

## STEWARTFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

**Date:** Tuesday 9 June 2009

**Time:** 8.00pm

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

### **Present**

Nigel Pentland Acting Chair, Douglas Wallace Acting Secretary, Maureen Watt Treasurer, Bill Fleming, Sheelah Jess, Emily Young, Cllr David Watson, Sgt. McGinley.

### **Apologies:**

Alistair Maxwell, Tony Fitzpatrick, Cllr McCann.

### **77.1 Introduction**

The Acting Chair welcomed those present.

### **77.2 Previous Minutes**

Maureen Watt proposed the minutes, seconded by Bill Fleming.

### **77.3 Matters Arising**

The Acting Chair held over these to include with reports.

### **77.4 Police Report for Stewartfield Area Ward 9 12/05/09 to 8/06/09**

#### Detections

One 17 year old male in possession of cannabis resin.

One 16 year old male in possession of herbal cannabis. (both in a playpark)

One 18 year old male being reported for littering. (beer can)

One 17 year old male arrested for being drunk and incapable in a public place. (Heritage Park)

#### Reported Crimes

Three theft by housebreakings where keys for a motor vehicle were taken from within the house and the car was stolen from the driveway. (two vehicles have been recovered, one is still outstanding)

One motor vehicle broken into and a satnav stolen from within.

One vandalism to a window of a passing motor vehicle.

One report of a theft of petrol from Morrisons.

Sgt. McGinley said that it had been a relatively quiet month for crime in the area. The concern was over crime involving housebreaking and car theft, also occurring at the same time in Lindsayfield, and targeting high performance cars. Residents were advised to avoid leaving windows open at night, to report by phoning 999 suspicious noises at night. Though the 2 cars were found, the culprits had not been apprehended. Finlay Ferguson is on a month's secondment.

### **77.5 South Lanarkshire Council Report**

Nigel Pentland read a note from Cllr McCann which said that complaints raised by Alistair Vann about the roads had been dealt with, and that the obelisk or needle at the end of Farndale had been removed by the Council because of vandalism. Alistair Maxwell had

circulated the 3 councillors about the condition of this piece of environmental art, which originally had picture panels and over years deteriorated with vandalism, to a state of being beyond repair. Mr Maxwell made the point that this removal of public art on the count of vandalism was a capitulation to such gratuitous violence.

Cllr Watson said that he would be meeting with Colin Reid of Land Services to discuss why Council vehicles are using Arrotshole Road. Maureen Watt cited a Saturday when this occurred.

Further to earlier discussion at the Community Council, Cllr Watson reported that the hessian bags for glass recycling were now not being used, and that the alternative to the maroon bins was to use a local glass bottle bank.

Sheelah Jess asked about the status of the Playgolf facility, which has gone into administration. Cllr Watson said that there was still hope that it would be sold as a going concern, that a company had been found to take over the golf part and negotiations were continuing about the retail part, and the hotel plans were still in place. It was pointed out that the course through lack of work on it had become a wilderness, and would take considerable work to restore. In particular Mrs Jess asked to be assured by the September meeting that the council had covered itself for loss of cash with the expensive roadmaking for this venture and Cllr Watson agreed to take this up.

#### **77.6 Office Bearers' Report**

##### **Chairman**

No further items to report.

##### **Secretary**

Tony Fitzpatrick had left a written account of council meetings in the month, info about a seminar on Common Good, election of an area representative to the Association of Scottish Community Councils, and Enquire, the organisation for additional support for learning.

##### **Treasurer**

The present balance was reported to be £948.38, and there were two outstanding accounts for £299 to be paid.

#### **77.7 AOB**

Robin Campbell of Stewartfield Gardens spoke of difficulty with a poor television picture. Maureen Watt said that a neighbour of hers, living close to Mr Campbell also, was given a better aerial by Scottish Power, due to windmills of theirs disturbing transmission. It was suggested that Mr Campbell also inquire about this to Cllr McCann.

Maureen Duggan, a resident of McKenzie Gardens told of her pet dog's death by suspected paraquat poisoning after eating something found in land near her house on 13 May. Her vet said the nature of the pet's death, a painful and distressing event at the surgery, was consistent with poisoning. The Council would not be responsible for the substance, but it seems that there may be people using dangerous chemicals perhaps against foxes in the area. Gavin Johnstone raised the matter of the removal of the Vintage Car rally, which began at Calderglen Park, to Chatelherault, Hamilton, and regretted the move for the sake of our town. Cllr Watson replied that it had grown at Hamilton to one of the most popular such events in the country and was unlikely to be able to be returned to EK. Mr Johnstone also reported that Andy Kerr had gone on record saying he would fight the removal to Hamilton of the Sheriff Court. Cllr Watson said that on grounds of population size alone EK had a better claim to retain the court in the town.

#### **77.8 Date of next meeting Tuesday 8 September 2009, 8.00pm Stewartfield Community Centre.**