



Torbrex Community Council

Minute of the Meeting of the Community Council held in Stirling High School at 7.15 pm on Tuesday 26th January 2010.

1. **Present:** John Buchan, Murray Dickie, Jim Docherty (Chairperson), Genia Graham and Sue Ridler.
In Attendance: Councillor Neil Benny and PC Matthew Short.
2. **Apologies:** Councillor Scott Farmer and Councillor Andrew Simpson.
3. **Minute of the Inaugural Meeting:** To follow.
4. **Matters Arising:** None.
5. **Correspondence:**
 - Notice of Community Council Elections – to be held by the 26th February. There are 3 vacancies, one of which must be filled to allow the community council to function. It was agreed to approach Stirling High School with a view to getting a senior pupil resident in the area to stand.
 - Notice of Stirling Community Health Partnership's Public Partnership Forum meeting at 6.00 pm for a 6.30 pm start in the lecture theatre, SRI on the 3rd of February, 2010.
 - Stirling Councillors surgery details.
6. **Community Police Report:** There were 9 detected crimes in the area – 4 assaults (mainly family related around Xmas), 4 motoring offences on Torbrex Road, 1 theft and 1 case of shoplifting (from Lidl). Litter and parking in and around Beechwood Park has been a priority. Matt agreed to keep some pressure up on parking related to football matches and on the school re litter. It was noted that another dog bin in the park had been set alight. A request was in for metal dog bins to prevent this happening in future. Members thanked Matt for his support.
7. **Planning Report:** Three items were noted. John was asked to keep an eye on the progress of the Ogilvie re-application for the old high school site and Murray agreed to view the fence in Cedar Avenue and the garage site in Springwood.
8. **Roads in Torbrex:** There was concern at the quality of pilot repaving project in Torbrex. Neil agreed to approach staff with a view to ascertaining plans for seeking residents' views on the pilot.
9. **Winter gritting and damage:** While it was agreed that the period of icy weather had been exceptional, there were concerns, particularly about pavements in areas where people congregated and a lack of salt bins. While salt had been provided in bulk for community use, this happened as the ice was starting to thaw. It was agreed to examine whether additional salt bins could be provided and if local residents could salt pavements in areas of high pedestrian usage.
10. **Traffic calming:** There was considerable discussion about this, particularly new proposals for Torbrex Road. It was agreed that members were in favour of a single 20 mph zone, operating only at school entrance and exit times. There were still complaints arising from the existing traffic calming. It was agreed to keep this item on the agenda of the CC.
11. **Parking at Stirling High School:** This was still a problem. Matt agreed to look at ways of encouraging parents to park in the Ice Rink car park at the side of the school.
12. **Friends of Beechwood Park:** Hirek reported that the Friends still did not have a chairperson, although he would continue to represent the CC on the sub-committee. The chair thanked Hirek for all his hard work in taking forward the Masterplan, the activities of the Friends and the friends for their efforts in taking forward the masterplan, tree planting and litter picking.
13. **Litter Picks:** A joint litter picking schedule had been agreed up to the school summer holidays. Members expressed their appreciation to the Friends and the Stirling High School Eco-team for their continued efforts in seeking to make the park a litter free zone.
14. **Tree planting:** The tree planting had been completed just before the weather broke and, so far, the trees appeared to have survived. A final report had been submitted to the Big Lottery Fund and had been accepted. As part of the survey work for the new planting the health of the remaining lime trees had been examined. Members were pleased to hear that they had an expected life of some 60

years. Sadly, a number of existing trees in the park had been identified as diseased and required restorative surgery or felling. It was agreed that a notice board in the park would be helpful so that park users could be alerted to this and future developments. Cllr Benny indicated that notice boards were being purchased for Kingspark and that it might be possible to purchase an additional one for Beechwood. Murray agreed to contact David Crighton about this. Hirek indicated that the Council would be removing fencing in the vicinity of the pavilion to discourage football near the new trees.

15. **Beechwood Park Masterplan:** Stirling Council had endorsed the master planning process and the Beechwood Master Plan. It had been agreed that the Steering group had served a useful purpose and it was intended to keep it going. Now that the tree planting was completed, the Steering Group would be looking at extending development to other areas of the park.
16. **Torbrex Lane:** It was clear that the hedges had been cut and that the Lane was now much safer. This was greatly welcomed and it was agreed to explore which services had been responsible and make sure that staff were thanked.
17. **Going Carbon Neutral Project:** The secretary apologised for forgetting to bring the sheets with the next month's targets – these will be circulated by e-mail. It was agreed to work with the local schools and groups on joint activities. The possibility of street lunch and street car-free celebration events was discussed. It was agreed to advertise and encourage these in the next CC newsletter. The question of food recycling bins was raised. Cllr Benny agreed to contact Environmental Services staff to request extension to all areas of Torbrex.
18. **Stirling HS Community Facilities – Update:** Matt Bunnell of Active Stirling had indicated that it was intended to offer a range of access and classes in the High School from Easter. He had agreed to attend the next CC meeting to elaborate on this. Beyond this it was agreed to advertise this in the newsletter.
19. **Stirling High School Garden Project – Update:** With the help of the grant from the community council the burned wood had been removed from the polytunnel. The supplier had donated a new cover and replacement hoops and it was hoped to get these in place in February, in time for the spring planting season.
20. **St Ninians Community Development Trust:** The Trust had organised an environmental fair and AGM to take place in Stirling High school at 7.00 pm on Monday 26th April 2010. This event would build on the previous experience and would also seek to attract members of the public.
21. **Health – Update:** Due to the financial difficulties associated with the current recession, there had been delays in agreeing a plan for the community hospital. It was hoped that there would be a brief interim statement at the next PPF meeting on the 3rd February and that the Public Reference Group would meet soon thereafter.
22. **Spring Newsletter:** IT was agreed to put out a newsletter in early March to allow the details of the Active Stirling proposals and the Trust's fair to be advertised.
23. **A.O.C.B.:** None.
24. **Dates of Next Meetings:**

Day	Month	Location	Day	Month	Location
Wed	24 Feb	SHS	Thur	29 Jul	MC
Thur	25 Mar	SHS	Tues	31 Aug	SHS
Apr	No Meeting	Tues	Wed	29 Sep	SHS
Tues	25 May	SHS	Thur	28 Oct	SHS
Wed	23 Jun	SHS	Tues	30 Nov	SHS