

## **Minute of the Meeting of Torbrex Community Council held in St Ninians Primary School at 7.15pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2007.**

1. **Present:** Community Councillors – Murray Dickie, Carloyn Edward, Genia Graham and Robert Johnston.  
  
Residents & Guests – Cllr. Neil Benny, Brendan Docherty, Margaret Duff, Hirek Kwiatkowski, Bob Inglis, Vilma Inglis, Wilson Jamieson, Alan Macintyre, Marjorie Macintyre, Valerie Milligan, Eleanor Niven, Bill Sim, Evelyn Sim, Cllr. Andrew Simpson, Irene Walker,
2. **Apologies:** Jean Cowie, James Docherty, Scot Farmer, Michael Green, Julia Leftwich, Sue Ridler and Alex White.
3. **Minute of the Previous Meeting:** This was agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
4. **Matters Arising:** None
5. **Beechwood Park:** Wilson Jamieson indicated that, following discussion with Streetscape officials, path edging had been improved. Wilson and his fellow residents were congratulated for their efforts. The chairperson indicated that he had been in touch with Active Stirling and Children's Services staff to clarify certain issues. Firstly, in terms of the plans for the football pitch, it was intended that this should be moved away from the line of trees on the Williamfield boundary of the park and also from the Torbrex Lane edge. Due to the shortage of full size football pitches in the Stirling area, it was intended that the size of the pitch remain the same. There was still some uncertainty regarding the impact this might have on plans for paths. It was agreed to clarify this. Secondly, in terms of the PPP funding for improvements in the park, it had been confirmed that there were ongoing discussions and that it was hoped to have an indication by the end of August 2007. The chairperson understood that, once clarification of the actual funding available had been agreed, there would be fulsome consultation on the proposals. Members asked that the chairperson seek confirmation of this. Finally, Wilson Jamieson asked about a regular meeting date for the "friends" group. The chairperson agreed that if Wilson could identify a start date, he would arrange accommodation and send out notices.
6. **Beechwood Scouts:** The Community Council was delighted to hear from David Mitchell that the 7<sup>th</sup> Beechwood Scout Group had been successful in its application for funding to improve and secure the grounds of the scout hall. It was agreed to meet half the cost of funding a new entrance. The St Ninians Community Development Trust has agreed to fund the other half of the gate. The community council agreed to seek a small grant from Stirling Council's Community fund for outdoor seating. Following discussion regarding the funding of a commemorative plaque, members agreed to advise the David Mitchell that the Community Council would be happy to work with the scouts on an autumn fundraiser to meet the costs of a plaque. Following the success of the activities for older people, a member of Active Stirling has been invited to attend the next meeting of the Community Council to open discussions on a possible partnership venture to extend and develop such activities.
7. **Orchard House Resource Centre:** Members were reminded that there is a special meeting of the area forum in the Mayfield Centre, St Ninians at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2007. This meeting will receive a report from the manager of the Stirling Community Health Partnership. Councillor Andrew Simpson indicated that he had queried the proposed car parking arrangements for the new centre. He confirmed that the number of spaces had been increased and that there would now be 98 spaces for patients (including at least 8 disabled spaces) and 65 spaces for staff.

It was agreed that the question of public consultation on the new community hospital planned for the SRI site should be raised at the public meeting.

**8. Communication with Stirling Councillors:** A questionnaire had been received from Stirling Council. This had been intended for the last area forum but time had not been available. During discussion, several points were raised and these are noted below. It was agreed that these would be submitted to the area forum.

**Q1. What could make it difficult for communities and councillors to work together in the new wards?**

- Different political affiliations – particularly between administration and opposition parties;
- Direct contact from local people to councillors – are surgeries really the best way forward?
- How representative are community councils? Do local forums help or hinder in terms of representation?

**Q2. What could the benefits be of communities working with 3 / 4 councillors?**

- Greater energy available in terms of numbers of councillors;
- Range of political affiliation, experiences and skills increased;
- Cross communication enhanced with other community councils and local organisations.

**Q3. a) How can communities and your new councillors work together to get the best results for your locality / area?**

- Guaranteed attendance at Community council meetings - even if this is one attending on an agreed rota (members noted that they have noticed a considerable improvement over the years);
- Both parties identify items of future interest and make sure everyone is informed in advance;

**b) What needs to occur/be put in place to help this happen?**

- Councillors need to liaise with each other;
- Community councils and councillors need to develop good communications – this has implications for area fora;
- Early liaison / notice for items of future consultation.

**9. AOCB:**

**a) Roads Consultation:** Stirling Council Roads have published a consultation document and are intending to run two public meetings on the issues. The urban meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, Viewforth, Stirling at 7.00 pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2007. There was a heated debate on the question of street cleaning and pavement safety. Councillor Simpson agreed to raise issues of leaf litter and blocked drains on Randolph Road and Randolph Terrace with the appropriate Council staff. The consultation document and related roads issues will be discussed at the next Community Council meeting.

**b) Tannson Chimney Stack and Early Working:** It was pointed out that the front chimney stack had been removed from the old manse building and that workmen were starting as early as 7.15 am. These issues will be raised with Stirling Council Planning Services.

**c) Stirling HS PPP Meeting:** The next meeting will be held in Stirling HS at 7.00 pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2007.

**d) Stirling Councillors' Surgeries:** Councillor Benny will forward a copy when available.

**e) Community Council Member Vacancy:** It was agreed to clarify the position regarding co-option with Stirling Council.

**10. Dates of Next Meetings:** SNP = St Ninians Primary, SHS = Stirling High School)

|             |     |            |     |                  |     |
|-------------|-----|------------|-----|------------------|-----|
| Tues 28 Aug | SHS | Wed 26 Sep | SNP | Thur 25 Oct      | SHS |
| Tues 27 Nov | SNP | Wed 19 Dec | SHS | Thur 24 Jan 2008 | SNP |