



Minute of meeting held on 15 October 2014 Burngreen Hall

PRESENT: Margot MacMillan (Chair), Janet McKerral, John Freebairn, Bill Craik, Charles Coulthard, Katharine Thomson, Jean Mclachlan, Karen Claire Voss

ALSO PRESENT: Heather McVey, Alan Stevenson

Apologies: Scott Johnston, Jim Hutchinson, Jean Jones.

1. **Police Report:** There was no Police report or representative from Police Scotland at the meeting.
2. **Matters arising/ General issues**

All issues are covered in the Agenda.

3. **Approval of Meeting Minutes last Meeting:** The minutes of the August meeting were approved, proposed by Charles Coulthard Kay Thomson.

4. **Treasurers Report.**

The Administration account currently stands at £2024.66, which includes NLC grant of £1134. The Project account is unchanged at £462.79. Charles also reported that finally all the authorised signatories had been changed by RBS.

5. **Toilets**

It was agreed that the Community Council approach the Coachman and the Scarecrow to establish their interest and response to participating in a publically available toilet scheme. Both have been contacted, by the secretary, regarding possible involvement in some sort of Scheme. Both are cautious and would have conditions, but in principal would be prepared to be involved in the project.

NLC (Graham Patrick) will be happy to take it to next stage - but is making no commitment. He will await our response from discussions tonight.

Graham Patrick has also forwarded request to have Burngreen toilets open all year. Our request for signs has been forwarded by Graham to NLC Planning who have responded that signage is adequate, and have forwarded a PDF of the signage at the Airdrie Road car park as justification.

It was suggested that KCC could consider an informal scheme without the need to involve NLC, by putting up signs advising that “By agreement toilets are available at”. This information could be displayed on the hoarding at the gap site in the Main st and Ardrie Road Car Park. There could also be a note outside the buildings concerned. JMck to speak to Graham Patrick.

Action J Mckerral

6. QR Codes

Total cost for the project £987.71. Bill will place order and follow up in 4/5 weeks. The signs will be covered by Community Council insurance.

Robert Pender will be asked to download the information for each landmark as the basis for the commentary on the signs. Bill will write the text and circulate to KCC members for comment. If necessary John Gordon and Anne Russell will be contacted to ensure accuracy.

Action Bill Craik

7. Conservation Area and RBS Plinth

Martin Dickson has been contacted to establish progress on removal of the plinth at the Royal Bank.

Martin Dickson advised that will present case for removal of Plinth to Local Area Partnership in 6 to 8 weeks for inclusion in next year’s budget. He felt that approval unlikely as the POLICE have not supported the project. It was noted that this item does not appear on the agenda for the forthcoming Local Area partnership agreement.

Councillors and members of the meeting expressed concern about this as repeatedly Police Scotland have advised the KCC that they would support the project as the Plinth is a trouble hot spot. JMck to follow up.

Action Janet Mckerral

Martin has also contacted ROC, regarding vacant property but has had no response. Martin has also been pursuing this issue, via Paul Kane (NLC) and had committed to update KCC for the meeting tonight, but no response has been provided.

All other conservation issues on his list should be discussed with DAVE SUTTON. Dave has been asked to liaise with us (BILL CRAIK).

Bill will agree the key areas for action with Dave Sutton – including removal of excess vegetation and repair to the Post Office plinth.

Action Bill Craik

8. Communication Project:

Robert Pender had provided and update Face book and Twitter pages are ready. Bill Craik will circulate. (Carried forward).

Action Bill Craik

Training will also need to be arranged.

Ideally KCC would like to send a summary newsletter to members of the Community or wider afield o sign up for it.

Scott will do a “cut and paste” of the minutes as a trial and circulate.

It was agreed that Scott would cost up having a card delivered to each household inviting people to sign up for receiving information – via email, face book and twitter. Scott’s office will do the administration once provided with a suitable one page summary.

Action Scott Johnston

9. Vacant sites / 47 Arden Grove

As agreed at the last meeting KCC have written to the Scottish Parliament regarding brown field and gap sites, the contents of the letter are as noted below and responses are awaited.

Letter re Brown Field and Gap sites

Kilsyth Community Council has been active in campaigning, seeking new initiatives, and supporting ways to ensure that the Historic Town centre remains a vibrant and commercial hub for Kilsyth. It has also worked with other organisations and groups to ensure that the countryside and surrounding developments of the town encourage visitors and new residents.

The efforts are to raise the standard and profile of the town is thwarted by several areas of untidy semi derelict land and gap sites, which are awaiting or subject to planning permission. The Community Council have engaged North Lanarkshire Council to act as much as possible within their powers to progress these issues. However NLC have no legislative powers to address the situation.

A change is required through the Scottish Parliament to ensure that legislation is changed. The changes that the Community Council believe are required are:

1. When permission to demolish property is granted there should be a clear requirement that the site is restored (in the Public interest) to something visually acceptable and useable open space.
2. While the site remains vacant it should be maintained to an acceptable predetermined standard.
3. Once planning permission has been granted the time of validity of application should be reduced.
4. The local planning process should be required to utilise Brownfield sites before granting permission for new development on Greenfield sites.

The Community Council is of the view that the above changes will facilitate the elimination of unsightly semi derelict sites in Kilsyth and other communities and look forward to your assistance in support in reviewing the current situation.

Action Scott Johnston/Jmckerral

10. Planning

There were was one application for consideration:

14/01905/FUL

There were no objections

11. History and Heritage:

Charteris the Chemist is moving into new premises. The old shop is a listed building and the interior is protected by Historic Scotland. The Community Council to approach the owners and ask what plans they have for the premises for the future. The premises would make an excellent small museum/ information station.

Action Jmckerral

12. Reports from other Organisations:

The Town twinning association is holding a spider drive on 23 Oct at 7.30 for 8 in Bowling Club. It's Fancy Dress, with Pizza and cake. Price £5 all welcome.

Town twinning will also be BAG PACKING on 20 DEC in CO-OP.

The Rotary Club has its annual charity dinner in Nov. Date to be confirmed.

13. Environment:

Ian Jarvis has requested support from KCC in highlighting the problems of drainage with the core path from Stirling Road (next to Taylor Wimpey) to Colzium. The path is continually flooded. It was also noted that the hedge was overgrown.

14. Website:

There were 222 visits in Sept with 513 page views. The main topics were Environment, What's on, and minutes and landmarks. Most visitors were from the UK, Brazil and Australia. It was noted that month on month the number of visitors is declining.

15. Correspondence

There is a meeting on 3 Nov at 7pm in Council Chambers Coatbridge about ONE VISION for NLC all community councils are asked to participate. Bill agreed to attend.

Action Bill Craik

Complaints about the repeated closure of Glen Road, four times this year and rerouting of traffic via Coach road/ Croy. It was also questioned why "wyndford" as an alternative remains closed.

A request for handrail on Stepped footpath from KCC to "Cosy Corner". JMcK to write to John Ashcroft.

Action Janet Mckerral

A request for updated map of Kilsyth to be made available. Alan Stevenson to follow up.

Action Alan Stevenson

NHS Lanarkshire are holding a meeting in Coatbridge on 'Out Of Hours' consultation on 4 Nov. Villages Forum will be present. Anyone available will attend.

15. A.O.C.B.

Membership list was reviewed. Cheryl Marie to be contacted and she has confirmed that wishes to continue as a member of the council.

It was also agreed that John Turnbull of Clyde Valley Housing should be invited to attend the next meeting to discuss the Old Police Station.

Action Jean Jones

Karen Claire will attend the next Villages forum on behalf of KCC.

Action Karen Claire Voss

Kilsyth Churches together will organise Poppy Wreath for Armistice. Scott will represent KCC.

Date of next meeting 21 January 2015 at 7pm in Burngreen Hall Kilsyth

Chairman: Scott Johnson

Secretary: Janet McKerral 4 Prospect Road Dullatur G68 0AN 01236 739765
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