

**Minute of the Parkhall, North Kilbowie & Central Community Council meeting  
held in public on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2007 in the Parkhall Tenants Hall,  
Parkhall Road, Clydebank**

|                                       |   |  |                                |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Community Councillors Present:</b> | Neil Etherington<br>Walter Graham                           | Gilbert Howatson [part]<br>Jim Lindsay | Alex MacFarlane<br>Jim Paisley |
| <b>Ex Officio:</b>                    | WDC Provost Denis Agnew<br>WDC Councillor Willie McLaughlin |  |                                |
| <b>Community Police:</b>              | PC Daniel O'Donnell [part] Clydebank Police Office          |  |                                |
| <b>Public Attendance:</b>             | 3   |  |                                |

### 1.0 Remarks & Introductions:

- 1.01 Community Councillor Chairperson Jim Lindsay welcomed everyone to the first meeting following the summer break and also noted the new, more comfortable chairs in the Hall. He thanked Community Councillor Alex MacFarlane for arranging this.
- 1.02 The Chair suggested that Item 9 the 'Community Police Report' be brought forward to immediately after Item 2 'Apologies'. It was PC O'Donnell's day off and this would then allow him to continue to enjoy what remained of his free time. Agreed unanimously.

### 2.0 Apologies:

- 2.01 Community Councillors Diane Docherty, Anne Hickey & Drummond McNair
- 2.02 WDC Councillor Patrick McGlinchey

### 9.0 Community Police Report:

- 9.01 PC O'Donnell submitted a Crime Report for July for Beats 65/66 Radnor Park & Parkhall
- 9.02 An open discussion took place in about the 'remoteness' of the Control Room system, the ongoing demonstrations at Faslane and the detrimental effect on police presence in the Clydebank area, and cars speeding on residential roads – Maple Crescent and Duntocher Road. was particularly mentioned.
- 9.03 PC Stephanie Clark is to be permanently based within Clydebank High School
- 9.04 Radnor Park & Parkhall area is still short of one Community Police Officer
- 9.04 Jim Lindsay thanked PC O'Donnell for his contribution and said that he spoke for all those present when he thanked him for attending on his day off.

Appendix  
A

Noted

At this point PC O'Donnell left the meeting

### 3.0 Minute of Previous Meeting – Adopt for Accuracy:

- |      |  |       |  |
|------|--|-------|--|
| 3.01 | Police Report  | 9.02  | Police Beat Nos. should read '65/66'                               |
|      | Treasurers Report  | 6.04  | Delete final sentence.   |
|      | Planning Report  | 7.06  | Dunclutha should read 'Awaiting Reporters decision'                |
|      | WDC Councillors Report:  | 8.02  | Delete second sentence.  |
|      | WDC Councillors Report:  | 8.04  | Should read 'reiterated its position of support.....'              |
|      | AOCB:  | 11.03 | The Kirk'ing of the Council took place at 'St Eunan's'.            |
|      | AOCB:  | 11.05 | Insert 'at the Beardmore Hotel' immediately after 'granite slabs'. |
| 3.02 | Moved by: Walter Graham    Seconded by: Alex MacFarlane – as amended |       |  |

### 4.0 Minute of Previous Meeting – Matters Arising:

- 4.01 Community Cllr [Secretary] Walter Graham said he had been unable to follow up the 'action required' items due to the delay in receiving the Minute.
- 4.02 A work sheet reference list of items and issues that may be considered as inconclusive was available for consideration and comment. Several items had been successfully concluded. The following were considered to be still outstanding.....
- 4.02 a The Dalmuir Sewerage Treatment Works smell: To obtain a copy of the 'Odour Improvement Plan' from WDC which had been produced by Scottish Water earlier this year?  
Community Cllr Jim Paisley considered WDC had a 'duty of care' & therefore responsibilities.

Action  
Required

Noted

- 4.02 b Dalmuir Park renovation – Action had been agreed by WDC but failed to gain Lottery Funding.  
Bowling Green windows to be repaired – still outstanding  
Mini goal posts on unused Tennis Courts? – viable?  
Ex employee accommodation in Park still vacant.
- 4.02 c Risk Street still to be fitted with handrails.
- 4.02 d Shrub planting in Overtoun Rd inadequate.
- 4.02 e Fence at Haddow's Lane, Radnor St. WDC offered funding – waiting for Haddows
- 4.02 f Old People Home Regent St – steps and access path not cleaned. Flower beds not maintained
- 4.02 g Peeling paintwork on balconies and common entrances of Second Ave Flats Nos. 1 - 52

## 5.0 Secretary's Report & Correspondence:

- 5.01 WDC Officer Irvine Hodgson responded on the 27<sup>th</sup> June to the previous Community Council letter re Parkhall Shops rebuild and an opportunity to improve the Hawthorn St/Duntocher Rd junction. This response was considered unsatisfactory by the meeting.
- 5.02 Letter from Scottish Water advising of a new Customer Relations Manager for the area.
- 5.03 Advice of West Dunbartonshire Community Forum Open meeting Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug
- 5.04 Letter to WDC from CC re possible Tree Protection Order infringement
- 5.05 Letter to WDC re Arnold Clark parking vehicles for sale on land outside their boundary

Action to  
be  
decided

Noted

## 6.0 Treasurer's Report:

- 6.01 Statement 15<sup>th</sup> July – Balance c/f £1071.92

## 7.0 Planning Report:

Community Cllr Gilbert Howatson [Planning Portfolio] was not present, but still expected at this point, so it was decided unanimously to delay this part of the agenda until later in the meeting.

- 7.01 The Auchentoshan Estate / Bobath planning application was discussed. The Golden Jubilee National Hospital is conducting a public open meeting Annual Review on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August. It was decided to submit a question asking why the Bobath original application to have the Centre within the grounds of the Hospital was refused.
- 7.02 Clydebank High School demolition has been approved
- 7.03 The proposed telephone mast at Mountblow has been refused
- 7.04 The rebuilding of the fire damaged commercial units in Hawthorn St has been granted

Action

## 8.0 WDC Councillor[s] Report:

- 8.01 WDC Cllr Willie McLaughlin related and produced a background note of the current consultation process re. the closure of Post Offices. He said that a PO presence in Parkhall may be lost if nothing is done to make Royal Mail aware of local people concerns.  
WDC Cllr [Provost] Denis Agnew recounted previous effort to keep Parkhall PO open and suggested a galvanised effort to resurrect same.
- 8.01 a It was agreed that Community Cllr Walter Graham would produce a letter for Community Cllr Alex MacFarlane to get local people to campaign to save Parkhall PO and consider inviting a Post Office rep to a future meeting.
- 8.02 WDC Cllr Denis Agnew advised of the proposed pupil drop off site for St Columba's new school and thought it would be unacceptable to local residents
- 8.03 WDC Cllr Denis Agnew was pleased to report that the Clydebank High/Braidfield schools merger has been relatively trouble free.

Appendix  
B

Action  
Required

## 10.0 Community Council Website

- 10.01 Community Cllr Neil Etherington advised the meeting that the website, now public, had details of all six Community Council areas for Clydebank with varying degrees of information for each whether active or not. It was the intention in the future to produce an additional individual standalone website for this Community Council with far more detailed information. A laptop was available to demonstrate the progress made with the website so far.

## 11.0 Community Councillor Reports:

- 11.01 Community Cllr Drummond McNair asked, in his absence, to raise the problem of Arnold Clark displaying vehicles for sale on the grass verges and pavement areas adjacent to the A82. Some of the vehicles were untaxed and all caused potential vision obstruction hazards
- 11.02 There were no further individual Community Cllr reports

Noted  
See 5.05

If you have access to the Internet and want to find out more about Community Councils in Clydebank log on to [www.CommunityCouncilsClydebank.org.uk](http://www.CommunityCouncilsClydebank.org.uk)

At this point Community Cllr Gilbert Howatson entered the meeting and he presented the Planning Report  
[see above]

**12.0 Any Other Competent Business:**

- 12.01 Community Cllr Walter Graham felt the meeting needed clarification of WDC Planning Officers Delegated Powers. He believed that there had been instances of apparent inconsistency in the past, when applying them. Both WDC Cllrs agreed that there should be defined parameters.

Noted

**13.0 Date, Time & Place of Next Meeting:**

- 13.01 Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2007 7.30pm Parkhall Tenants Hall, Parkhall Road, Clydebank

Minute of the **Parkhall, North Kilbowie & Central Community Council** meeting held in public on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Aug in the Parkhall Tenants Hall, Parkhall Road, Clydebank

**Appendix A**

**LC Police Division Crime Figures - July 2007 – Beat 65/66 Radnor Park / Parkhall**

| <b>Crime Type</b>        | <b>This Report</b> | <b>Previous Report</b> | <b>+/-</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Assault – Simple         | <b>5</b>           | 5                      |            |
| Assault – Serious        | <b>1</b>           | 1                      |            |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| Theft OLP                | <b>1</b>           |                        | +1         |
| Theft of M/V             | <b>2</b>           | 1                      | +1         |
| Theft by H/B             | <b>2</b>           | 1                      | +1         |
| Theft N/C                | <b>3</b>           | 6                      | -3         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| Fraud                    |                    | 1                      | -1         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| MDA Supply               | <b>2</b>           | 1                      | +1         |
| MDA Possession           |                    | 2                      | -2         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| Wilful Fire Raising      | <b>4</b>           |                        | +4         |
| Vandalism                | <b>14</b>          | 12                     | +2         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| B.O.P                    | <b>17</b>          | 11                     | +6         |
| Drinking in Public       | <b>3</b>           | 3                      |            |
| Drunk & Incapable        | <b>1</b>           | 1                      |            |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| Road Traffic             | <b>3</b>           | 1                      | +2         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| Dangerous Dog            |                    | 2                      | -2         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| Children & Young Person  | <b>1</b>           |                        | +1         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| Crime against the Police |                    | 1                      | -1         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>59</b>          | 49                     | +10        |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| <b>Detected</b>          | <b>35</b>          | 27                     | +8         |
|                          |                    |                        |            |
| <b>Detection Rate</b>    | <b>59%</b>         | 55%                    | +4%        |

## APPENDIX B

**Background:** Post Office Ltd. has reached an agreement with the Government to close 2,500 sub-post offices across the UK.

This will be the third round of closures in West Dunbartonshire in recent years. In the two previous rounds only a few of the post-offices which Post Office Ltd had earmarked to close were retained and this was despite vigorous opposition from the Council. Although Post Office Ltd has not announced its plans for West Dunbartonshire yet it is very likely that there will be sub-post offices scheduled for closure in this area.

Post Office Ltd will produce 6 area plans for Scotland, based on 'bundles' of parliamentary constituencies. The plans will include details of which Post Offices are proposed and the rationale for this.

Information about which post offices are planned to close in each area will be released to M.P.'s a few days in advance of the local authority being informed.

The first closures are to be announced in January, 2008.

### **Main Issues:**

Post Office Ltd will undertake a 6 week public consultation exercise in West Dunbartonshire starting in October. Background planning for West Dunbartonshire starts now for the next 12 weeks leading up to the consultation beginning. Post Office Ltd has stated that the consultation will not deal with the need to close post offices as the need for this to happen has already been agreed nationally with Government. Instead the consultation will be about the most effective way in which the closure programme can be taken forward in this area. No final decisions will be taken on closures until after the consultation processes has been completed in this area.

In the next 12 weeks Post Office Ltd have asked that we give them information which we think is relevant to determining which Post Offices are vital to the area to remain open. The kind of information they have requested includes:

- Regeneration and development plans
- Proposed new settlements
- Major road schemes which would have impact on accessibility between settlements
- Significant public transport changes including enhancements, new provisions and likely withdrawal of key services
- Demographics

All of the above information has been requested for the next three years.

## Agenda 13 (cont.)

We have also been asked to develop a view as to whether as a local authority we could take on some of the Post Office functions or services. For example by hosting post office services from our premises. We will also be asked to look at encouraging associated post office businesses or to considering offering Council tax relief or to giving assistance to community groups to take on the role of sub-post master or to broker agreements between Credit Unions and sub-post offices.

Postwatch who are the regulatory body for the Post Office have requested that they be copied into any correspondence with Post Office Ltd. At a recent seminar Postwatch stated that taking an approach to opposing all closures in an area would be futile. Instead what Councils should do is to establish the 'least' worst option for consumers. Post watch's view being that Council's should identify which post offices in their areas that are vital to remain open and to fight for these.

### **What it means for WDC:**

Some guidance is now required on the way forward with this issue. On the basis of the above information a number of decisions require to be taken. Councillors are asked to consider:

- What the Council's response should be to the proposed closures?
- What level of response to the proposed closures should the Council take and what level of public consultation/information giving should be undertaken?
- Which Post Offices should be retained 'at all costs'?
- What role could the Council take in supporting the Post Office network locally?
- How can we keep local members informed and involved in this processes during the summer recess?
- Whether a budget could be established to support costs associated with the consultation and publicity requirements of the process?

As Council is in recess I would propose that initially Councillors send me their views by 3 August 2007. On the basis of these views a paper can be produced and will form the basis of discussion with the Chief Executive, Council leaders and other relevant officers so that a consensus can be reached to take forward this issue.