

KILWINNING COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Monthly meeting held on
Thursday 15th September 2016
Kilwinning Academy

Present	Jim Watson(JW) - Chair Janey Grier(JG) - Secretary Blair Kerr(BK) Nairn McDonald (NM) Councillor Robert Steel (RS)	Stephanie Krus(SK) – Treasurer Andy Robb(AR) Jim Kennedy(JK) Jackie Hamilton(JaH) Councillor John Ferguson(JF)
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Visiting Locality Police Officers Colin Young – ACES
Deirdre Oakley & representatives of Kilwinning Youth Forum John Dillon

ACTION

1.0	<p><u>WELCOME</u> The meeting was opened with a welcome from JW</p> <p><u>APOLOGIES</u> Bill Taylor (BT) – Vice Chair Jim Miller (JM) Ted Somerville (TS) John Harrison (JH) Councillor Donald Reid Councillor Joe Cullinane (JC)</p> <p><u>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 18th August 2016</u> Agreed by meeting</p>	
2.0	<p><u>POLICE REPORT from 2 of the Locality Police Officers</u></p> <p><u>Since last meeting</u> 1 serious assault – detected Drug dealing and drug misuse – a number of incidents throughout the town Youth anti-social behaviour has been better, one youth reported House breakings and dishonesty crimes – theft of motor vehicle; number of thefts of wheelie bins; attempted theft from house breaking.</p> <p>Police are still looking at parking in disabled bays on Main Street – educating drivers on this. Also attempting to inform and educate when drivers should not be on Main Street. NM commented on number of vans parked in disabled bays in car parks. RS informed meeting that, in November, NAC intend to introduce a maximum parking time of 3 hours in the Oxenward and Clydesdale Bank car parks. Initially, it will not be enforced, but informed with signs – behaviour will be monitored.</p> <p>Much work has been carried out round the youth disorder in Main Street, situation is much better and street is much quieter. A lot of good work being done in the town with youth groups – although not all are well attended. JW commented that this would be a good area for Locality Planning to look at. Discussion ensued on how the young folk can be engaged with. Lack of purpose built area for young people.</p> <p>JG asked again about speeding on Dalry Road – especially as there are so many schools kids – police will check on this.</p>	
3.0	<p><u>AGM</u></p> <p>Elections for Community Councils will be held during October & November – meeting agreed that our elections will be at November meeting – this will include Office Bearers.</p>	

Accounts were presented by SK:
Project Account - £199.80
Admin. Account - £795
Very little has been spent – grant has been received, accounts have been audited.
Accounts accepted by meeting.

No other issues were raised.

4.0 PRESENTATION re MCGAVIN PARK – COLIN YOUNG (ACES)

Colin Young from ACES gave a very interesting and informative presentation about the plans for McGavin Park. There has been a great deal reported in the local press that is not accurate, not least that the park has been sold for £1. No monetary value has ever been put on the park. ACES are working very closely with NAC to secure an asset transfer, and this has now moved to stage 5 of 6.

An architect has drawn up plans, none of which have had a final agreement – the option to include a pond was never considered by the committee as there were far too many issues surrounding this. A social media survey undertaken by over 600 people proved that people did want change – something similar, but with better and more facilities. Only 1.1% of those who completed the survey thought the park should remain exactly as it is.

A community engagement opportunity was held during the Gala Day. One of the ideas that arose was that a 'Free Running Area' could be available for youngsters. The upgrade of the tennis courts and a secure dog area has also been considered in the latest plans.

The remit to the architect was '*..this is the park, we want to re-establish the footprint, you can't remove the paths, you can't touch the trees and we want to keep the building..*'

It is very important to maintain John McGavin's legacy to the community. It is intended that this remain a public park for the people of Kilwinning, but it must be safe, therefore better lighting and security is planned. The park was set up by money bequeathed from John McGavin, but is now owned by NAC.

An attempt has been made to establish a sub-committee from ACES to concentrate on the project. Funding has not yet been fully secured and the costing is around 3.5 million pounds. The intention is to progress with more community engagement.

Colin displayed the latest plans which include the existing building with an extension; one path (which is at present unsafe) removed; four new paths; upgraded tennis courts; a better play area; a basketball court and an events area. The park will, on the whole, maintain the present look but with far better facilities.

Under the terms of the asset transfer, NAC would still own the park, with ACES securing a lease to manage and maintain it. A café is proposed, as is an indoor play area; these are avenues for generating revenue. There is no suggestion that the Archers be removed, but it is hoped that some alterations might be possible. Some sports areas are planned, but people will still be able to walk freely in the park as they do today – it is a great dog walking area and this will not change.

There have been concerns about car parking – this is in the plans, but does not use up a huge amount of space.

Once the plans are finalised and robust they will be presented to the community.

JG commented that it was good to hear the facts directly from Colin. There has been a great deal of misconception about what was planned.

BK stated that his concerns had been addressed by the presentation.

Concerns were raised about The Archers who utilise an area in the park – this area can still be used by The Archers.

JaH commented on concerns that Kilwinning Academy might miss out on new sports facilities because of the new sports areas in the park.

	<p>JK stated that he too was pleased with what he had heard – interested in facilities that might be there to help young and old exercise. Also stated that it is good for people to walk in greenery, and was glad to hear that trees would remain. Colin is hoping to have a ‘nature area’ for young people, where they can grow items.</p> <p>The next step is to secure the asset transfer, then go out to community engagement. JW thanked Colin for his presentation and for clearing up many areas of concern.</p>	
5.0	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u>	
5.1	<u>Sun clock & McGavin Park</u> See above	
6.0	<u>REVIEW of the Establishment of Community Councils in North Ayrshire</u> See comments above at 3 relating to elections. Second awareness session about Community Councils is being held by NAC on 27 th Sept. at Cranberry Moss – we will advertise this on social media. Forms will need to be submitted to NAC for elections.	
5.0	<u>TREASURER’S REPORT</u> See above.	
6.0	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	
6.1	Letter from Community Planning Democratic Services offering training in Consultation & Engagement – JW will express an interest in this.	
6.2	From Health & Social Care an Invitation to Local Connections, Better Outcomes on 23 rd September.	
6.3	Letter from British Telecom about proposals to remove some pay phones around the town – concern was raised about removing pay phone in Pennyburn, agreed to contact about this.	JG
6.4	Proposal about amalgamating Additional Support Needs Schools in NAC into one facility at Auchenharvie.	
7.0	<u>VISITORS</u> John Dillon spoke about the U55 back road from Dalgarnen to Whitehirst Park. A passing place on this road is being used to park cars, which is making it very unsafe. John has approached NAC about this, as has RS. Many at the meeting were aware of the dangers at this turning. If the passing place did not have parked cars this would help. Passing Place signs have been removed from this area and NAC have stated that they have come to an agreement with the people using this area to park cars. RS will investigate further. JW thanked Dierdre and the young people from the Junior Youth Forum for attending and invited them to return.	RS
	<u>DATE, TIME & VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Thursday 20th October 2016, 7.15pm – Kilwinning Academy	

Minutes compiled by JG