

**HOWWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 13 MAY 2003**

**PRESENT**

Nick Walker, Brian Young, Betty McArthur, Christine Scarsbrook, Robert Scarsbrook, David McKie, Danny McAlister, Millar Leon, Gordon Weir, Grace Weir, Ken Macdonald, Rosee Macdonald, Bill David, Amish Amin.

**IN ATTENDANCE**

PC Graham Barclay, Norma Walker, Jeanette Fraser, Gisela Foy, John Findlater, Linda McWilliam, Gayle Pollock and two other residents.

**APOLOGIES**

Linda Smith, Norma David, David Bottomley, Andrew Wilson.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

The Minutes of the 8.04.2003 meeting were accepted (prop. Grace Weir, sec. Robert Scarsbrook).

**1. POLICE REPORT:**

Crime figures for April: 3 thefts and 3 housebreakings/entering lockfast premises. The thefts involved entry to unlocked properties. Residents are reminded to lock garden sheds and houses, and to leave valuable items out of sight.

**2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

2.1 *Hall tables*

Nothing suitable yet located.

**3. MEMBERSHIP:**

Betty McArthur was co-opted onto the CC (prop. Nick Walker, sec. Grace Weir), filling the one current vacancy.

Membership and attendance were discussed again. It was agreed that the constitutional arrangements as they exist are appropriate. Namely, three consecutive absences without apology or six missed meetings in a twelve month period (whether or not apologies tendered) raise concern, and empower the CC to act. Actions include terminating a CC member's CC membership. The meeting agreed that such cases should be discussed at a CC meeting and an informal contact then be made with the CC member inviting representation to the CC. If attendance remains poor, formal written contact would follow, and thereafter, a full CC meeting would decide to grant a "sabbatical," terminate membership or offer "honorary" membership, or take any other appropriate decision. There was consensus on this interpretation.

**4. WORKING GROUPS:**

4.1 *Planning*

Bill David, Brian Young, Andrew Wilson and Ken Macdonald.  
Main Street site. No news.

Bowfield Way decking. No news on appeal.

Pamandus. No news on Planning Committee hearing.

Field between Beith and Midton Roads. Residents were concerned that trees had been planted recently along the edge of the proposed development field. Newspaper reports carried denials of involvement from Bryant Homes. There is no word officially on the proposal. Ongoing concerns are probably best directed to Cllr Nimmo and copied to the CC.

Planning Aid. Andrew Wilson and Ken Macdonald had attended a workshop run by Planning Aid. It gave helpful advice and information on the planning process and on contesting applications. Planning Aid is a Charitable Company and it was suggested that the CC become "Friends" of Planning Aid, entitling us to advice and support. Subscription was approved.

4.2 *2003 Fête 21.6.03*

David Bottomley, David McKie, Rosee Macdonald and Amish Amin.

Fri 13:	Bingo	Sat 14:	Howwood Inn Fun Night
Sun 15:	History of Howwood	Mon 16:	Bowling Club
Tues 17:	HWW Quiz	Weds 18:	Guides' Gang Show
Thurs 19:	Railway Inn Darts & Dominoes	Fri 20:	Family Barbecue
Sat 21:	Fete from 11.00 am, A Midsummer-Night's Dance from 7.30 pm.		

The fete will include a Football Marathon at the Park, and CC to check about Pavilion availability through Cllr Nimmo. There may be a fee for the janitor, and medals for the winning teams will be required. Volunteers are required for the Fete and the Dance, but other events are completely the responsibility of other organisations in the village. Raffle prizes are welcome; any offers to the Fete working group members. Dance and raffle tickets are available for CC members and others to sell, and from Fred's shop. Some CC games for the Fete require restoration, and up to £150 may be spent on this. Storage between fetes needs to be improved. Suggestions welcome.

Makro has a special on balloons and helium; it was agreed to buy two packages (ie c. 60 balloons and adequate gas) which should cost around £45.00.

#### 4.3 *Margaret Fraser Commemoration*

Norma David, Linda Smith and Brian Young.

The Women's Rural has made a donation. Midton Bowling Club has also offered to do so.

#### **5. ROADS:**

Midton Road. Gas and telephone work is ongoing in Midton Road but there has been no word on how the Council intends to deal with the traffic and speeding issues. Ian Hamilton (Renfrewshire Council Head of Roads) has indicated that he will keep the CC updated.

The Linister Glen road is to be resurfaced during May. The Bowfield and Midton Roads junction causes ongoing concern and can be confusing for motorists. Elliston Road and Elliston Place surfaces cause continuing concern also.

#### **6. ENVIRONMENT:**

Howwood Wildlife and Woodlands newsletter is being distributed through early May, and there are guided walks on 14 May and 25 May. Watch out for posters.

#### **7. WEB SITE AND COMMUNICATION:**

www.howwood.com receives 2000-2500 hits per month, and the bulletin board is being used more. The web site contains information on the fete week, and should be the most up to date source of information. Kilbarchan and Houston CCs have both been in touch seeking information as they develop community web sites themselves.

#### **8. COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:**

None available.

#### **9. CORRESPONDENCE** (as per list attached to agenda):

It was agreed to continue membership of the Association of Scottish Community Councils and the Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society. Cllr Nimmo had forwarded letters about landscaping and planting around the station which indicated the railways have done as much as they intend to do. The Community of the Year awards entries are due in September, and CC agreed we should enter again; the areas of interest for entry are: environment, local business, young people, older people, community life and the internet (which we won last year). Thoughts for the next CC meeting please.

#### **10. AOCB:**

Nil

#### **NEXT MEETINGS:**

**TUESDAY 10 JUNE 2003, 7.30 pm, Howwood Village Hall**

Then no meetings in July or August.

Thereafter, the following Tuesdays: 9 September, 14 October (this will be the AGM), 11 November, 9 December.