

## **Minute of the Meeting of Torbrex Community Council held in Stirling High School at 7.15pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2007.**

- 1. Present:** Community Councillors – Murray Dickie, Carolyn Edward, Genia Graham, Sue Ridler, Robert Johnston and Jim Docherty.  
  
Residents & Guests – Cllr. Neil Benny, Cllr Scott Farmer, Brendan Docherty, Margaret Duff, Bob Inglis, Wilma Inglis, Bill Sim, Evelyn Sim. Alan McIntyre, Marjory McIntyre, Norman Walker, John Lafferty, Tracy Lafferty, David Mitchell – 7<sup>th</sup> Stirling Scouts, Joyce Green, Michael Green, Ian Robertson, Vivienne McNiven – Active Stirling and Brian Roberts – Stirling Council Roads Dept.
- 2. Apologies:** Cllr. Andrew Simpson, Hirek Kwiatkowski, Wilson Jamieson, Valerie Milligan, Alex White, Julia Leftwich, William Robb and Colin Easton.
- 3. Minute of the Previous Meeting:** This was accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Caroline Edward, seconded by Genia Graham.
- 4. Matters Arising:** Murray Dickie reported that the Community Council are still waiting for a response on the current position regarding the Tanson Development. Murray was still seeking information on the chimney head.
- 5. Stirling Council Roads Consultation:** The chairperson first reminded members that they had written to Stirling Council Roads Services indicating their concerns regarding the slow but steady creep of parking along St Ninians Road and Randolph Terrace. They had requested that consideration be given to the extension of the present no parking between the Black Boy and the Police HQ to the Weaver Row junction. The Community Council was pleased to have been advised of the consultation on this proposal and wished Brian to know that he had their full support for the proposal. The Community Council were of the view that this would offer a considerable increase in road safety with minimal disruption to local residents.

Brian indicated that he was responding to a request from the community council regarding information on the plans for the use of funds from Stirling Council's PPP as they impacted on the Torbrex area. The funds were specifically targeted at improving road safety in the areas affected by the construction works. Within Torbrex the monies were available from two separate projects. The first money came from the construction of the new school and is available now. This is being used to fund improvements agreed as part of the planning application for the new school. These include improvements to Torbrex Farm Road and the construction of a new roundabout at the junction between Torbrex farm Road and Torbrex Road. The roundabout should be completed in the next two to three weeks.

The second money will come from the construction of new housing on the site of the existing Stirling High School. This money should be available in the late Spring of 2008 and will be targeted towards road safety and road calming measures in the streets surrounding the new development. Monies would also be available from the St Modan's PPP development. These would be used to improve road safety in the streets around that development. In addition, future funding would be available from the Wordie Road development and there was a possibility of using some of this on Torbrex Road.

Although the funds appear to be large, road improvements are costly and it is essential that the money is spent in the best interests of the local community. Accordingly, Stirling Council is anxious to engage with local residents and the Community Councils in identifying how the limited funds available could be best used.

It was agreed that Brian would meet with representatives of the community council to discuss a programme of local engagement activities and that the Community Council would advertise these through its newsletters. As Torbrex Road is the boundary between Borestone and Torbrex

community councils it was agreed that it would be helpful to have a joint meeting at some point in the engagement process. As Stirling High School and St Ninians Primary school will be involved in the engagement, it was agreed that they should be invited to participate in this joint meeting.

The issue of local paths was raised. It was agreed that this issue would be taken up at the Roads consultation meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> September and that it would be followed up by the community council.

- 6. Activities for Older People:** Murray welcomed Vivienne McNiven from Active Stirling. Vivienne indicated that Active Stirling were a trust managing health and fitness activities in partnership with a number of partners, including Stirling Council. They organised/supported health and fitness activities using accredited trainers in a number of centres in Stirling, including: the Studio, Rainbow Slides and managed the gyms at Forthbank and Rainbow Slides. They also supported a range of activities in community locations and organised the “Walks about Stirling” as part of the Paths to Health project. They would also be managing activities within the new Sports Village.

As Stirling Council are a major funder, charges to local residents were low compared to commercial centres. The standard rate was £4.00 per hour, with a Stirling Council leisure Card £3.00 per hour and with a Stirling leisure Card concession £2.00 per hour. Where activities were provided in community facilities, the charge would include a small addition to cover room hire charges.

Vivienne provided a comprehensive description of all the classes and activities provided by Active Stirling. She pointed out that the classes were reasonably priced and Active Stirling could provide qualified to lead groups. The pilot taster courses which Torbrex Community Council had run in conjunction with Beechwood Scouts had confirmed that there was a desire in the community for health and fitness activities for older people during the day. Active Stirling would be interested in working in partnership with the Community Council and Beechwood Scouts to examine the possibility of developing these activities. The first step would be determining what kinds of activities local people were interested in.

In discussion, it was agreed that the best time to look at delivery would be the spring of 2008 as the first phase of the Beechwood Scout Centre refurbishment would be completed by then. The Community Council would be willing to distribute information and questionnaires to Torbrex residents through their newsletter. As the Beechwood Scout Centre lies on the edge of the community council area and is accessible from the Borestone area, they would also wish to collaborate with the Borestone and Kingspark community councils. Vivienne agreed to pursue the possibility of support from Active Stirling for such activities.

The question of other activities for older people was raised. It was agreed to seek to find other partners who might be able to support additional activities.

- 7. Beechwood Scouts:** David Mitchell thanked Torbrex Community Council, St Ninians Community Development Trust and Stirling Council for their assistance in securing funding for improvements to the Scout Hall. David reported that grants totalling some £165,000 had been agreed. These would enable the Scouts to erect a secure boundary fence and security gates, install CCTV and security lights, replace the car park, introduce extensive environmental improvements, construct outdoor activities areas and replace all external windows and doors. There were also plans to clad the building in Douglas Fir, re-floor the main hall and provide new internal and outdoor furniture. In the next phase it is intended to look at providing improved toilet facilities and central heating.

- 8. Correspondence:**

- **Community Justice Service:** Stirling Council, the Loch Lomond National Park and the Community Justice Service were collaborating on litter clearing in the national park area. It was agreed to contact the Community Justice Service to explore the possibility of a similar activities for Torbrex.
- **Cold Calling:** Jim to add text

**9. Planning Report:** None.

**10. Local Councillors Report** – Councillor Benny reported that he is in ongoing discussions with Roads Services and Streetscape about pavements and paths.

**11. Beechwood Park:** Murray Dickie confirmed that there would be a pre-meeting in mid-September and Mr Bill Eadie would be putting proposals before the September meeting of the Community Council. An informal meeting of the friends of Beechwood Park had been held on 14th August (note attached as appendix 1). It was agreed that details of the proposals would be circulated in the autumn Community Council newsletter.

**12. Community Health Partnership:** Cllr Scott Farmer expressed concern at the lack of proper consultation on the part of Forth Valley Health Board. There did not appear to be any community participation and the Health Board was not performing as it should.

**13. Stirling Council Schools PPP:** Members were reminded that the next meeting organised by Stirling Council Children’s Services would take place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2007 in Stirling High School at 7pm.

**14. Community Councillor Vacancy:** Murray reported that he had consulted with Stirling Council regarding the protocol for co-options. Regardless of the number of community councillor vacancies only one co-option can be made. We had received two applications for the vacancy within Torbrex Community Council from Brendan Docherty and Hirek Kwiatowski..A ballot of community councillors was held and Brendan Docherty was successful and duly elected to the Community Council with immediate effect. The Chair thanked Hirek Kwiatowski for his interest and recommended that the Community Council seek to modify their constitution to enable two co-options to be made. It was agreed to proceed with this.

**15. Additional Community Councillor:** As a result of the new housing development on the site of the existing Stirling High School there will be an increase in the number of households in the Torbrex community council area. The Chair recommended seeking permission from Stirling Council to adopt an additional community councillor. It was agreed to proceed with this.

**16. Autumn Newsletter:** It was agreed that we would publish the next newsletter after our September meeting in order to report on the roads consultation, Beechwood park proposals ,PPP school meeting and the Mayfield meeting on primary health care. There was discussion about the size of the newsletter .It was agreed that this edition should be A3 folded to A4 (previous editions have been a4 folded toA5.)

**17. A.O.C.B.** The Secretary reported that correspondence had been received from the Trading Standards department within Stirling Council offering T. Community members were invited to a performance of “Doorstop” on It was agreed that that we accept the Council’s offer of one of their officers attending a community council meeting to provide further information on this initiative.

**18. Date of next meetings:** SNP = St Ninians Primary, SHS = Stirling High School)

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