirling Council's planning website. The above information is correct at 4 October 2013. The report should be available in the New Year.

#### **CC502 Correspondence**

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

Police Scotland had consulted on proposed slightly altered opening hours at the police office in Balfron and the proposal to take traffic wardens out of police control. It was agreed that a positive response to both these proposals would be sent.

A reply to the review of polling places would be sent stating that the present arrangements were satisfactory.

An update on the broadband advisory group was received.

#### **CC503 Current Issues**

**Waste Collection** Despite the cessation of brown bin uplifts, there was to be a collection on 28 November. There were now five brown bins sited behind the public toilets for residents without brown boxes to deposit cardboard only. These must not be used for garden waste.

**Bungalows** The promised completion date of the end of October had now been put back to the end of November because of industrial action by Stirling Council staff. Internal work was now almost complete. The footpath from Birch Road could not be reopened until the site was cleared. Reinstatement was expected to take four weeks.

**Petitions in Boquhan** A group of residents, pressing for improvements to road safety, including obscured road signs, lack of rumble strips, and unsatisfactory kerb edging, have seen no action taken to date.

**Fields in Trust** A plaque was to be given to show the designation of the park. It was felt that a suitable place would be the old cemetery wall after the ground had been restored.

**Emergency Committee** The Emergency Plan in the Event of Severe Weather had now been updated in preparation for the winter. Notices about the operation of the plan were on the notice board and the website.

**Lack of Central Place** Unlike Balfron and Blanefield with library buildings, there is no central venue for villagers to go and read public information notices, etc. It was hoped that the refurbished Village Hall could provide such a space.

**Hedge Trimming** Property owners were reminded of their duty to cut back hedges and trees that obscure signage, and obstruct footpaths and roads. It was noted that the speed indication sign on Main Street was partially obscured.

**CC504 Any Other Business**

**Retiring Members** A presentation was made to Brenda Pell for her outstanding chairmanship of the Council. She had chaired the Council with efficiency and fairness and has made a solid contribution to the success of the Council and the respect in which it is held. A presentation was also made to Peter Wilks for his long service to the Council, being a member of the first Council, having held many offices over the years and having developed the website. Thanks were given by the chair to the elected councillors and to the officers of Stirling Council: Helen Geddes and Pam Campbell, in particular, whose support has been greatly appreciated.

Thanks were also given to Killearn Primary School for making a room available for meetings and to the Janitor and the cleaning staff for all their assistance. Finally all members of the council for were praised for their valued contribution to KCC, both during the current four-year session and in the years prior to this and to the members of the public who have so faithfully supported KCC. Special thanks and good wishes were given to all those members retiring from this Council.

**Final Words** The Council wishes its successor every success in the years ahead.

**CC505 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting would be called by Stirling Council after the declaration of members elected to serve on the new Council had been announced.

The meeting closed at 10.02 pm.

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**ADOPTED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20 NOVEMBER 2013**

*Present:* J. Allan; M. Burdon; A. Donaldson; M. Harrison (Chair); D. Scott; H. Wright.

*In Attendance:* Councillor A. Berrill; PC D. McNally; and 10 members of the public.

*Apologies:* E Cairns; J Duncan; E Robertson

**Anne-Marie Timmonee from Stirling Council chaired the first part of the meeting.**

**1 Welcome**

Anne-Marie welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of the new Killearn Community Council.

**2 Announcement of returned members**

The following members had been elected: Jim Allan; Margery Burdon; Andrew Donaldson; Janet Duncan; Margaret Harrison; David Scott; Heather Wright.

**3 Information exchange**

Anne-Marie outlined the process of Priority Based Budgeting and handed out material on this subject. She pointed out that Aberdeen Council had used this method and that information about their experience could be found on the Internet.

**4 Election of Office Bearers**

Anne-Marie asked for nominations for the office bearers. The following were elected:

Chair: Margaret Harrison	proposed by Margery Burdon; seconded by David Scott
Vice chair: David Scott	proposed by Margery Burdon; seconded by Andrew Donaldson
Secretary: Margery Burdon	proposed by Margaret Harrison; seconded by David Scott
Treasurer: David Scott	proposed by Margaret Harrison; seconded by Heather Wright

At present there was no nomination for Planning Correspondent.

**5 Adoption of Constitution**

It was agreed to adopt the model constitution provided by Stirling Council. This was signed by the new Chair.

Anne-Marie then invited Margaret to take the chair and continue the meeting.

**CC001 *Welcome and Chair's remarks***

Margaret welcomed new members and members of the public to the first meeting of the new Killearn Community Council. She pointed out that only 7 of the possible 11 members had come forward. This would mean that the work undertaken by the council might be limited. She encouraged others to consider putting themselves forward for election in January.

**CC002 *Roles and responsibilities***

Margaret said that Eilidh Robertson and Ellie Cairns were willing to continue as youth members. This was agreed. Heather had agreed to continue as Health Correspondent and Andrew Donaldson would be the new Webmaster.

**CC003 *Minutes of the meeting held on 23 October 2013***

Margery proposed the following amendment to **CC501 (13/00374/FUL)**: to replace the sentence 'Discussion by members.....then ensued' with 'A discussion by members including questions raised by a member of the public, then ensued.' This was agreed. A small correction to minute CC501 amending planning application 13/0058/FUL to 13/00588/FUL was agreed. With those amendments, the minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

**CC 004 *Matters arising***

Referring to the amendment to **CC501** Margery said that, in the interests of transparency, it might be desirable to extend the policy of requiring council members to declare an interest in any application to members of the public. This was agreed on the basis that both those directly affected by a potential development and those involved in the development should make such a statement.

With reference to CC 503, Margaret said that a site visit had been made to consider the location for a plaque from Fields in Trust to mark the status of Killearn Park. It was normal policy to attach such plaques to a wall owned by Stirling Council near an entrance. The only available wall on the site was the old cemetery and it was felt that a cairn or large stone might be more appropriate. The ceremony to mark this could not take place until the park had been re-landscaped after the bungalows were completed. A ceremony during the Hoolie in 2014 might be appropriate. Killearn would not receive an oak tree for the park as there were none left. Heather said that there might be money left from Miss Shand's bequest to fund the planting native trees. She agreed to investigate and report back.

**CC005 *Police matters***

David said that there were only two incidents to report. On 27<sup>th</sup> October a 19 year old man had been caught joy riding in Station Rd and had been charged with drunk driving. On 1<sup>st</sup> November there had been a case of drug dealing behind Spar.

In response to a question David responded that there had been no more car thefts in the area.

A member of the public commented that there was an instance of cars being parked on the pavement in such a way that pedestrians had to walk on the road. David agreed to look into this.

**CC006 *Youth matters***

There were no youth members present

**CC007 Planning**

The council decided to make no comment on the following applications:

***Valid Planning Applications Received***

13/00672/FUL New extension including double garage, bedroom over & new connecting stair at Endrick Cottage, Killearn G63 0LF

13/00676/ADV Fascia signage and flat aluminium wall mounted car park panel at 56 Main Street, Killearn G63 9RH [Co-op]

13/00680/FUL Alterations and extension to dwelling house at 33 Station Road, Killearn G63 9NZ

***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

13/00597/FUL Proposed detached garage and extension to rear of existing dwelling house at 9 Cedar Road, Killearn G63 9RU

Decision: Approve

13/00496/FUL Proposed alterations and extension of the existing sun lounge at the rear of the property at St Margarets, 3 Drumbeg Loan, Killearn G63 9LG

Decision: Approve with conditions

13/00592/FUL Erection of new garden store at Rhuellen, Main Street, Killearn G63 9LF

Decision: Approve with conditions

***Planning Panel Decisions***

13/00374/FUL Deletion of condition 13 of PP 11/00560/FUL and conversion of 'Annex' in Old School to residential unit at 3 Main Street, Killearn G63 9RJ

Decision: Approve

Margaret stated that Stirling Council had decided to review their roads policy.

***Other Planning Issues***

**Consultation by West Dunbartonshire Council on their proposed Local Development Plan.**

Aspects of interest to Stirling Council include:

- Designation of the Kilpatrick Hills as a Local Landscape Area and as a constrained area for wind energy developments
- Effect on the conservation and habitat of the Endrick Water as a result of the Lomond Canal which is proposed to be built by Scottish Canals running alongside the River Leven, from Dumbarton to Balloch.

Stirling Council's response to this consultation may be viewed on the Planning schedule for 6 November. Consultation expires on 29 November.

**Consultation by Stirling Council on Draft Supplementary Guidance on Small Settlements.**

Groups of 10 or more houses in the countryside may qualify to be considered as Small Settlements. The boundary of the settlement, and acceptable development within it, can then be defined, with appropriate protection for any key natural or cultural heritage features. It is proposed to use Blairhoyle, located between Thornhill and Port of Menteith as a pilot assessment for Small Settlement status. Consultation expires on 16 December 2013, with a view to having the Guidance in place by June 2014.

**Forestry Commission Scotland Felling licence application Ref CB326038. Duntreath Estate, by Blanefield, 1 February 2014-31 January 2015.** Clear felling of Norway spruce and mixed conifers, and replanting felled area with mixed broadleaves oak 60%, alder 20%, willow 10% and shrubs 10%.

Margaret said that she had checked Stirling Council's website for progress on the Local Development Plan. A fourth Reporter had been appointed. As at 14 November there appeared to have been no further information requests relating to Killearn with attention being focussed on Bridge of Allan and Dunblane.

### **CC008 Correspondence**

For the benefit of new members Margery explained that we were now receiving around 300 items of correspondence per year, the vast majority by email. New items were added to the record as they were received and items no longer relevant were removed after each meeting. Although a few items received were not recorded, the record was intended to be inclusive rather than exclusive. Relevant items were forwarded to a member with a particular interest eg health items to Heather. Margery would always be happy to forward an item if requested.

The following items were highlighted:

- A response had been received by Nigel Kelly from the Roads Department regarding the possibility of additional markings at the Quinloch junction near the distillery. A very thorough investigation had taken place, but the conclusion was that no additional markings were required.
- A draft statement of licensing policy had been received. It was agreed that the council would not respond to this.
- BEAR Scotland had consulted on road works at Doune. Although this was not relevant to Killlearn, it was seen as a model of how such consultations should be carried out.
- Community Pride fund. Margery agreed to copy this to members and others so that the information could be disseminated to those who might have an interest.
- Community Baton Bearers, Nominations were invited for members of the community to carry the Commonwealth Games baton through Stirling Council area on 6 July 2014. Nominate online through Glasgow2014 website by Fri 29 November 2013.

### **CC009 Meetings attended**

#### ***Southwest Area Forum 18 November***

Margery reported on the South West Area Forum meeting that she had attended with Margaret on 18<sup>th</sup> November. No detailed information had been circulated in advance of the meeting which was on the subject of Priority Based Budgeting (PBB). Publicity leaflets introducing this topic had been provided and these were circulated to Community Council members and others. One copy of a detailed draft report was received, and copies for all members have been requested. There was a very high level of representation at the Forum, including the Deputy Chief Executive, the leader of the Council and several senior representatives from a number of the service areas. Margery emphasised that what she would say represented her views only as she had not had time to confer with Margaret after the meeting. PBB involves 'a more open approach to financial decision making and planning over a 5 year period and will engage a wide range of stakeholders'. Stirling Council requires to make savings of £29M over the next 5 year period and the PBB report sets out ways in which that might be achieved. Possible savings for each of the service areas have been categorised as 'transformation options', 'efficiency options' and 'stop/reduce options'. Examples of each of these categories were read out. There is also a list of options considered, but not included in the draft budget.

A public meeting would be held at the Balfroon Campus on Monday 2 December from 7 to 8.30 pm. It seems likely that this meeting would provide preliminary information rather than a more detailed analysis. Everyone with an interest is strongly encouraged to attend.

The following points were made:

- Stirling Council acknowledges that the process will be less than perfect this time round. The timescale for response is short (we will have to agree what we wish to say at our meeting on 15 January). However, the process will be refined and extended in the next financial year. The full Council will debate the report in February, prior to the budget for 2014 being finalised.
- It is not clear what Stirling Council expects us to do with the draft report eg comment on the process and/or the detailed options. It would be helpful if we could clarify this at the Balfroon meeting.

- Community Councils must reflect the views of residents, but, given the timescale and the complexity of the issues, it might be difficult to achieve this for January.
- A question was asked if the 'knock on' effects of some of the options had been assessed eg alterations to the schedule for bin emptying might lead to more dumping in the countryside. Since the answer to this was not known, it would be a suitable topic for discussion at Balfron.
- A question was asked if the possibility of an independent Scotland had been taken into consideration. Cllr Berrill said that he thought that the status quo had been assumed, in the absence of more precise information
- Significant differences between attitudes to services eg availability of public toilets in the city of Stirling and in rural villages might emerge.
- 80% of local authority funding comes from Scottish Government, only 20% is raised from Council Tax and other local charges. A continuing freeze of Council Tax had been assumed. To raise the amount required to offset the deficit would mean an increase of 60% in the Council Tax.

***Public Partnership in Health meeting 13 November***

Heather reported on this meeting. The main services are now on site at Stirling community hospital. She outlined the Braveheart project which aimed to support patients with cardiovascular disease by providing counselling. This had now been extended to type 2 diabetes. However, it did not cover the western villages as it appeared that there was a lack of demand and Killearn Health Centre provided equivalent services. If there were any questions on this, Heather would take them to the next meeting.

A member of the public asked a question about the defibrillator which was to have been placed in the Village Hall. This is not being taken forward at the moment as the ambulance service do not wish to establish a first responders group in the area at this time and it was felt that this equipment would require qualified individuals to use it .

***CC010 AOCB***

It was noted that work was being carried out on the water mains in Gartness Rd which would be closed during week commencing 25 November and for a further two weeks in January. This might lead to the discolouration of water in certain areas.

***CC011 Date and venue for next meeting***

The date for the next meeting had been changed to 11<sup>th</sup> December in the Primary School at 8pm, as there will be another event in the school on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting closed at 9.43pm

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
ADOPTED MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 DECEMBER 2013**

*Present:* J Allan; M Burdon; E Cairns; A Donaldson; M Harrison (Chair); E Robertson;  
D Scott; H Wright.

*Apologies:* None

*In attendance:* Cllr G Lambie; PC Raymond Murphy and 10 members of the public

**Please note: from now on the abbreviations KCC and SC will be used in the minutes**

Margaret welcomed PC Raymond Murphy who was representing David McNally at the meeting.

***CC012 Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2013***

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting, subject to the following minor amendments: CC010: alter 'December' to 'January'. Last item: alter number to CC011.

***CC013 Matters arising***

***CC002*** Margaret was pleased to announce that Jim had taken on the role of Roads Correspondent and that Heather would add Waste Management to her Health responsibility. Jim said that a number of people had commented about the current disruption in Balfron Road and Main St due to the laying of new piping by Scottish Water. The work was scheduled to be completed in February/March. There appeared to have been no notice given and the works did not appear on SC's website. It was pointed out that KCC is only informed of road closures. This comes in the form of an email, copying the closure notices to appear in the Stirling Observer.

***CC004*** Heather said that she was still pursuing the matter of funding trees from Miss Shand's bequest. It was noted that another oak tree had come down in Killearn Park in the recent storm.

***CC008*** Local residents had decided to nominate David McNally as a Community Baton Bearer for Glasgow 2014. Margaret, on behalf of KCC, had also nominated him.

***CC014 Police matters***

Raymond made the following report on behalf of David

- It had been a quiet time since the last meeting
- On 27 November a flashing magnetised yellow light had been stolen from a Stirling Council van parked at the bottom of Station Rd.
- On 6 December the owner of the land to the east of Gartness Rd noticed that a number of young trees had been cut down, probably during the summer. The matter is being treated as vandalism. If anyone recalls trees being cut down at that time they are asked to contact David.
- During late evening of 9 December a house fire occurred at Killearn Home Farm. Anyone who was in the area at the time is asked to contact David

- David was very flattered to have been nominated as Community Baton Bearer. Results will be announced in March.

***CC015 Question time***

There were no questions.

***CC016 Youth matters***

Ellie reported that she had been a member of a Balfroon HS delegation to Germany as part of an EU initiative to enable teenagers to make contacts in other member states. She had spoken to the Rhineland Parliament on the school's mock independence referendum. She said that the visit had been very successful and that it was hoped that future exchanges would take place. Eilidh said that the school had received a very positive report from its recent inspection. Two charity initiatives had been undertaken: 160 shoe boxes had been filled to send to help in countries in Africa and £400 had been raised for Children in Need.

Heather asked if there were any developments regarding youth activities in the Village Hall. Brenda Pell, who is closely associated with the Village Hall, said that a small group had been set up to explore how youth activities could be supported. She added that the management of the hall was a very large task and asked for patience at the moment. It was stated that some of the primary school children were spending their golden time in the hall and that a Friday evening youth club was proving very popular.

***CC017 Treasurer's report***

David reported that all documentation had been transferred from Janet. The current balance stood at £1223.09 with an outstanding bill of £7.80 for photocopying. It was agreed that David, Margaret and Margery would be signatories (two required for each cheque). Negotiations were proceeding with the bank to bring about the changes. David said that he hoped to produce a budget at the appropriate time in the future.

***CC018 Planning***

***Valid Planning Applications Received***

13/00716/FUL Erection of new two storey dwelling house at garden ground to north of 24, Balfroon Road, Killearn

It was decided that the following comments should be made on the above application: the house should not dominate the relatively small site; there should be a turning space as reversing into Balfroon Rd would not be an option. The loss of mature trees was a matter for some concern and the tree officer should be consulted regarding suitable replacements.

There were no comments on the following:

13/00727/FUL Rear extension to dwelling house at 3 Branziert Road North, Killearn G63 9RE

***Decisions of Appointed Officers***

13/00588/FUL Erection of double garage (retrospective) at Lovat Lodge, Endrick Road, Killearn G63 9QD

Decision: Approve with conditions

13/00676/ADV Fascia signage and flat aluminium wall mounted car park panel at 56 Main Street, Killearn G63 9RH [Co-op]

Decision: Approve with conditions

On the Local Development Plan Margaret said that the LDP web site had not been updated since 14 November. Graham said that currently the Reporters were looking at SC's windfarm policy. He believed that there had been a visit to the hospital site. No hearing had been requested for either Killearn or Fintry, which he found disappointing. He felt that elected members could not properly represent residents' interests under these circumstances. He pointed out that there was no third party right of appeal.

### ***CC019 Community empowerment and renewal bill***

Margaret provided an overview of consultation on this bill, pointing out that it contained 75 questions. Many of these related to processes or wording which were outwith KCC's expertise. She said it was likely that our response could only cover a limited number of the questions. A final response is sought by 24 January. It was agreed that a small working group, comprising Margaret, David, Jim and Heather would meet to draft a response and that this would be discussed at the January meeting. Members of the group were reminded to request a copy of the consultation from the Scottish Government's website. Graham emphasised the importance of the bill and advised KCC to respond on all relevant sections.

### ***CC020 Priority based budgeting***

Margery spoke to a starter paper, previously circulated, on SC's Priority Based Budgeting (PBB) consultation. She said that SC was opening up its budgeting processes not only to councillors, but also to Community Councils which were seen as a way of getting feedback from the wider community. As well as getting comment on specific service options it could also be seen as a way of preparing the ground for the very severe cuts which would become apparent in the next financial year. To date no formal request to KCC to respond had been received, nor was there any information on how to respond. Two public meetings had been held: the SW Area Forum on 18 November and a meeting in Balfron on 2 December. Both had been helpful.

Margery, David and Margaret had met to map out how the response might be framed. It was decided that this should be in two sections: General comments on the consultation process and specific comments on service options. No attempt could be made to evaluate or prioritise the comments. All those received during this round of consultation would be included.

On the process the following were noted:

- The timing and timescale were very unhelpful
- Information was not appropriate for communicating with a wider group of residents

*Adopted minutes of the meeting held on 11 Dec 2013*

- The meetings were helpful, but lessons should be learned for the future
- Proposals were, in many instances, interconnected and this raised very difficult issues for those not intimately concerned with the process.
- No advice had been received regarding the nature of the response sought or the timescale for making this. The two questionnaires circulated were felt to be unhelpful.
- Specific proposals for future rounds of consultation would be included.

The following points were raised in discussion:

- The difficulties associated with informing residents and representing a wide variety of views
- How will SC process feedback? This should be made public in advance of decisions.
- There should be more evidence to support individual options.
- KCC should be fully involved in these important discussions
- There should be sufficient hard copies in libraries to allow a borrowing service.
- It may be easier for SC to cut non mandatory services, although these may be more important to a community than some of the mandatory ones.
- It may be that members of the community can make suggestions which could lead to savings in particular services, eg waste management, and ways to enter into dialogue with senior managers should be considered.

Margery then discussed briefly comments which would be included regarding the following service options: ENV004; ENV014; ENV001; ENV005; ENV017; ENV020; ENV021; ENV030; ENV043; ENV059; EPR020; EPR032; HCS060; ASP011; CE012. These were agreed.

The following points were raised in discussion:

- (EDU054 EDU055) The withdrawal of PE and music provision in primaries schools was not satisfactory, particularly, in regard to the latter, when account is taken of current initiatives to increase the fitness of young people. The same argument applies to cuts to the primary swimming programme (EDU067)
- (EDU18, EDU20, EDU21, EDU22) The option of decreasing emotional and social support should be reassessed, and the possibility of decreasing the budget for IT (ipads for example) should be looked at (from youth members)
- (EDU083) Cuts to primary school support staff could have an adverse impact on education provision.
- If grants to voluntary bodies eg Crossroads were cut, then this could lead to increasing pressure on Stirling Council, who may not be as cost effective as the voluntary sector.
- (SOC16) If respite care were cut, the additional burden on family carers might mean that fewer people could be cared for at home.

***CC021 Correspondence***

Margery said that there were no significant items of correspondence which she wished to highlight (correspondence record is annexed to this minute).

***CC022 Any other competent business***

Margaret said that it was normal practice, at this time of the year, to make a small gift to the school janitor and cleaner who were very helpful to KCC. This was agreed.

An email had been received from SC regarding the positioning of road end bin collection points which could be used at times when snow and ice made normal access impossible. Comments on this were invited. These included:

- Roads which would need to be used to reach collection points were not always salted. Graham Road was a particular problem, although it was a route to the primary school
- Cars parked on roads hindered both residents and important services
- Snow clearing sometimes results in piles which cannot be negotiated either by waste vehicles or private cars.
- It would be important to publicise when the decision to use road end collection points had been taken.

Heather agreed to investigate this and to respond to Stirling Council accordingly. The village resilience plan should be updated to include information on road end bin collection points.

***CC023 Date and venue for next meeting***

The next meeting would take place at 8pm on Wednesday 15 January 2014 in the primary school.

***The meeting ended at 9.57.***

**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL**  
**UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**HELD ON 19 JUNE 2013**

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

*In Attendance:* Councillor G. Lambie; Councillor I. Muirhead; PC D. McNally; and 12 members of the public.

*Apologies:* D. Scott; P. Rea.

**AGM1** *Minutes of Last AGM*

The minutes of the AGM held on 20 June 2012 were approved, proposed by M. Harrison, seconded by D Stuart.

**AGM2** *Chairman's Report*

The Chair outlined the substance of the Annual Report for the year 2012/2013. Acceptance of the report was moved by P. Wilks and seconded by M. Burdon. *The Annual Report is attached as Appendix 1 to the minute.*

**AGM3** *Treasurer's Report*

J. Duncan presented the Audited Accounts for the year 2012/2013.

Acceptance of the accounts was moved by D Stuart and seconded by H McArthur. *The Audited Accounts are attached as Appendix 2 to the minute.*

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

**AGM4** *Election of Office Bearers*

The Chair stated that as the current Council had only two further meetings before being stood down before the election of a new Council. Therefore it would be sensible if the current officers remained in post. This was unanimously agreed.

The Officers of the Council were then re-elected, proposed by N. Kelly, seconded by H. Wright. The officers for the two meetings were Chair: Brenda Pell; Vice-Chair/Minutes Secretary/Webmaster: Peter Wilks; Secretary: Margery Burdon; Treasurer: Janet Duncan.

The Chair announced that she had received a formal letter of resignation from Peter Rea. It was agreed that Margaret Harrison would act as Planning Correspondent for the next two meetings.

**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 8.21 pm.

## ***Appendix 1 KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2012 – 2013***

We reach the final AGM of this current Community Council with a full complement of members - 11 adults and 2 Youth members. We are the only CC in this area to have Youth members. Ours attend regularly and play a full role in deliberating the issues that come before us. As Hannah reaches the end of her school career and her time as a Youth member, we thank her for her contribution to KCC and wish her the very best for her future. We are delighted that Eilidh will continue as Youth member for another session and that she will try to recruit another student to join her.

It has been another busy year for KCC with Stirling Council's Local Development Plan taking up much of our attention. The Proposed Local Plan was published in the Autumn and took us by surprise by containing proposals which were radically different from those contained in the draft plan, to which there had been considerable opposition in some quarters. The Proposed Plan removed the Blaressan site altogether and shifted the entire quota of new build houses (50) to Station Road. This gave rise to further opposition which was eloquently voiced at a Special meeting on 1 November and at the KCC monthly meetings in the Autumn, all of which were very fully attended. Unfortunately the structure of the Local Planning process precluded consultation between Stirling Council and the community; instead residents were able to convey their opinions to Stirling Council by means of a response form. The opposition to the proposals was amongst the largest received from any Stirling Council area. KCC compiled a formal response which was submitted to Stirling Council planners. This reflected public feeling against the high number of houses scheduled for Station Road, gave support to the Hospital Site as a suitable area for mixed development, including housing, and endorsed the possibility of working with Stirling Council planners to achieve a solution more acceptable to both parties. The Local Development Plan, accepted by Stirling Council on 2 May, has now been sent to the Scottish Parliament which, it is hoped, will appoint a Reporter who will hold a Hearing to examine and determine the outcome of issues where communities, such as Killearn, have raised significant objections. Such Hearings, if ordered, will be likely to take place in late 2013 or early 2014.

The six old peoples' bungalows on the Turnip Field, also a part of the LDP, have slowly progressed during the year and it is hoped these will soon be completed, tenanted and the remainder of the land restored to leisure purposes.

The Park has been recognised as Stirling Council's only successful nomination for the 'Queen Elizabeth II Fields in Trust'. This is a great achievement and is due in large measure to the enthusiasm with which Killearn residents voted in the ballot, scoring hundreds more than other contestants. It is also recognition of what this beautiful piece of land means to us all. The 'Fields in Trust' status will enable us to access some benefits and ensures Killearn Park, including the remainder of the Turnip Field, remains as parkland in perpetuity.

Keeping our village well maintained is not only the duty of Stirling Council but the responsibility of us all. When standards slip, KCC has a role to play in ensuring matters are addressed. We continue to support the Clean Up Scotland Campaign and David Scott is again involving young people in an anti-litter exercise. Our relationships with Stirling Council have been most cordial and, despite the difficulties caused by this time of economic stringency, our requests or complaints have been received and dealt with in reasonable time. Problems with dogs, trees, gutters and drains, street cleaning and a query about invasive weeds have all received attention from Stirling Council officers. We thank them for their information and support. The works at the Co-op and the Well Green are part of a major problem with drainage for which funding is currently being sought.

Certain factors though, fall under the area of private responsibility and amongst these come the perennials of dog fouling, high trees and hedges and safe and thoughtful parking. The recent change of position for the large planter outside Spar was made in order to try to prevent vehicles parking on the pedestrian area. It goes without saying that to mix vehicles with people walking on a pedestrian pavement outside a shop is a recipe for disaster. New signage and yellow lining is needed at the Spar, the Co-op and at the Bank to clarify disabled parking spaces and sometimes education is needed to reinforce this. 'Not going to be long' should not be an excuse for parking without entitlement. The pressures on parking, not only in Killearn but in all the villages, will only increase as the villages expand.

Road repairs are a perennial requirement; these have been ongoing around the village. Re-alignment of the A81 at the Distillery last year has improved the visibility there. Although we may grouse about short-term diversions and closures, it is again a question what is best value for money when budgets are tight. Boquhan residents have raised concerns about traffic safety through their village. A series of accidents stretching back a decade or more testify to the inadequacy of the current speed limits. Residents produced an impressive portfolio of evidence and have presented their case as a Community Petition. The outcome is currently awaited. An associated concern is the state of many footpaths, both near Boquhan and in Killearn; improvements would be welcome.

We welcome guest speakers to address us on topics of community interest. In the past year: John MacMillan Stirling Council Housing gave details of the construction of the Old Peoples' bungalows; Paul Cookson and Louise McAllister of Green Aspirations told us of their newly established venture based at Carbeth Farm where they provide courses and experience in green woodworking and bushcraft; Murray Cook, Stirling Council archaeologist, spoke of excavations at the Place of Killearn and told us something of the history of that building; Catherine Malley, Stirling Council Planning, spoke of Conservation Areas and planning implications associated with these. It is good to have our knowledge increased by such visits. Some of our members also attend the quarterly meetings in Balfron High School of the Local Area Forum. This is open to all and is presented by the Communities Team of Stirling Council. It provides short presentations, question time, discussions and workshops on a range of subjects of relevance to people in this area. Regular attendees are members of other CCs and Trusts or Futures Companies, elected Councillors, the police and sometimes NHS personnel. Our representatives provide a report at the next CC meeting.

KCC has participated in several Stirling Council and national consultations during the past year. This has involved a few members giving detailed attention to proposed new legislation, discussions at meetings and the compilation of responses. Areas covered/ongoing include Community Empowerment and Renewal, Transport, Single Outcome Agreement, Changes to the Planning System. I am most grateful to the members who, in small sub-groups have given their time and thought to these issues.

A year ago we were celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee; soon we shall be looking forward to the opening of our newly refurbished Village Hall. For both of these occasions Stirling Council has made us a generous grant; last year it provided the Jubilee cake at the Hoolie tea; this year we shall see the wrought iron gates, hung to celebrate the Queen's Coronation, restored and re-hung to mark both the opening of the Village Hall and the Jubilee, with a plaque to mark the event provided by a grant from the Hoolie Committee. We are grateful to Stirling Council and the Hoolie Committee for making this possible. We send our congratulations to the Village Hall Development Group, McDuff Architects and contractors Haddens for what promises to be a wonderful asset for our village.

We have been examining our style of administration and improving our methods over past years. Most members, if they are not named office bearers, have an area of special interest in which they are

particularly concerned and on which they report back to the council. We have endeavoured to streamline information handling by using email within the council and by reducing the amount that needs to be given orally in a meeting. Every person has his or her own particular value and I thank them for the time and energy every one expends and contributes to the team effort. The KCC website, maintained by Peter Wilks, has expanded in scope and is increasingly accessed by the community.

We are fortunate in our three Councillors – Alistair Berrill, Graham Lambie and Ian Muirhead and in our Community Police Officer David McNally of Police Scotland, all of whom are constant in their attendance at our meetings and who give unstinting support to our community. I thank them for their efficiency, their effectiveness and their friendship – to us all. They have our interests at heart and are all easy and responsive colleagues with whom to work. It is worth noting that Community Safety will remain the prime aim of the service provided by Police Scotland. The Local Policing Plan is available on the Police Scotland website.

We are nearing the end of our four year term of office and at the end of October we shall be formally disbanded, elections will be held and a new council will be elected, taking up office in November. Succession Strategy is the name of a campaign to encourage membership of the next CC. It will be time for change. Some of us will not stand again for election. Peter Rea, Nigel Kelly and I will be retiring. Some others may do so. The ability to form a new Council will depend on residents being willing to offer their time and talents to serve the community.

I end my annual report by asking you to consider doing just that!

*Brenda Pell*  
*June 2013*

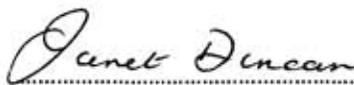
**KILLEARN COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013**

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Stirling Council Grants:		Administration Costs:	
Administration Grant	£ 373.35	Room Hire	£ 50.00
Community Pride	£ 400.00	Postage	£ 30.50
Jubilee Fund	<u>£ 1,500.00</u>	Website and Telephone	£ 72.39
	£ 2,273.35	Data Protection ICO	£ 35.00
		Photocopying	£ 176.19
		Mileage	£ 77.20
		Audit Fee to 31 March 2013	<u>£ 28.00</u>
			£ 469.28
Deficit for the year	£ 223.43		
		KCC Expenditure:	
		Notice Board Repairs	£ 105.50
		Thursday Club	£ 300.00
		Abbeyfield	£ 100.00
		Killearn Hoolie	£ 130.00
		Gifts to School Janitor	£ 22.00
		Gates for Village Hall	<u>£ 1,370.00</u>
			£ 2,027.50
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>£ 2,496.78</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£ 2,496.78</b>

**STATEMENT OF BALANCES**

Bank balance at 1 April 2012	£ 974.87	Represented by:	
Bank balance at 31 March 2013	<u>£ 2,121.44</u>	Accrual at 31 March 2013	£ 1,398.00
	<u>£ 1,146.57</u>	Less: Accruals at 1 April 2012	<u>£ 28.00</u>
			£ 1,370.00
		Less: Deficit for the year	<u>£ 223.43</u>
			<b><u>1146.57</u></b>

Signed by KCC Treasurer

  
Janet Duncan

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

  
Catherine Delany (Auditor)