



Minute of the meeting held on 15 June 2016 Burngreen Hall

PRESENT: |Scott Johnston, Margot MacMillan, Jane Winters, John Freebairn, Amy Jarvie, Carol Sullivan, James McCormack, Jim Hutchison, Charles Coultard. Dot Clelland Jean MacLachlan Ann McDowell, Bill Craik

ALSO PRESENT: Jean Jones, Heather McVey, Alan Stevenson PC Amanda McCann, PC Adam McManus Jim Burns, Operations Manager Bannockburn Depo,t John Scott, Network Manager

Apologies: Molly Kiernan, , Janet Mckerral John Freebairn Amy Jarvie David Gall Jim McCormick Carol Sullivan.

132 members of the public attended.

1. Police Report

The police reported that “Business had been quiet”; for the 3 beats that cover Kilsyth there were 70 reports of crimes, of which 40 had been detected with the balance ongoing. Market St and Rennie Rd were the hotspots.

The issue of parking in Charles St was raised, with some buses being parked all day and double parking. Jean Jones pointed out that with the decriminalisation of parking it falls to NLC to enforce parking restrictions. This will commence soon.

A public order issue in Rennie Rd led to a discussion of the degree of supervision of the occupants of “scatter flats”. Jean Jones commented that there was currently a review of the situation and that the community council should make representations to the Scottish Government.

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes of last Meeting**

The minutes of the May meeting were proposed by Margo MacMillan and seconded by Charles Coulthard.

3. **Withdrawal of routes X86 and 24**

The Chairman introduced the item noting that since bus services had been deregulated, private bus companies had the right to withdraw and/or alter services and noted that the current issue was restricted to the 24 and X86 services going east of Kilsyth.

Before questions First Bus Eastern were invited to speak.

The representatives stated that the services had been loss making for 3 /4 years and changes made early last year had not improved the situation.

In response to questions from the public gallery the company advised that bus companies are now not obliged to run a service.

If there is a need for social provision, the company is meeting with SPT which can either extend its current service eastwards or subsidise some form of existing service (SPT has a fund of £10-11 m for this purpose).

Representatives of First Bus also advised that changes to the size of buses outside rush hour will not save money as they would have to buy more buses different size buses.

All speakers emphasised that the withdrawal would have a catastrophic effect on Banton as well as other villages on the A803 and that the company should have a sense of social responsibility.

It was commented that SPT could put the services out to tender; it was noted that NLC had 2 representatives on SPT and pressure should be put on them to ensure the service was retained.

Local authority members all contributed to the debate and advised that:

- SPT has guaranteed Banton a service, but as yet no details have been provided
- SPT should not subsidise private companies but regulate them.
- There is no co-ordination between First East and First West
- First east can't leave communities isolated.

-Regulation of transport is a Scottish Government matter

-Problems of timetabling and the provision of timetables in bus shelters are the responsibility of SPT, timetables are provided to SPT and local authorities.

The Chairman stressed need for transparency, 1st Bus replied that notification and data was provided to all the Local Authorities.

It was commented that buses are unresponsive to the number of passengers at different times of the day as the buses were overfull in the rush hour and empty at other times. There was also wasteful duplication with First Glasgow.

It was noted by First Bus that revenues from busy buses do not cover losses on other services. 1st Bus rep commented that losses on these services was in six figures and 1st had not yet decided whether to stop the services on 13 Aug. Overall passenger numbers are declining.

Jim Hutchinson commented that if we lost this battle both Kilsyth and Banton would become social and economic deserts.

The Chairman commented that the Scottish Gov had made major investments in infrastructure projects but ignored the missing link of providing appropriate bus services.

It was proposed by Bill Craik that a meeting should be arranged with the people who make the decisions, Minister of Transport MPs, MSPs. We should also involve other communities along the A803.

The Chairman commented that our only tools are to ensure there is a proper consultation, that a workable service is left and work with SPT to ensure that a social service can be maintained.

The Chairman said the Community Council would lobby on the public's behalf and it was commented that individuals should write to MSPs.

SPT will get feedback on the meeting tonight.. There is a need for proper consultation to solve the timetable problems.

Discussion on the item finished at 8.15pm.

4. **Matters arising/ General issues/ Communication**

It was noted that Honey Bee (Kelvin Valley) were in Administration.

Outdoor Gym

David Gall had advised that he is moving to Cumbernauld, but would still be prepared to assist with the green gym project. David will remain on the council as a co-opted member.

It was agreed to progress grant funding and a meeting will be arranged with Scott/David/Janet. (carried forward)

Action J Mckerral

5. **Treasurers Report.**

The Administration account currently stands at £1396.74. The Project account is at £463.09. The invoice for the postcards has still to be received.

6. **QR Codes**

It was also agreed that a grant should be sought from NLC Culture for up to £2000 to enable us to fund the work. (Ongoing).

Bill had quote for £790 plus VAT which was agreed .

Action Bill Craik

7. **Planning:**

There undernoted applications were considered and there were no objections

16/01141/FUL - Horsburgh Ave Rear Dormer

16/01063/FUL- 3 Howe Rd conversion of open space to Driveway

16/01032/ FUL - Main ST Change of use from Dentist to Two Flats

16/00965/FUL - 4 Curlers Loan Single Storey Rear Extension

There were no objections

Local Development Plan

An extension had been granted to KCC to consider the proposed changes to the local plan. The main change is the inclusion of the Old police station in the sites for development.

It was agreed to write to NLC to ensure that any development is sympathetic to the Town and of good quality as it sits in a prime location and will have a major visual impact on the look of the town as you enter Kilsyth.

Action J McKerral

11. History and Heritage: No Report

12. Reports from other Organisations: No Report

13. Environment:

There were no reports.

14. Website: Carried forward to next meeting

15. Correspondence ; None

16. A.O.C.B: None

Date of next meeting 17 August 2016 at 7pm in Burngreen Hall Kilsyth

Chairman: Scott Johnson

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