

STANLEY & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL AGENDA

Stanley Village Hall on 29 July 2024 at 19:30.

Present – Neil Hardy, Joyce Jamieson, Fiona Hepburn, John Graham, Katherine Rix
Suzanne Tattersall, Grant Laing, Claire McLaren, Ian James

The meeting was well attended by members of the community, James Brown (SDT),
Elsbeth Coutts (WSWG).

Apologies

Jackie McLeod, Ivan Carroll, Police – Mark Pebbles, Andy Beattie

Minutes of previous meeting

Proposed - Phil Clark

Seconded - John Graham

Matters arising

CMcL noted from the previous minutes that MMcD had commented that the Wildwood
Woodland had been subject to 30 years of neglect. CMcL asked how that remark is
quantified.

McD clarified that he believes no work has been done in the time they have had
ownership of Wildwood. JG contributed that there was some work done – possibly
removal of a tree 4/5 years ago. A member of public added that he worked in the
garage next door and never saw any work being undertaken.

Planning permission for the notice board at St Columba Church was approved.
Other decisions in relation to planning permission are ongoing.

Issues in relation to flooding, experienced by residents in Manse Crescent - NH has
emailed John Swinney to get some understanding of where things were left.

Other issues will be covered throughout this meeting.

NH is working on the website for Stanley and District Community Council, recognising
that not everyone is on Facebook which is the platform currently being used.

Elsbeth Coutts requested an amendment to June minutes in relation to the proposed
ownership of Wildwood. It is proposed WSWG and Tayside Woodland Partnerships
would undertake this as a joint venture. Tayside Woodland Partnerships manage the
Woodland in Coupar Angus which was discussed at the SDCC meeting in June 2024.

Finance:

Treasurer update re: bank account

KR has progressed an application for an account with NatWest. There has been an
issue with processing ST's information but we are working this out with the bank.

On-going issues

Ogilvie Development

CMcL reported that she is aware of issues. Now the site is set up, she is hopeful site traffic will reduce moving forward. All councillors have been in discussion with Ogilvie asking them to be more respectful.

Councillors have raised this with the Planning Department (planning officers are following this up) and shared that the community are still reporting concerns about dangerous practices, including reversing through red lights. Some issues will be road traffic police issues.

Deer Pines Development

It has been reported that a specialist engineer from down south has been up for the last 5 days. It is understood that they were brought in to look at the whole site. A report will go to Muir Homes as they have commissioned this work. It was noted that they may not share this.

Member of the community asked if any feedback has been received in relation to concerns about the impact of this development on the properties/land across the road. Unfortunately, there is no update in relation to this.

Wildwood

The link is still active if people want to vote. PKC will share the outcome of this. Any information received by Stanley and District Community Council will also be shared via Facebook.

Church Clock & Church Auction

On Thursday 25 July 2024 the property was withdrawn from auction and the price was dropped by £10000. It will return to auction on 22 August. Apparently, there is some interest in the property and a survey has been requested.

The situation with the clock remains unchanged. This cannot be progressed until there is new ownership of the church.

CMcL advised that the person who buys the church will own the mechanism.

This was given to the people of Stanley and should have been removed but PKC blocked the removal of the clock because it is a listed building.

Cumbria Clock Company were willing to do the work for free and place this in a museum. GL reported that similar discussions were taking place 10 years ago.

Road and Traffic Safety

On 15 July 2024, KR, FH, CMcL attended a meeting with Matt Welsh from PKC Road and Traffic Safety. This was following consultation with the community which highlighted concerns including speeding, dangerous parking, safety at the school, Linn and Airtully Road being dangerous to walk along and parking over dropped kerbs.

MW is going to come out and measure the path from Murray Place which comes out onto Perth Road to consider whether a metal bollard or railings could be put in place to stop people coming out of here at speed onto the main road. However, this can only be put in place if it is large enough to allow wheelchair access. Alternatively, a sign to make drivers aware of the path might reduce risk.

Airtully and Linn Road are unclassified roads so are not a priority. GL highlighted that people need to take personal responsibility and we cannot mitigate all risk. Individuals need to drive to the road conditions. Parents need to keep children safe.

Trees/vegetation at the tight corner Perth Road/B9099 will be cut back. MW is also looking to get bend warning signs and new chevron signs there.

Trees in Charlotte Street - Stanley in bloom previously cut these. If PKC will not do this, could Stanley in Bloom be approached?

CMcL advised that it would be helpful to arrange a traffic survey within the village to give factual information about speeding and traffic management within the village which carries more weight than speculation. She explained that they can put tubes put down on the road to give information about the issue. PKC can provide this from a company in Glasgow. This should be followed up with MW.

Cross Tay link will hopefully reduce the amount of through traffic.

MW is going to come to and look at the dropped kerbs as some are too high and a lot do not match up on both sides of the road. Some of these may be replaced.

Ward Councillors highlighted the community council need to prioritise what issues they want to focus on.

A member of the public questioned the positioning of the radar speed signs in the village, noting that drivers often slow down when they see the speed flashing red. He questioned why this is not positioned as you enter the village. It was discussed that there needs to be a clear line of sight.

Discussion about whether police could spend time in the village monitoring speed of vehicles passing through.

Duchess Street closure

Road closure for 7 weeks beginning mid-August 2024 – Significant work will be undertaken to remove the patch work previously done. The road will be re-surfaced and it will be made into a two lane road.

Stewart Tower road – will also be closed to be resurfaced to have two lanes.

Kinclaven Bridge

The bridge will be closed on 19 August 2024 for repair. They will take out the sharp kerb and replace. There will be traffic lights for 2 days which will then be removed.

A plan for lights on the bridge was previously put forward but a resident objected because of car fumes outside their home. The plan was rejected and will not be reconsidered.

An email was received from member of the community asking if consideration could be given to extend the 20 mph zone. It is deemed that it is not enforceable. CMcL suggested that there is a need to have solid information and evidence that speeding is a problem within the village. Driver compliance is the most significant issue and placing a sign/altering the speed limit will not stop people from speeding through the village.

Police

Vandalism within the village. Concerns have been raised about vandalism in a neighbouring (vacant) property and Deer Pines. ST advised that the police reported that they did not have any information about any vandalism within the Deer Pines development. Residents were surprised by this and advised that they had reported this to a solicitor who they believed have reported this to the police. ST highlighted the importance of reporting any concerns directly to the police if individuals believe a crime has been committed by calling 999 in an emergency and 101 for non-emergency situations. It is important that concerns are reported so the police are aware of concerns and can respond appropriately. This will also build a picture of what is happening within the village.

ST advised that PC Mark Pebbles is agreeable to arranging a time to meet with members of the community council and any concerned residents about the concerns regarding vandalism.

There are also reports of vandalism the small park in Mill Street. The flooring on the park has been cut flooring. This park has only recently been upgraded.

It was discussed that it is unlikely that we can stop the vandalism but we can try to mitigate it. CMcL added that the problem is within the local community.

Safer Community Wardens could play a role in terms of monitoring the situation and engaging with individuals involved in anti-social behaviour.

Concerns continue in relation to the church given this is an unsafe building and those entering/vandalising the building could be seriously injured.

Planning applications and appeals:

01.07.2024 - 24/00940/FLL - Erection of new dwelling house at Harvest Brae, nr Gowrie Farm . The owner asked for representation from SDCC. This has been rejected in the past and they approached SDCC last minute which did not allow sufficient time for SDCC to get involved.

In the original planning application, they were given permission to have a caravan on site to see if the business was a viable option.

08.07.2024 - 24/00979/FLL - extension to dwelling house at Kyle Cottage, 48 Perth Road, Stanley

15. 07.2024 - Nil

22.07.2024 24/01008/FLL - Change of house types at Ogilvie - Mill Brae Development, additional two affordable homes.

No other request for representation for other planning applications. No discussion took place, other than to highlight these requests have been made.

Correspondence – None

Emergency plan – No update – Council person emergency plan Frank Campbell – Nobody has been in touch with him. He has expressed to JJ that he would be willing to come to a meeting to discuss this.

NH is keen to have more defibrillators within the village. Discussion about a Go Fund me page to raise funds for this.

It was discussed that Frank Campbell may be willing to supply these.

Stanley Community Hub

Facebook Poll was set up by SDCC to contribute to an understanding of the community's views on this matter.

Councillors – Now have a declared interest.

Scale of the project seems to be one of the most significant barriers in terms of planning permission. Consideration could be given to reducing the size of the project to increase the likelihood of planning permission being granted.

SDT asked if SDCC would lobby councillors re: overturning decision to reject planning permission. This resulted in the poll mentioned about which highlighted that there is considerable support for the community hub within the village (96% of respondents were in favour of the hub. 171 people responded to the poll, with 165 people voting in favour and 6 against). SDCC will provide a letter in support of the Community Hub.

War Memorial – no plan to move this in updated plans. Slight adjustment to the wall and railing to allow improved access.

Parking for the community hub was raised as a concern by a member of the community. James Brown acknowledged that parking is limited but there is not much that can be done about this due to limitations in terms of space.

When this went to the review board, the Reporter had no issue with moving the railing. They denied the request to knock down the old church hall which is condemned. It would cost £250000 to make the hall safe. James Brown highlighted that they do not want to be part of the church, they want the hub to be independent to meet the needs of the community.

James Brown expressed SDT's intention to campaign against the review body.

JG contributed to the discussion suggesting that it is the right place for the hub but he feels it is the wrong building. He feels that the proposals go against the national planning framework. He stated that the Planning Department advised at the beginning that the building was not right for the space and that they are working against the advice of the people they need to convince.

Elsbeth Coutts suggested undertaking a traffic survey alongside the appeal process.

13. A.O.C.B.

MMcD – Stanley Village hall are looking for more members to sit on the hall committee. They are struggling, they only have four people on the committee. They are looking for volunteers. If anyone is interested, MMcD asked them to contact Robert Baldie.

Elsbeth Coutts – reported she was informed of a situation where two children's bikes were stolen and dumped at the side of the road.

Parking tickets in village square – Parking Services are in the village to check clearways on Linn Road. They have a duty to ticket cars between 7am – 10pm. There is a sign up stating that you must park in a bay.

Down the Mill there is a lade behind North Range, with a pipe running into the lade. The flow of water has stopped since the building works started. Where is the water going? Discussion about the number of concerns being raised about water flow within the village. There was some speculation that there could be a bigger picture that we don't yet understand.

ST suggested changing the time of meetings to 7pm, this was agreed by those present at the meeting. This is more manageable for the ward councillors.

14. Date of next meeting: Monday 26 August 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall (providing the hall is available at this time – TBC)