

STEWARTFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 10 May 2005

Time: 8.00pm

Venue: Stewartfield Community Centre, 3 MacNeish Way, Stewartfield

Present

A Vann (Secretary), E Young (Treasurer), G Shannon, V Yaneske, D Wallace, N Pentland.

Apologies

S Fraser, A Maxwell, PC Watterson, S Jess, Cllr Hughes.

In Attendance

Cllr McCann.

38.1 Introduction

The Chair was taken by Graham Shannon who welcomed those present to the meeting.

38.2 Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Proposed by D Wallace, Seconded by Val Yaneske.

38.3 Police Report

No report

38.4 South Lanarkshire Council Report

Cllr McCann reported that the school modernisation would be going ahead starting in the summer. The names for the new schools were still in dispute.

Regarding anti-social –behaviour, Superintendent Porter has been requested by Cllr McCann to revise the police approach to this problem. Previously police officers would accompany the teenage offender to their home and talk to their parents, however this approach seems to be no longer working, so much so that Cllr McCann has urged the police to take the offender to the police station and charge them, thus bringing their parents to the police station where it will become more apparent that the law has been broken.

Cllr McCann has personally experienced this kind of behaviour, with 4 youths outside his house behaving in a threatening manor. This type of situation is simply caused by his well-known stand against ant-social behaviour.

Dissatisfaction of the East Kilbride Police was expressed on two occasions; firstly by a resident from Alwyn Drive, bothered by football frequently taking place outside their front door and on their land, in exasperation phoned the police on a Friday night asking for PC Watterson to call. Five weeks have no elapsed and no police have yet called. The second was from a resident in Dunnottar who had objected to the behaviour of children in the street and had been approached by parents in a rather threatening manner. A call to the police was answered eventually by police coming from Strathaven, who gave the resident the spurious advice “just shut your blinds and ignore the disturbance”

Cllr McCann did admit that the East Kilbride Police had not had an enviable reputation in the past, this being partially caused by a series of Superintendents spending a limited amount of time in the East Kilbride force before moving on, however Superintendent Porter intends to remain here for a considerable length of time and improvements have been noticed.

One major factor is not the shortage of police but the shift times being operated. These times are welcomed by the officers as time off is much more convenient, however the times mean that there is a shortage of manpower at times when the public demand attention. Pressure is being brought to bear to alter the present shift times.

Cllr McCann informed the meeting that Community Wardens are in training at the present time, and should be appearing in the near future.

A request was made that the play areas in the Dales be made safe and Cllr McCann promised to inform Cllr Hughes of it.

38.5 Office Bearers' Report

Chairman

No report

Treasurer

The treasurer reported that the books had been balanced. £965.87 remained in the account. A cheque for £25 had been written for the auditor and the balance of £28.61 left from the annual grant had been returned to SLC.

Secretary

The Secretary informed the meeting of the following:

- **Photos** for the website competition. They were displayed on the board and those present voted for the most popular. The winner of the competition was Ian Major whose photo will shortly appear on our website.
- **Grants** The Secretary has contacted the Scottish Co-operative Group in this respect. As the closing date for The East Kilbride Shopping Centre Fund was the 28th February 2005 it appears that an application should be made later in this year for monies in 2006.
- **Hollinee** The Secretary had e-mailed Andy Kerr and Linda Fabiani. The Health and Safety Executive were contacted. Andy Kerr had replied sending a copy of the letter he sent to Dr Campbell Gemmell Chief Executive of SEPA on our behalf. Linda Fabiani had requested a copy of the pollution figures and promised to take the matter further. SLC Environmental Services replied that SEPA were the regulating and enforcing authority, however they did inform the Secretary that apart from the appeal, the company has entered into a 30-day consultation with its staff regarding the closure of part of the process and consequential job losses, the pollution from this part of the process being the worst. The rest of the process remains in operation. A copy of Hollinee's appeal has been received. A Public meeting was being held at East Kilbride Arts centre at 7pm tonight about Hollinee.
- **Morrisons** The secretary has written to Sainsbury's suggesting a Post Office within their store. He awaits a reply.

- **Dunnottar Play Area** On behalf of Mr Raymond O'Neil the secretary contacted Cllr Hughes by e-mail sending a copy to Cllr McCann. Cllr McCann replied to the effect that Cllr Hughes assured him that the matter is in hand.
- **Kingsgate West.** The planning application will be submitted to a meeting of the Planning Committee on **Tuesday 17 May at 10.00 am in Committee Room 1, SLC Offices, Almada St, Hamilton.** If you are attending you must be in touch by the 13 May at the latest. Any person interested can get the necessary details from the Secretary.
- **Philipshill Garden Centre** Application for planning permission of erection of 16 flatted dwellings.
- **ELECTION TASK. A suitable returning officer must be appointed.**
Graham Shannon offered to be the returning officer.

38.6 Hollinee

Nigel Pentland said that the up to date information by Heidi Bartlett was on the Web. He was sceptical about the statement that by closing down part of the process the pollution would be greatly alleviated, as the emissions from the remaining part of the plant are still very significant.

38.7 Morrisons

The manager had informed David Wallace that the Post Office would definitely be closing but the pharmacy would be retained.

One resident made the comment that Royal Mail was greatly lacking in efficiency. Cllr McCann who had experienced their deficiencies during the recent elections wholeheartedly supported this comment.

It was suggested that Boots at Kingsgate be approached about having a Post Office in the store.

38.8 Cathkin Landfill Site

The question of how long would the site be in operation was asked. Graham Shannon explained that the licence was for 14 years of which approximately 5 had passed. He made the observation that at the rate of dumping the site would be full before the licence expired.

38.9 AOB

Douglas Wallace made the point that all youngsters were not anti-social as many were involved in a special sponsored walk round the heritage park to make the public aware of the unfairness in world trade. This is appropriate just now as the G8 summit at Gleneagles will be taking place soon.

Graham Shannon drew Cllr McCann's attention to the fact that the pedestrian crossing to the Heritage Park was once again not operating properly. Cllr McCann promised to report it.

38.10 Date of next meeting 14 June.