

WATERSIDE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

HELD ON

TUESDAY 11TH.JUN. 2019

Present: Vice Chair S. Wilson, Secretary J. Whyte, Website Coordinator C. Lilly,
Treasurer K. Chesney-Bathie, Interested Tenant E. Carlin, Events Group Manager L. Bateman,
Cllrs. S. Murray, S. MacDonald, J. Jamieson.

In Attendance: C. Willson, T. Willson, D. McFadden, M. Todd, P. King (WRA), A. Gilpin (WRA),
J. Quigley.

Apologies: J. Herriot, Cllr. R. Ackland, Cllr. S. Renwick, E. Wilson, Police.

- (1) Meeting commenced at 7.42pm. In the absence of J.Herriot, Chair, Vice Chair S. Wilson chaired the meeting. Everyone was made welcome.
- (2) There was no police presence due to other commitments. However, there was a warning to everyone to be vigilant as doors and cars have been tried and prowlers reported.
- (3) A number of issues were discussed relating to the minutes of the last meeting.
- (4) Cllr Murray said that the statement about 9 councillors attending KCC meetings was factually wrong, as only 6 councillors attended.
- (5) It had been agreed that an invitation should go to Martin Cunningham to attend the next WCC meeting in order to discuss Woodilee, boundaries etc. P King said it was important not to lose momentum with the Woodilee situation. It needed to be sorted as soon as possible. CL said she had received a response from Martin Cunningham to her freedom of information request re community boundaries. (She subsequently passed on a printout to Woodilee reps.)
SM made some points: Section 75 money arising from development is paid to the council for use in the local area. It is not linked to community council areas. Re community council boundaries, Martin Cunningham won't set them. Community councils can agree them among themselves, and there has been ongoing discussion involving Lenzie CC and KCC. She said if Woodilee residents chose to start their own community council, that would be fine. PK said that Woodilee was not currently being properly represented. AH suggested representatives from each CC area needed to come together to discuss. Currently Woodilee just has a residents association. SM said councillors do attend resident association meetings. Although there isn't a huge difference between residents' associations and community councils, the advantage of being a community council is that community councils are statutory bodies. And community councils can sometimes access funding. Also tenants aren't included in the residents' association. PK said that lots of planning applications were going in re Woodilee, so it would be useful to be provided with this information as a matter of course, as community councils are.
- (6) The previous minutes were proposed and seconded by E.Carlin and K.Chesney-Bathie respectively.
- (7) There was the wonderful news that the Village Fest application to the National Lottery Community fund had been successful: £6,940.

(8) And, equally wonderfully, the Miners Club application to the same fund for £10,000 for a feasibility study was also successful. Huge thanks to David Wright of the CRT for all his work on this. Jim Carmichael and Cordy Lilly had also been involved. Very unusual for there to be two successful applications from one community.

(9) A.S.N. School update: A number of members of the Waterside community had accompanied Ian Bowman to a surgery with Rona Mackay MSP, which was also attended by Stuart McDonald MP. Stuart believes councillors were misled about the 5-year moratorium and suggested a letter be written to them by WCC requesting they ask for the council's legal advice to be published and for the site decision to be revisited. Cllr MacDonald, who had raised questions about the moratorium (having had inadequate information before the March 2018 vote), said a Section 95 officer (at the council) had looked at the situation and said it was a requirement to identify a site before proceeding to consultation. So in his view the reality was that the moratorium was set by the Scottish Government. However the response from the Scottish Government had been that the ministerial letter (saying that the closure/merger and the site identification were two separate processes and that the council should work with the community to identify the best site) should stand as it is.

Cllr. MacDonald said the council's legal advice would not be made public as legal and commercial advice is seen as sensitive. He mentioned the existence of a 'technical note'. He suggested that the person to write to was Rona Mackay herself, as she could take up the issue with the legal department at the Scottish Government. The council was only acting in accordance with what the Scottish Government said.

WCC has agreed to be part of council discussions on design and planning (though *without prejudice*). Janice Herriot and James Quigley have agreed to do this for us.

With regard to the pitch, the council is committed to providing a full-size pitch. According to SportScotland policies, this must be of a comparable or better standard than the current one.

As far as the council is concerned the consultation on the site/merger is complete and decided. However, the project could still fail at the planning stage. It was raised that WCC had not been consulted before the March 2018 vote that had effectively put the school on an unstoppable path to Waterside, since the consultation they voted for brought with it a moratorium, even though councillors weren't made aware of that.

(10) Village Fest arrangements are almost complete. However the application for a stage licence had been lost at the council. LB seeking information/updates. Her payment had been receipted. Waterside Village Fest has activities over five days: slide show by Edward Z. Smith on 18th. June; orienteering organized by James Quigley on 19th; Luggiewatch pick-litter-as-you-walk on 20th; Party on the Park on 21st; and Super Saturday on 22nd. Party on the Park will have two bands and a bar and it will be on from 6.00pm till 10pm. Saturday's events will start at 12.00 noon. Funfair from Wednesday on. Rosebank to do Beat the Goalie (I. Bowman arranging). There will be traffic management and litter picking. Cllr. MacDonald discuss signage with Roads and Traffic department.

(11) A site at Woodilee had been designated as the space for a nursery, but is a wasteland at the moment. If CALA don't manage to sell it – incidentally, they and the consortium are trying to get the nursery stipulation lifted – the land will revert to council ownership, but the nursery stipulation will go. A public/private partnership may be needed. PK wants those making money to be held to account. WCC can help by putting in objections. PK will send information to WCC about the points that need to be made in a letter. Cllr. Murray will look into the situation.

- (12) Information was shared about a site designated for bowling at Woodilee being changed to a leisure area, and then to a basketball area, meaning the Woodilee bowling club lost their bowling green despite earlier promises. It was suggested that developers often fail to keep promises.
- (13) SPT not delivering over bus service to Woodilee.
- (14) The previously agreed site for the defibrillator was Archie's shop. However, it had also been suggested it could be put in a phone box at the original site of the Waterside phone box on Bankhead Road (until the 50s). CL had sent a request for a phone box to KCC, as KCC is looking for homes for three of them around Kirkintilloch. Cllr. Murray said there was to be a consultation on sites/uses (see Kirky Action website). However objections had been raised at the last meeting about possible misuse. CL said after discussions with JH and Jackie Brown, they thought it might be best to proceed with defibrillator on the shop wall (at least for the moment) as previously planned to avoid delay. Planning permission had already been applied for. And even if Waterside were lucky enough to obtain a phone box, there might be a substantial delay, and it might have to be situated somewhere other than its previous site, which would mean more discussion. If we did get one, there would be other uses it could be put to anyway. There was general agreement. We still have £400 to find for the defibrillator case. Once established, a notice will be put up on the notice board with the names of first responders for emergency use. [Update: Jackie B said on 27 June, 'I've spoken to St. John's ambulance service today. I've got one more bit of paperwork to complete once they send it to me. This is in relation to the funds they contribute. Then we should be in a position to send the money, and then finally get it installed.']
- (15) Street lighting in Gray Street is now in place; Burnbrae and Berryknowe still not done.
- (16) Taig Road green is still a mess following roughcasting and other work on houses around about two years ago. Council has been in contact with the contractors, who are contractually obliged to return it to its former state. The entire circle including the shrub area is untidy and unsightly. Gillian Telfer had agreed some time ago that this could feasibly become a play area if a fence were erected, though that would need the approval of residents, who would have to be consulted first. [Update: one Taig Road resident has asked if some of this area could be made available for parking, given the shortage in the village.] ACTION: carry out survey of residents?
- (17) T. Willson had had no reply to his emails sent to Stuart McDonald MP regarding the ASN School. Cllr. Jamieson looking into it.
- (18) Request to have grass area opposite the Feature (on the Luggie side of this) strimmed was passed to Cllr. MacDonald. A request was made that weedkiller not be used on grass verges.
- (19) More complaints were made about parking on the bend by the cottages on Bankhead Road, as it's a safety issue. Drivers coming into Waterside are often forced to pull out without being able to see if there are cars coming towards them. Cllr. MacDonald will look into why request to make it no-parking was rejected previously.
- (20) Fence on Luggie side of Bankhead Road near D.McF's home has been damaged for years; can this be replaced or repaired? Its current state would make it a less effective barrier if another car lost control in the future, and there's a big drop on the other side
- (21) There was no correspondence this month. As there was no further business, the date of next meeting was arranged for 9th July. Meeting closed at 9.20pm. Vice Chair thanked all those present.