

## **STEWARTFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Date:** Tuesday 14 February 2006

**Time:** 8.00pm

**Venue:** Stewartfield Community Centre, 3 MacNeish Way, Stewartfield

### **Present**

A Maxwell(Chairman), A Vann(Secretary), E Young(Treasurer), D Wallace, S Jess, N Pentland, T Fitzpatrick, V Yaneske

### **Apologies**

Cllr Hughes

### **In Attendance**

Cllr McCann, E Docherty

#### **44.1 Introduction**

The Chair welcomed all those present

#### **44.2 Previous Minutes**

The minutes of our last meeting were approved. Proposer S Jess, Seconder V Yaneske.

#### **44.3 Police Report**

No report as our Community Constable was not present.

#### **44.4 South Lanarkshire Council Report**

Cllr McCann reported that the council tax would be 3.46% which would be 1% above inflation which was the promised target. This 1% would be used on the primary school new building program. Glasgow managed to have no increase by putting back the school building program by 2 years.

Savings could be made in other areas and these would go towards Social Care with £600,000 being spent on drainage for football pitches.

The problem of the gulls at Peel Park was being dealt with by introducing birds of prey.

Waste in black bin bags that had been dumped was attracting the gulls. This dumping had now stopped.

Cllr McCann stressed the point that none of the sites for development in the Supplementary Local Plan belonged to the Council but that all were privately owned.

The Cllr informed the meeting that he was on the Planning Committee and that there had been no objections to the new site of the Rolls Royce plant.

S Jess voiced her concern at the possibility of pollution from the 120ft high stack and at where any pollution generated might land as houses were sited as close as 300m.

The amount of fuel stored also gave cause for concern especially after the explosion at Buncefield. S Jess urged SLC to examine the risk factor closely.

Cllr McCann reminded the meeting that Scottish Enterprise had already put up money in the past to keep RR in East Kilbride.

Regarding the A&E situation at Hairmyres the Labour party would be putting out a special letter inviting East Kilbride residents' views. The consultation would finish in April. A meeting by the Health Board is to be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> in Ballerup Hall.

#### 44.5 Office Bearers' Reports

##### Chairman

Nothing to report

##### Secretary

The Secretary reported on the following

**Letter from Police Superintendent Bob Graham** introducing himself and advising us that Chief Inspector John Hazlett has also been appointed as Deputy Sub-Divisional Officer.

Both would be delighted to attend any CC meeting.

**Letter from Rene Anderson Secretary of East Mains CC** objecting to Old Village School being demolished and being replaced with flats. Asking us to raise an objection due to the historical importance of the building.

**Letter from Alex Neil MSP** asking for our support in a campaign against the closure of any A&E in Lanarkshire as he believes that Lanarkshire requires 3 A&E

**From Mgt Armstrong about Community Right to Buy.** The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003- Community Right to Buy provisions-enables communities such as Stewartfield to register in land and/or property.

At this point the Secretary asked for decisions regarding the old village school and the campaign against closure of the A&E.

It was decided not to support the retention of the village school but to support the campaign against the closure of the A&E.

##### Treasurer

The Treasurer reports that the balance now stood at £1198.25

#### 44.6 EK Environmental Forum

The Secretary reported that he had attended a meeting of this group on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February. David Sweeney had been invited to speak on the subject of the new site for Rolls Royce. He proceeded to make the following observations:

RR stated that there would be

30000L of fuel stored = about that of a petrol station. NOT TRUE 300000L will be stored.  
ADMITTED BY RR

Pollution equivalent to 300 cars passing per day. NOT TRUE 300 cars burning full tanks of petrol and not passing. ADMITTED BY RR

Site of test beds is 200m from the moss and 200m from the residents. Nowhere in the world, checked by satellite, have test beds been sited as close to residential areas as these ones are proposed to be.

There is the danger of pollution with such closeness. Sainsbury's store is also close by and would also be subjected to pollution.

Small engines will also be tested and the overhauling of existing engines. These will cause more pollution as they are not nearly as efficient as the new large ones will be.

Gases CO, CO<sub>2</sub> and NO are produced. Scrubbers are used but they are not very efficient. The fumes will leave the tower at 300mph. Where will they land? The prevailing wind takes it over the town.

There will be 600 Kg of soot per year.

Not monitored by SEPA which is wholly independent.

Only 14 houses informed of the plan and this was done at a holiday time.

Objections made but some have been lost as some were also lost in the Colonsay field objections.

There are 36 unexploded bombs in the site. This can be verified by people alive in the area at that time.

Vibration. Windows cracked in Derby which were 600m. away.

The vibrations are below the range of human hearing but can cause sleeplessness in children.

When the bed is switched off there is a significant change in the atmosphere up to 1 mile away.

A site at Peel Park was offered but was rejected. By the grape vine Ravenscraig was offered. RR declined to answer any questions concerning these offers and also the question of why the factory was being moved in the first place.

Is it money? Last year the profit was £650million up £150 million on the previous year. The transfer of engines to the beds does not take place very often and would cost little relatively speaking.

1100 workers but the number of local workers is nothing like that. RR say moving to Ravenscraig would mean that they would lose the work force. Not a strong argument. RR say that there are no complaints but complaints are not made to RR but to the local council which has a huge file of complaints.

**At this point scepticism of a fair number of the above claims were made by various members at the meeting, however this was tempered by the concern that RR had provided erroneous information. The feeling of the meeting was that we should await a clearer picture before coming to any decisions.**

**Cllr McCann told the meeting that SEPA would be involved.**

#### **44.7 SLC Local Plan**

Copies of the appropriate parts of the Local Plan were issued by the Secretary. It was requested that members study the plan and inform the Secretary of any appropriate comments they wished to make.

It was agreed that the Secretary object to all the sites which were Greenfield being changed to Housing.

The Secretary requested that if any other observation was made after the meeting that he should be informed as soon as possible as all comments had to be delivered by 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

**44.8 Matters Arising**

None

**44.9 AOB**

D Wallace reported that the garden area outside the Community hall had been neglected. The question asked was it to be renewed?

**44.10** Date of next meeting 14<sup>th</sup> March