

KILWINNING COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Monthly meeting held on
Thursday 20th August 2015
Kilwinning Academy

Present	Jim Kennedy(JK) - Acting Chair Andy Robb(AR) Nairn McDonald(NM) Jim Miller(JM)	Janey Grier(JG) - Secretary Ted Somerville(TS) John Harrison(JH)
Visiting	Police - Inspector Jim McMillan, Jackie Hamilton(JaH) – Chair Kilwinning Academy Parent Council Tom Stewart	

ACTION

1.0	<p><u>WELCOME</u> The meeting was opened with a welcome from JK</p> <p><u>APOLOGIES</u> Jim Watson(JW) Stephanie Krus(SK) Bill Taylor (BT) Councillor Robert Steel(RS) Paul Quirk(PQ)</p> <p><u>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 18th June 2015</u> Accepted by AR, seconded by</p>	
2.0	<p><u>POLICE REPORT</u></p> <p>Action from previous meeting – average speed of cars in the North Acre area is 23 mph. Road police are aware of some exceptions to this, especially late at night – being monitored.</p> <p>Crime figures for Kilwinning area in last month (20th July-20th August) – 85 crimes, 87 in previous month –</p> <p>2 serious assault, both detected 9 assaults – 4 detected, mostly are domestic incidents 3 house break-ins – 1 detected 9 drugs related – 8 detected</p> <p>Number of thefts of wheelie bins in the town is a concern – these are stolen to be set on fire, material is inhaled to get 'high'. Police have done some work around this on social media, with the intention of highlighting the dangers involved. Also engaging with shop keepers and residents to ensure bins are removed from view. This is a main priority for police at present – risk to health from inhaling fumes and also severe risk of fire.</p> <p>Please report anything stolen to the police. Dishonesty is a high priority for police in North Ayrshire. Vandalism still prevalent in the town, especially town centre, Pennyburn & Blacklands.</p> <p>Another police priority continues to be Main Street & Abbey – the Community Wardens have been helping here. Diversion Groups have been helping in this area too, providing activities for youths at weekend – skate boarding; hockey; basket ball & activity bus all engage with youths in a bid to divert them from buying alcohol – these activities are proving very successful.</p> <p>Concern has been raised about a male in Parkhead Avenue area knocking on doors and asking for money late at night – please inform police if you hear reports of this. Pennyburn residents are reporting a problem of homeless vagrants and also sounds of what sounded like gun-fire, this could be aerosols being placed on fire – Officers will be looking into these reports in the next week.</p>	

	<p>Fires - 4 adults have been charged over fire at St. Luke's School, and 2 youths reported for fire in Blacklands area. Fires are a big concern for police at present.</p> <p>JaH reminded the meeting that youth crime is down and youth disorder has dropped. Inspector McMillan agreed – there is great multi-agency work going on to engage and educate youths.</p> <p>JK spoke about good work being done by Kilwinning Heritage to educate primary children.</p> <p>Inspector McMillan was asked about recent article in national press stating that Kilwinning was one of the worst towns for detection of house break-ins. Agreed that detection rates are poor, house break-in figures include huts, sheds, garages etc and these are difficult to detect. House break-in figures are down in Kilwinning.</p> <p>TS asked about this being a priority for Police Scotland, yet, often reported that there are not the resources or man-power available to fully investigate these crimes. Inspector McMillan reassured the meeting that crimes of dishonesty, including house break-ins, are a priority for him and his Officers.</p> <p>Also commented on drug dealing in the area and encouraged all to pass information to the police.</p>	
3.0	<u>MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES</u>	
3.1	<p><u>Sun clock in McGavin Park</u> JK & JW have looked at this and spoken to Douglas Hunt, who has provided documentation – will report at September meeting.</p>	
4.0	<u>REVIEW of the Establishment of Community Councils in North Ayrshire</u> Nothing new.	
5.0	<u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u> Treasurer not present	
6.0	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	
6.1	Bulb catalogue received from J Parker's Wholesale	
6.2	Irvine Bay open day 17 th September	
6.3	Digital Engagement Day – October, 1 member of KCC can attend	
6.4	Information on Public Consultation of proposals for Ward Boundaries – circulated, this won't affect Kilwinning	
6.5	ATM at Station Plaza on planning list	
7.0	<p><u>VISITORS</u></p> <p><u>Tom Stewart</u> Continues to be concerned about Kilwinning Dam. Meeting agreed to write to Environmental Services at NAC to raise concerns about the dam beginning to fail and ask if there are any plans to look at the deterioration.</p>	JG

	<p><u>JaH</u> Update on Kilwinning Academy. A Review of School Estates is due in November. Great concern has been raised about lack of amenities and infrastructure in the school and many people, including Councillors, parents, pupils and staff want to raise the issue of Kilwinning Academy prior to this Review. Investment is needed to ensure we do the best for our young people. Parent Council want to raise awareness of the situation. Councillor Cullinane is intending to start a petition for the people of Kilwinning. It is hoped that this will be backed by community groups including KCC. The school has no astro-turf, no wi-fi and lacks amenities for pupils that are present in other North Ayrshire School. The meeting agreed whole heartedly to back this and suggested that John Butcher, Executive Director for Education, NAC be invited to speak to the group or at a wider, public meeting. Group felt that KCC could facilitate this. JG will contact Councillor Cullinane to discuss best way forward.</p>	JG
9.0	<p><u>COUNCILLORS</u> None present</p>	
10.0	<p><u>AOB</u></p>	
10.1	<p>JH – raised concerns over the upkeep of Kilwinning Cemetery – photographs were shown of poor grass cutting and path clearing. Also raised concern about amount of weed killer being used. There is also a lack of water facilities. The maintenance contract for the cemetery has changed recently and the meeting is keen to be assured that the work is being monitored. Agreed to write to NAC asking for a full inspection. Meeting to be held at NAC in September about funds for War Memorials.</p>	JG
10.2	<p>JK – the large Crawford Monument in the Abbey Grounds is deteriorating and there is a risk it could becoming unsafe. The Crawford Monument is supported by the stone for Rev. James Stevens and that stone is damaged. – this needs looked at. Agreed to write to NAC and request this is examined. JK happy to direct anyone to this if they want to see it.</p>	JG
	<p><u>DATE, TIME & VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING</u> Thursday 17th September 2015, 7.15pm – Kilwinning Academy</p>	

Minutes compiled by JG