

Baldernock Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 12th July 2021 via Zoom

Present: David Wootton (Chair), Celia Burns (Secretary), Peter Langhorne (Treasurer), Elspeth Fulton (minutes), Anne McNair, Fiona Grier (Baldernock Tartan Group), Fiona Howie, Niall Logan (Baldernock History Group), Councillor Gary Pews.

Residents: Geraldine Perriam (Baldernock Amenity Society), Isabelle Thomson, Lesley Wiseman (Baldernock Development Trust).

Apologies: James Beattie, Kathryn Ellis (Baldernock Child Care)

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting: Accepted – proposed by David Wootton and seconded by Fiona Howie

Matters Arising: Letter to Scottish Water – this has yet to be attended to. It was suggested at the last meeting that they be asked to a CC meeting.

2. Financial Report: Peter reported that, since the last meeting, there had continued to be problems with the bank in dealing with the change of Treasurer. Cheques have been paid to Baldernock Primary School and for the public liability insurance. Current balance is £1367.41. In relation to the annual grant from East Dunbartonshire Council having been paid twice, there has been no response to Peter's e-mail. The second payment therefore remains in the Community Council's funds.

3. Police Matters: PC Davidson can no longer attend meetings and sent a generalised report for the whole of East Dunbartonshire.

4. Correspondence: A letter was received from the Head Teacher of Baldernock Primary School, thanking the Community Council for the recent grant, which had gone towards an outdoor shelter.

An e-mail was received in relation to the planning application for glamping pods – the Community Council had raised concerns about the safety of the entry and exit to and from the site. The e-mail informed that a road safety assessment was being carried out. The local tennis club had requested a letter of support regarding changes to the flight path over the area.

Information had been received from Elspeth regarding Next Door, which has recently set up the Nextdoor Kind Foundation, the purpose of which will be to give grants to strengthen neighbourhoods. This might be a source to which application for funding could be made for a community resource.

5. Planning:

1. Anne asked if the Community Council was happy for her and Jane Logan to continue to explore the possibility of the use of the old garden centre in Balmore as a community

resource. The owner of the building has been identified, and Anne and Jane plan to write to the company. Niall said that there was nothing to lose by pursuing this; there was general agreement.

2. Proposal for side extension, Craigmaddie Road. The plan includes an increase in the roof ridge height for a roof terrace, which may affect neighbouring property. Otherwise, the Community Council has no objection.

3. Synetiq appeal: Gary informed that the matter is now in the hands of the DPEA. All documents relating to the original application to EDC and the appeal documents can be accessed via the DPEA website. Anne informed that the case will be allocated to a Reporter, and there will be a site inspection. The date will not be disclosed.

Action: It was agreed that Anne and Elspeth would draw up a response to the appeal, to be submitted by the deadline of 30th July.

Niall asked if Torrance Community Council were responding to the appeal; Celia to contact Marion Thomson. Fiona Howie said that there had been support for objecting to the application from Milngavie Community Council. They could also be contacted.

4. Anne noted that, on the current list of applications to EDC, there was an application for an equestrian centre at Baldernock Glebe.

6. Broadband: Lesley reported that the process of trying to obtain superfast broadband had been deeply frustrating. Last August Open Reach had proposed a solution for the community. There followed long delays of weeks and months to reply to communications. In February they sent what they thought was a complete list of premises to be covered, except for one. That offer was accepted, to be followed by a final list. When that arrived 70 premises had been removed from Baldernock and 20 from Torrance added. Some of the omissions were inexplicable – for example two houses missing from a block of five. Conditions were also attached to the final version, with the community being made liable for half the cost and a legal contract; not the original agreement. The representative from Open Reach said this was a standard template and could not be changed. Lesley had contacted Rona McKay, MSP, requesting a meeting with a more senior person in Open Reach. Ms McKay was currently trying to set up a meeting, to be attended by Ms McKay, a senior official from Open Reach, Lesley and representatives from the Community Council. Fiona Howie asked what still had to happen? Lesley said that a complete list of premises was required, which all have to go through the voucher process.

David once again expressed the Community Council's appreciation for all Lesley's work on this issue.

7. Baldernock Amenity Society: Geraldine said that the Society will put in a fresh submission in response to the Synetiq appeal.

Fiona Howie said that the submission in relation to the historical review would be held over to allow time for further discussion with EDC. Geraldine said that the preparation for the historical environmental review was excellent, with a renewed focus on Baldernock. The process has led to a more valuable end result.

8. Baldernock Tartan: Fiona Grier informed that the tartan has been woven; they are waiting for the bolts to come to the factory to make the pieces – scarves, throws and stoles - as

planned. It is hoped that a launch in a local venue can be held in September. There will be a small profit from the sale of the items, which will be given to the Community Council. Niall added that, if it proves to be popular, more orders can be placed. Jane Logan had visited the weavers in Selkirk, who had told her that small projects, like the Baldernock one, had kept them afloat during the pandemic. David asked about the possibility of kilts made of the tartan. Niall said that kilts and upholstery were made from a different fabric, but this could be done if there were sufficient demand.

A.O.C.B.: Thanks were expressed to all those who had taken part in the litter pick, and to Jane Logan for organising it.

Next Meeting: Monday 13th September 2021 at 7.30pm