

## CAMBUSKENNETH COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday 22 March 2021  
Online

**Members Present:** Ross McGregor (Chair), Tessa Carroll (Vice Chair), Linda Jones (Secretary), John McCallum, and Elaine Turner

**In attendance:** Councillor Jim Thomson, Councillor Susan McGill, three residents

**Apologies:** Barbara McElhinney (Treasurer)

Minutes were taken by Tessa Carroll.

### 1. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of 22 February 2021 were approved. Proposed by John, seconded by Linda.

### Adoption of AGM May 2019 Minutes

Minutes of the AGM of 20 May 2019 were approved. Proposed by Ross, seconded by Linda.

### 2. Matters Arising (not covered below)

#### Cycle Track to Manor Powis

Residents attending the meeting said how nice it was to be able to cycle along Alloa Rd safely during its closure to vehicles for work on Abbey Craig (see item 6. below) and asked about plans to upgrade the pavement on the south side of Alloa Rd to Manor Powis in view of the delay to the planned cycle track funded by Sustrans. Councillor Thomson had been told the pavement would not be upgraded, because of the planned cycle route, but had resubmitted his request because of the delay to those plans.

#### Broadband/CityFibre

Two residents attending the meeting had been the first in the village to get CityFibre broadband with Vodafone and had been told that Vodafone has exclusivity until 2025. Ross had been told last year by CityFibre that exclusivity would only be for 6 months.

**Action:** Ross will check about this.

*Update 30/3/21: Vodafone has exclusivity for 12 months after each part of the fibre network comes on line, so it should be open to other ISPs sometime in 2022* <https://www.ispreview.co.uk/index.php/2020/03/cityfibre-confirm-62-uk-areas-for-4bn-ftth-broadband-rollout.html>

### 3. Waterside Cottage

John had been unable to contact the architect for the site to get the Heras fencing reinstated. Fly tipping and extra fencing left on the site were mentioned. Current ownership of the site is unclear. A Facebook message from someone interesting in buying the cottage had been received and the sender had been referred to the planning application.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will follow up on the fencing.

### 4. Park Update

Linda had contacted Chris Burns at Stirling Council about getting the swings repaired. She had discussed the idea of a sand table with mothers in the park but they thought it would not last. Instead, better to top up the sand and weed the sandpit. She also reported that a child with a disability had said it was great to have equipment they could use.

Ross encouraged people to report dog fouling in the park to the dog warden.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson had spoken to officers about the sandpit and will follow up on this.

**Action:** Ross will aim to weed the sandpit.

*Update 30/3/21: Ross has weeded and raked the sandpit.*

A resident had expressed concern about the rutted ground being a danger. John suggested replacing turf in these areas would be better than just using grass seed.

**Action:** Linda will contact Chris Burns to request turf rather than grass seed.

A resident noted it was a pity that the surfaced path through the park had not been extended. Ross asked if Your Stirling, You Decide will be repeated. Councillor McGill said something similar is being discussed, but it will be done in a different way.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will ask Jean Cowie at Stirling Council about other possible funding sources.

The picnic table and benches need maintenance.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will ask the relevant new council officer about this.

## 5. Phone Box

Elaine had circulated details of materials and costs to the CC. Still need to decide what to use the box for; some suggestions had been received on Facebook but seeking the views of more residents may need to wait until we move out of lockdown. Different uses would require varying amounts of funding. Ross suggested that something different could be done every year. A sub-group (see item under AOCB) to work on the phone box would be a good idea.

## 6. Speed Limits - Ladysneuk Road & village; missing 'no through route' sign & Alloa Road closure

The group discussed how the 20mph limit in the village was working. A resident had reported that the 'give way' markings are close to the chicane, making it awkward for outgoing cars to get past waiting cars.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will ask Bruce Reekie at Stirling Council about this.

John reported seeing vans driving along the pavement on North Street, and residents are concerned about safety, particularly of children. Ross suggested contacting the police to ask for more checking of speeding etc. Councillor Thomson noted that the ban on pavement parking has been delayed to 2022, and suggested that the village might benefit from a community plan, taking a wider view.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will ask Andy Davis, community liaison officer, about developing a community plan.

'Walking and cycling friendly' notices had been added to the 40mph signs, and Councillor Thomson reported that the temporary signs (requested in May 2020) would be coming soon. John noted that pedestrians and runners also need to take care when stepping off the pavement into the road. A resident noted the number of adults cycling on the pavement.

*Update 23/3/21: The temporary signs appeared today.*

There was a discussion about the possible introduction of a 30mph limit on the rest of Ladysneuk Rd. The CC agreed to ask for this on a 6-month trial basis over the summer, when the road is likely to be used more by cyclists and pedestrians; the trial would be followed by feedback from the village on whether to retain 30mph or revert to 40mph.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will report the request for a temporary reduction to 30mph to the relevant council officers.

Elaine had contacted Stirling Council about the number of lorries and cars coming down Ladysneuk Rd because of the closure of Alloa Rd, asking for clearer signage. Tessa reported that the 'no through road' sign at the end of Ladysneuk Rd was missing, which might be part of the problem. Although the SC website says the closure is until 26/3, a resident had been told by workmen that it would last for 10 weeks.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will report the missing sign and ask Bruce Reekie for clarity on when the Alloa Road will reopen.

### **7. Pergola at Abbey**

John has checked the pergola and, although it is leaning, the posts are not rotting, so some bracing struts are all that is needed.

**Action:** John and Ross to look at this and carry out repairs.

Margaret Hughes has kindly been looking after the flower beds around the pergola for many years but is no longer able to do this, so volunteers to take over are needed.

**Action:** Linda to post request for volunteers on CC Facebook page. Any volunteers please contact via Facebook or any CC member directly.

### **8. Wallace Monument Steering Group**

Ross had attended another meeting. The tower and visitor centre are due to reopen on 26 April, and events are being planned for throughout the summer. There has been a meeting between council officers and Bridge of Allan businesses about marketing related to places to eat, particularly in Bridge of Allan. Other marketing will focus on heritage. Stirling Council has been clearing viewpoints around the monument. They are still working on plans for free access for Stirling residents.

### **9. Arts projects on Sustrans routes**

Elaine had contacted Stirling Council about from whom permissions would be needed. It was agreed to leave further discussion until later in the year when, hopefully, it will be possible for residents to meet more easily. Elaine will continue with the background work in the meantime.

### **10. Wildflowers in park – On the Verge**

The CC wished to thank the resident who strimmed and cleared the wildflower strip in the park and reinstated the sign there.

The Tool Library is currently closed so Ross had been unable to check whether it has a strimmer.

### **11. Flooding in farm field next to Abbey**

No update in Barbara's absence.

### **12. Flooding/leak on Ladysneuk Road**

Despite the repair to the burst pipe carried out by Stirling Council, there is still a leak.

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will follow up on this. Elaine will send him a photo.

### **13. Hanging baskets**

Linda noted that, although Martin Parry has kindly volunteered to take over organizing the hanging baskets, the CC has not yet formally agreed to go ahead this year, given the continuing inability to hold fundraising events. Refills for the baskets need to be ordered by

end of April, so a decision is needed soon. As the Treasurer was absent, it was agreed that the CC will discuss and decide this later by email.

#### **14. Fundraising/events**

It was agreed that the CC will discuss this later by email.

#### **15. Councillors' Reports**

Councillor McGill reported that the budget had taken most time over the last few weeks. The Scottish Government has given additional funding. After stubbornly high rates in Stirling, rates are falling, despite some stubborn areas. Vaccination programme is going well.

Councillor Thomson reported that the Engage Stirling website aims to make resident engagement easier. Councillor McGill mentioned the draft climate plan on the website. Ross encouraged Stirling Council to make their supply chain carbon-neutral/negative.

#### **16. Police report**

No police reports are being issued during the pandemic. However, Tessa reported that some plants in pots had been stolen from behind the house under construction in Ferry Orchard.

#### **17. AOCB**

##### **Sub-groups**

Two residents suggested forming sub-groups affiliated to the CC for specific interests or projects, e.g. nature (like Riverside Naturally), social events, phone box, artwork. There are residents who would be interested and willing to be involved in this way who might not be able to commit the necessary time to be CC members, and the number of CC members is in any case limited. Each sub-group would need one CC member, but the rest of the group could do much of the work. The hall & park sub-committee and the orchards group are examples, and Riverside CC has various sub-groups. It was agreed to check the rules on such sub-groups and how the insurance might work, e.g. for practical work.

**Action:** Ross to contact Riverside CC to find out how their sub-groups work.

##### **Maintenance of footbridge**

A resident raised concerns about the state of the footbridge, which is essential to the village, not just as a pedestrian and cycle route but as carrier for gas, water, electricity and now CityFibre. It had to be closed for urgent major repairs about 20 years ago and the gas main was covered as part of that work. Now the concrete casing for the gas main has deteriorated, allowing water to penetrate to the bridge structure. The pigeon netting is hanging loose under the bridge and there is damage caused by pigeons roosting there. What maintenance regime does Stirling Council have in place to deal with problems now before they get serious?

**Action:** Councillor Thomson will contact Maria Lucey, the relevant council officer, about this.

John noted that Scottish Gas should also be contacted. He raised the idea of the sewage being taken over the bridge to resolve the recurrent problem of the septic tank overflowing; however, another resident noted that the restrictions on sewage infrastructure for the village were a key factor in the refusal of permission to build housing on the field on the west side of Ladysneuk Rd about 20 years ago.

##### **Donation from resident**

Thanks to the Callums for their kind donation to Community Council funds.

## 15. Next Meeting

**Monday 26 April 2021 at 7.30pm, online unless  
Scottish Government Guidance changes.**  
Details to be announced nearer the time on CC website

Stirling Council 01786 404040, Police non-emergency 101, NHS-24: 111

Scottish Power emergency 105, Scottish Gas emergency 0800 111999

***Reminder: Minutes are available via the CC website and Facebook page. If you want them emailed privately or paper copies please let us know via email at [cambuskennethcc@gmail.com](mailto:cambuskennethcc@gmail.com) or by contacting any CC member.***