

**HOWWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12th May 2009**

PRESENT

Andrew Wilson (Secretary), Nick Walker (Temporary Chair), Bill David, Norma David, Sandra MacIntosh, Dawn Michael, Jackie Mackenzie, Margie Stewart, Grace Weir

IN ATTENDANCE

PC Andrew MacLeman and Councillor Iain MacMillan.

APOLOGIES

Robert Scarsbrook (Chair), Linda Smith (Vice Chair), Christine Scarsbrook, Douglas Paxton, John MacLean, Scott Allan, Councillors John Hood, John Caldwell & Tracey McGee.

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- Minutes adopted by Nick Walker and seconded by Andrew Wilson

3. POLICE REPORT

- In April there were 2 or 3 offences depending on your view of our village boundary. 1 vandalism in a farm in Spateson, 1 theft of red diesel from a farm outside Howwood, police are interested in a yellow flat back transit vehicle in connection with this matter and 1 detected breach of the peace.
- PC MacLeman also advised that further to the post office robbery last year 1 person appeared at the high court accused of 6 robberies and was convicted of 3. He was expecting at least a double figure sentence as the offender had a previous history of violent robbery.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- National Model Scheme for Community Councils. Nick Walker advised that the ASCC forum was in discussion and provided a summary of the scheme.
- Speedwatch - Renfrewshire Council not yet responded with their current opinion on Speedwatch. Iain MacMillan offered to send letter asking council for their comments. Concerns were raised about lack of police and council support and whether if we continued on an 'educational', 'awareness raising' basis would we be able to take details of speeding vehicles? It was considered that Speedwatch may just become a 'survey' of speeds through our village which could be used to pass to the council / police for information with regards to the speeding issue in our village. No further action to be taken at present pending response from Council. PC MacLeman offered to ask his colleague Paul MacPherson, Road Traffic Officer in our area, to attend July or August CC meeting to discuss speeding issue further.

5. ROADS

- Removed from agenda as Scott Allan unable to attend but it was agreed to add issue raised by Linister resident to Scott's list for action. Cllr Iain MacMillan advised that it had been passed to roads authority as matter of urgency and Andrew Wilson confirmed that he had a BT incident no. for the manhole fault.
- It was also agreed to check with Scott Allan regarding when resurfacing work will be completed on Bowfield Road.
- The railing was removed by resident at the top of George Street steps without Renfrewshire Council's permission. It will be reinstated by the resident.
- Midton / Bowfield Road potholes redeveloping and to be reported back to Renfrewshire

6. INFORMATION / WEB

- 4100 visits in February

- Robert Scarsbrook had requested that we consider July circulation of newsletter in his absence. Items discussed for inclusion were forthcoming events such as St Andrews night, fete raffle prize winners, garden competition winners with pictures of winning gardens.

7. PLANNING

- Mayfield waste ground – John Smart confirmed that he arranging for quotes to complete landscaping works, which will then be completed and charged to owners. No timescales are available.
- It was agreed that we would not comment on the extension of an existing house in Elliston Road especially as there had been no issues raised by any surrounding residents.
- Cllr MacMillan commented on the process for wider planning issues that is changing quite dramatically and recommended that we keep abreast of changes. Andrew Wilson confirmed that CC had been asked for comments and that he has various documentation on matter if anyone wishes to review. Andrew also agreed to ask Crawford Russell to include Community Councillors in the training for the new planning act legislation.

8. COUNCILLORS' ISSUES

- Further to Council Housing Bathroom/Kitchen replacement plan. Iain MacMillan that there was quite a small programme underway in Howwood for this year but that the Council had a 5 year, £146m, plan in place for more work to be undertaken. Kitchens and exterior work would be included in this plan following a survey of residents.
- Paul Sale, Community Facilities Officer, Johnstone Town Hall, is looking to determine whether there might be a budget to improve external appearance of Howwood Village Hall.
- Cllr Iain MacMillan was pleased to advise that music tuition in primary and secondary schools would resume to previous standards.
- Scottish Parliament Boundaries review again underway. 1 month consultation and Howwood may be affected with the possibility of being included under Johnstone.
- Howwood street sweeping position was raised as we now no longer have our own dedicated road sweeper. We were advised by Cllr MacMillan that resource now has to be used more efficiently with task force allocated to specific areas as required.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- RC BACS payment services manager – agreed we were happy to accept payments by BACS.
- RC Sundry Income Invoice – Bill David agreed paid.
- RC booking form for meetings – agreed that Andrew should book both small and large hall for AGM at 7:30, on 2nd Tuesday in October 09.
- RC Clean Renfrewshire 'Do your bit' – A Certificate of Recognition was received signed by Cllr Marie McGurk. It was agreed that AW would write to BTCV Green Gym Group and Susan Whitfield to thank them for their help with our Village Clean Up. Also AW to send thank you to Howwood Inn for their support with soup and sandwiches to all volunteers. We also agreed that we should look into our insurance position for next year and Nick Walker continues to investigate.
- RC Outdoor Access Forum – Date confirmed as 14th May at Castle Semple.
- RC Overgrown Paths Howwood – Kate Cuthbert, Access Officer wanted to meet with landowners to clarify what requirements were with regards to paths. Also confirmed that Dunallister Path has been cut back with grass trimmed
- RC 'Get Involved' Booklets – passed out in meeting
- Planning Aid - £25 subscription now due. We have previously maintained our membership in order that we can seek help on complex planning issues. Details of events can be obtained from Andrew Wilson. It was agreed to continue with subscription.
- RCVS InfoBase – Nick Walker suggested that as we are statutory we should not be on this database. A suggestion was made that we could perhaps have all voluntary organisations in Howwood on our own website.
- Dogs Trust – Communication regarding registration with them to look after your dog in the event of your death.
- Renfrewshire Community Health Coffee Morning – 20/5/09, 10-12:30, Johnstone Town Hall.
- Bio Diversity Newsletter – full details from Andrew Wilson
- SNH 'The Nature of Scotland' – full details from Andrew Wilson

- NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde newsletters - full details from Andrew Wilson
- BMA Scotland ‘ General Practise in Scotland the Way Ahead’ - full details from Andrew Wilson
- Local Area Committee – Looking for volunteers to participate in children’s services partnerships in Renfrewshire as well as Wealthier and Fairer Renfrewshire, Safer Renfrewshire, Healthier Renfrewshire, Greener Renfrewshire. Grace Weir to determine when meetings are and whether it is exclusively for Local Area Committee members.

10. AOCB

- Fete –
 Flyers in printer and should be available by end of next week.
 Posters now up for Windband concert
 Details for ticket sales for Windband concert to Bill David by end of next week.
 Ongoing additional insurance query being dealt with by Nick Walker.
 Volunteers from Church of Scotland definitely manning tearoom.
 Bill David has commenced risk assessment and plan.
 There may be issues regarding table collection and Bill David to look into possibility of van hire to collect and return tables from Lochwinnoch.
 Grace Weir to ask school if tables can be stored over the fete weekend.
 Update re raffle ticket sales provided to Grace Weir.
 Confirmed that there will be no quiz night this year.
 Village signs for Fete to be put up by end of next week.
 Discussion around Village calendar with various issues being highlighted surrounding cost to CC and impact on our funds, the actual cost of calendar at £5 was considered expensive, no of calendars being printed (500) seemed high considering first time we had undertaken such a publication and possible limited timescales for sale. Nick Walker advised that we were committed to paying for layout with current printer.
 Discussion became rather heated and suggestions were made that we reduce numbers printed, reduce sale cost of calendar and consider quotes from other printers. Bill David as treasurer wished his concerns re volume and cost to be noted.
- Howwood Primary School 50th anniversary – it was agreed that we would consider nearer the anniversary date in 2013.
- Public park regeneration – public meeting in village hall on 20th May at 19:30. Craig Crawford taking photos for wall and volunteers required to help set out hall for meeting from 19:00.

12. NEXT MEETING

9th June at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Thereafter 2nd Tuesday monthly, 14th July and 11th August 2009 etc

Contact Details	
Aircraft Noise Telephone line	0141 848 4644 (answer machine)
Antisocial Behaviour Help Line	0800 169 1283
Dog Warden, Michelle Knox	0141 840 3164
Glasgow Wind Band, R & C Scarsbrook	01505 704083 www.scarsbrook@aol.com
Fly Tipping	0845 230 4090
Minicoach Tours	minicoachtours@btconnect.com
Police	01505 404000
Renfrewshire Council	0141 842 5000 www.renfrewshire.gov.uk
R.C. Roads email address	PT@Renfrewshire.gov.uk
Roads & Lighting Faults	0141 842 4466 (M-F) 0141 889 2314
Scottish Water Contact	0141 355 5187
Secretary, Andrew Wilson	01505 702392 www.andrew@howwood.com
Village Web Site	www.howwood.com
Youth Nuisance Help Line	01505 325030