

DRAFT MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED AT MARCH 26th MEETING

STRATHAVEN AND GLASSFORD COMMUNITY COUNCIL **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING 27TH FEBRUARY, 2024**

1. **Sederunt:** Aileen McMann (Chairperson); Gordon McAllan (Vice Chair); Les Hoggan (Secretary); Sheila Munro Tulloch (Treasurer); John Graham (Minute Secretary); Morag Arnot; Linda Brown; Margot McDonald; Douglas Scott and Aileen Stewart.
Visitors: Andrew McIntyre (Police Scotland); Robert Murray and Barry O'Connor (Police Scotland).
2. **Apologies:** Dr. Lisa Cameron MP; Margaret Cooper; Elise Frame; Susan Kerr and Mairi McAllan MSP.
3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting (30/01/2024).**
The Minutes were approved without change. Proposed: D. Scott. Seconded: A. Stewart.
4. **Matters Arising.**
 - (a) A question as to why concern had been raised regarding the updating of the Website and the Facebook Page at the January meeting was brought up. Both sites have been regularly kept up to date by Les Hoggan for many years with no issues raised until the January meeting which he was unable to attend. The comments in the Minutes were incorrect. The matter had been raised by a visitor, which was why discussion took place, and a possible solution was mooted. It was agreed that the Website and social media were being appropriately managed and no change in process was required.
 - (b) A meeting regarding Threestanes Road has still to be arranged.
 - (c) R. Murray has contacted the owner of 'The Heron' regarding the proposed erection of Wind Turbines near to the premises and is awaiting a response.
5. **Police Report.**
 - (a) Crime figures from 31/01/24 - 20/02/24 are as follows:-
 - 2 x Wasting Police time (2 Detected).
 - 1 x Attempted Fraud (Not Detected).
 - 1 x Breach of Bail (Detected).
 - 1 x Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 - Possession (Detected).
 - 3 x S38 Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 (1 Detected; 2 Undetected).
 - 4 x Assault (1 Detected; 3 Undetected).
 - 1 x Attempted Extortion (Undetected).
 - 1 x S127 Communications Act 2003 (Detected).
 - 1 x S3 Road Traffic Act 1988 - Careless Driving (Detected).
 - 1 x S50 Criminal Law Consolidation (Scotland) Act 1995 - Racial (Detected).
 - (b) Fly tipping was reported in the middle of the road on Hareshaw Road. The Police said that no report of fly tipping in that area had been received and stated that the public should report all incidents and, if possible, get the Registration Number of the vehicle involved.
 - (c) An incident involving a red car and the setting off of an impromptu fire works display in the Park was brought to the attention of the Police.
 - (d) A day of action on speeding will take place in the area on the 2nd March, 2024.

DRAFT MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED AT MARCH 26th MEETING

6. Standing Items.

(a) Strathaven Castle.

1. The Friends of Strathaven Castle (FoSC) requested more information to support its project to redevelop the steps leading from Castle Park up to the Castle grounds. This information has been obtained from SLC and will be passed to the FoSC.
2. Work is continuing on the assessment of a detailed survey on the condition of the structure to inform a decision on remedial work and expected costs.
3. A request was made to SLC for information about the tree trunk that has been left in Castle Park. It was confirmed that it was left on purpose as a 'sacrifice' tree to support wildlife and insects. SLC has no objection if a community project to remove it is undertaken as long as no power tools are used.
4. SLC is carrying out landscaping work at the corner of Todshill Street and Kirk Street. (Planting, cobble cleaning and two benches to be installed). There are no plans to replace the Information Board, but SLC has no objection if this is taken on as a community project.

(b) Clydesdale Tourism Group.

No meeting of the group has been held.

(c) Transport Sub-Group.

1. No response as yet regarding the 20mph signs not working near some schools.
2. There is still need for an urgent survey into the traffic issues at Threestanes Road.
3. A further request was made to arrange a Transport Sub-Group meeting. No proposed date has yet been received.
4. Climate Action Strathaven (CAS) has been working on a Report into transport and traffic in and around Strathaven. A final Draft Report is scheduled to be completed during March, 2024.

7. Planning Applications.

(a) The Application to erect ten wind turbines at Bankend Rig 3 was noted.

(b) A number of concerns have been raised regarding the Planning Application for the installation of wind turbines near to 'The Heron'. Confirmation has been received that the CC can formally submit an objection to this proposal.

8. Letter from Blantyre CC.

A letter was received asking if the CC would like to join with other CCs to form a group which could take issues to SLC. Following discussion it was agreed that the CC did not wish to be involved in this initiative.

9. Ash Pitch Community Asset Transfer (CAT).

Two formal Applications for a CAT have been submitted to SLC. One for a Community Garden and one for an Outdoor Centre for Strathaven Scouts.

10. Funding Opportunities.

Nothing new to report.

11. Working Together for Avondale (WTA).

It was suggested that possible funding for the proposed COVID Commemorative Stone could come 50% from WTA and 50% from the Banks money.

12. Communications Strategy.

(a) It is proposed that in addition to Minutes and the Agenda appearing on social

DRAFT MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED AT MARCH 26th MEETING

media that other updates and news relevant to the CC should also be posted and that regular features and interviews appear on Avondale Radio, which has completed the update to its website and which will feature a 'Local News' section.

- (b) It was suggested that a schedule of regular blogs/posts be published on specific topics to better inform the community be agreed. Defining content for regular publication also needs to be agreed and this should be the responsibility of the whole CC.
- (c) The proposal for a COVID Commemoration Stone to go on the CC website.
- (d) A Newsletter, based on the Secretary's Report, to be produced by L. Hoggan.
- (e) Items on the Noticeboard to continue to be regularly updated and out of date material to be removed.

13. Kype Muir Community Fund.

- (a) Connect2Renewables - The worker covering Strathaven took up a new post and has not been replaced. However, links continue with the school at the moment.
- (b) The Kype 2 Extension is not fully operational yet due to a parts issue. Some money will be paid into the Fund for the operational turbines until the main amount of funding in May, 2024.
- (c) Banks Renewables will be renamed as "OnPath".
- (d) The new CC Action Plan will be funded by OnPath and it is proposed that the company operating on our behalf will be Douglas Westwater.
- (e) An event will take place on the 23rd March, 2024 in the Hub in Lesmahagow. Groups and societies looking for funding will be encouraged to attend between ten o'clock and two on the day.
- (f) Awards were made to East Milton School Parent Council, Woodpark School Parent Council, Lesmahagow CC, Stonehouse Pipe Band and Strathaven Golf Club Ladies Team.
- (g) A list of local organisations will have to be compiled.
- (h) A list of land and property in the area eligible for CAT Applications would be beneficial. This to be discussed at the next CC meeting.
- (i) The next Kype Muir meeting is on 7th May in Sandford Hall.

14. CC Micro Grants.

- (a) Four new Applications were received this month:-
 1. 2023/24 - 012: Strathaven Miniature Railway - Requested £500 for purchase of ballast. Proposed that a Grant of £350 be awarded.
 2. 2023/24 - 013: Strathaven John Hastie Museum Trust (SJHMT) - Requested £500 to help with putting on two Exhibitions. Proposed that a Grant of £450 be awarded.
 3. 2023/24 - 014: Darby and Joan Club - Requested £250 towards annual outing. Proposed that a Grant of £250 be awarded.
 4. 2023/24 - 015: Strathaven Choral Society - Requested £500 to help finance a COVID curtailed plan for a joint concert with Bridge of Weir Society. Proposed that a Grant of £300 be awarded.
- (b) The above Awards were approved at the meeting and monies from the Fund have now been spent for 2023 - 2024.
- (c) At present outstanding paperwork is awaited for eight projects.
- (d) One further Micro Grant has been signed off:- Frets Creative (£400).

DRAFT MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED AT MARCH 26th MEETING

- (e) SLC is continuing the Community Grants.
- (f) The full Report was circulated to CC Members prior to the meeting.

15. Secretary's Report.

- (a) The full Report was circulated to CC Members prior to the meeting. Aspects of the Report are included within other sections of the Minutes.
- (b) Approval has been given for a defibrillator to be installed at the Fire Station on Lesmahagow Road. Discussions are underway to install another in the Colinhill Road area of the town.
- (c) The Christmas lights in the town will be taken down imminently.
- (d) A date has still to be arranged for the Head Teacher at Strathaven Academy to attend a CC meeting.
- (e) Strathaven Business Association will be taking over the Schools Photographic Competition for 2024. Funding of £1,225 will come from Banks Renewables. Images from the Competition will be used for the 2025 SJHMT Calendar.
- (f) Glassford Community Group - Following community consultation and a review of plans, a formal Planning Application with subsequent neighbour notices was submitted in December, 2023. A further funding Application is being submitted to the REF for the final sum of money required.
- (g) Glassford Hall is available to rent for use.
- (h) The CC has met with FoSC and some projects have been agreed.
- (i) It was asked if the proposed Bike Rack in the Common Green was going ahead. In reply, it was said that it should be going ahead.

16. Treasurer's Report.

- (a) The full Report was circulated to CC Members prior to the meeting.
- (b) During the month of February Micro Grants to the value of £500 have been paid as agreed at the January meeting as well as two £50 Honorariums. A purchase of printer inks was made for £60.29 and a payment of £135.80 was made to Les Hoggan Photography in respect of the CC website hosting costs. A refund totalling £896.89 was reimbursed to the Treasurer.
- (c) COVID Fund - Balance remaining uncommitted is £5,858.81.
- (d) £185.71 remains in the CC budget. L. Hoggan to get costings for Business Cards for the CC, Pop-up Banners and printing for the Noticeboard.

17. Reports from CC Members.

- (a) Flooding is back on the A71 at the Town Mill. R. Murray to contact SLC regarding this matter.
- (b) Several anniversaries are taking place in the town this year. These are Miniature Railway (75), Gala Day (25), Guiding (100) and Balloon Festival (25).
- (c) The lack of disabled parking in the town was raised. R. Murray to contact SLC on this matter.
- (d) The SJHMT is running Exhibitions and events in the near future. The present Exhibition is on the Schools Photographic Competition, this will be followed by an Exhibition by Generation Strathaven, there will be a Quiz Night on the 19th April at the Golf Club and from the 20th April there will be an Exhibition on Strathaven Churches.
- (e) A Letter of Concern to be submitted to SLC regarding proposed changes to School Transport. L. Hoggan to compose a Letter.

DRAFT MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED AT MARCH 26th MEETING

- (f) The launch of OnPass will take place in Lesmahagow on 23rd March, 2024.
- (g) A. McMann attended a meeting regarding new housing development in Cambuslang where it was said that £50,000 was allocated to the community from the development to spend as they wished. It is possible that some funds from the housing development on the former Ballgreen Hall site could come to the local community. A speaker will attend the next CC meeting to update Members on this matter.

18. Reports from SLC Councillors.

No Councillors were present at the meeting.

19. AOCB.

COVID COMMEMORATIVE STONE.

- (a) Advice was sought regarding what the stone should be made from and possible costs. It was recommended that granite would be the best medium and cost for the base and stone would be £1,895. Suggestions as to how the wording could be placed on the stone was also given. M. Arnot circulated photographic examples of possible stones which could be chosen.
- (b) SLC were contacted to see if the stone could be sited in the Allison Green and they suggested it could go in the cemetery as it is SLC Policy not to allow memorials to go on land in the area.
- (c) It was agreed to go back to SLC and say that the stone is not a memorial to those who lost their lives but is intended to be a reminder of what effect COVID had on the community in general. A site beside the Castle at the corner of Todshill Street and Kirk Street to be suggested as a possible place for the stone to go. L. Hoggan to send details of the proposed project to R. Murray and he will send a message to SLC regarding this matter.
- (d) M. Arnot to contact SLC regarding the option of an alternative site for the stone.
- (e) Strathaven in Bloom could be contacted for advice regarding suitable plants to be used once a site has been agreed.

20. Date of Next Meeting.

Tuesday 26th March, 2024 at 7.00pm in the Avondale Wing.

Members of the Public are most welcome to all our Meetings.

All correspondence to:- strathavencommcouncil@gmail.com

