

GALSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING TUESDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2018

Present:-

Apologies:-

In Attendance EAC :- Councillors S. Cogley, E Whitham, C. McArthur Head of Finance, ICT and Transformation, I. Hall, Project Manager

Police:- No police present

The minutes were proposed by _____ and seconded by _____

Police Report – _____ read out report as no police present

Breakdown:- 5th January – 7th February

Violence & Antisocial behaviour - 5

Dishonesty - 10

Road Safety/Road Crime - 2

Drug Dealing & Misuse - 0

_____ (Chair) welcomed and introduced Craig McArthur and Irene Hall from East Ayrshire. Craig thanked _____ for the invite to come and speak to Galston Community Council. Craig outlined that the regeneration of Galston would be a long project and would need robust planning.

This would include the Galston Office being renovated including a disabled lift) and the Library being relocated to the 1st Floor. (Original features on 1st floor would be retained). Wider uses also need to be decided which would involve talking to the local Community.

There will be £3.2 million available from East Ayrshire Capital Programme. One of the options for the corner is a small retail unit and landscaping. Any work done will cause disruption but this will be done in phases to minimise disruption.

_____ raised the issue of the pavement at the Portland Arms being narrow. Craig stated that Roads Dept. will have input into possibly changing corner, _____ said that if there is a retail unit, it must be taken into account the problem that delivery vehicles could cause.

_____ asked questions is there any interest in Retail Unit and if so who ? How would deliveries work for Retail Unit at corner. Also when will we get sight of Consultation Plans.

Craig advise that Feasibility Study has been done and will be used as a starting point.

Consultation will take as soon as possible but could take 4 – 6 months.

Elena suggested that there is a Public Event to show proposed plans and to ask for any suggestions

Sally reiterated that the Consultation Process must be done as soon as possible and suggested putting plans on show in the Library.

stated that since all this work started, Galston has lost seven businesses. There are too many units and the town is being killed off. spoke to Fiona Lees, CEO re contractor being over time and was advised that they would not be penalised and that they would possibly be looking for extra money due to complications in work carried out. It was a mistake to carry out 2 major construction works at the same time.

The public in Galston have raised the issue of 33-35 Bridge Street (Candy Coated) in that work done is not up to same level as Chemist and cost more. Local builder has been very critical of work done including windows. Sally Cogley to take up with East Ayrshire –

asked why lime render used. Irene Hall advised it is because this is classed as a conservation area.

Irene Hall advised that there are 3 tenants going into the Portland arms, Architect, Physio and Tax Assistant.

raised issue of road at Portland down to narrow single and single lane which make it dangerous. Irene Hall to take up with Roads. Possibly put barriers back.

had contacted Stuart Turner re problem of parking on Cross Street as there have been at least 2 accidents but nothing has been done. 2 traffic wardens appeared with cameras, only told to take photos. Irene Hall will progress with Stuart Turner.

Sally Cogley felt that signage indicating Car Park at rear of Cross Street could be more visible. Sally also asked for time scales for Mayflower & Ladbrokes

said that public often forget Car park is there and needs integrated into Town Centre which would benefit Cross Street and Bridge Street

asked about when Council Chambers will re-open
Craig MacArthur advised that no date as they do not know what they will find until work starts. Furniture that was in the Chambers is being kept safe in storage.

asked when work will start. Irene Hall advised work would be done as a whole including corner. Craig MacArthur said it needs to be done in right order to minimise disruption.

stated that by the time this is all done it will take heart out of town centre.

asked if less is spent than what is in Budget, will the balance be retained so can we tap into later.

Elena Whitham advised it will depend what is spent on Council Building

asked what is going to happen to current Library building when moved. Will it be sold. ?

Also what if Public disagree with idea proposed by East Ayrshire would they be disregarded. Discussed possible option of a Retail Unit at the corner. General consensus of the meeting was that we need to concentrate on developing/sorting what we have and not a new unit.

asked about Post Office going into one of empty shops. Craig MacArthur advised that this will not happen as Post Office are going away from standalone units.

thanked Craig MacArthur and Irene Hall for attending.

EAC Report

has had a meeting with East Ayrshire Head of Education re Restorative Justice Scheme for Litter. This will involve Loudoun Academy and Fenwick, Darvel, Newmilns Primaries

People have been asked via Facebook to donate to Young Carers association. If anyone has anything can they let know this included bikes which she can get repaired, There will be 3 Workshops re Dog Fouling in Galston, Newmilns and Darvel end of February & March. Leaflets issued at meeting

asked if Community Council wanted her to organise Litter Picking Event as she has done in past. Agreed.

E. Whitham

SEPA have now issued updated statement re St. Sophia's school and changed their position. They seem to have gone back to original proposal and not put school on stilts. This has to be confirmed.

Reason for change is that they seem to have accepted Irvine Valley Flood Study done last year.

has asked what they are removing objects to. E. Whitham to get clarified.

suggested that problems were caused by work done at The Meadows.

AOCB

Christmas Tree power was supplied from Church of Scotland. awaiting reply from

. Update – has advised there is no charge

Lights at Bridge and Barr Castle –East Ayrshire not keen as they say Bridge is susceptible to damage and sandstone could crumble. Put Lights on gable end at Barr Castle

suggested we talk to electricians and get a quote then work with East Ayrshire Roads. suggested solar lights. Rita suggested get quote from Raewinds

Toby at Cemetery Road has been fixed.

Galston Gala Day – to attended Trust Meeting re this

Need money making ideas. E Mail any suggestions to .

Use Gala Day to show proposed plans. to e mail date to Irene Hall for Images etc.

Nomination papers – Everyone need to fill in – Update has organised this and papers are being sent to her.

Planning applications – 14-16 Henrietta Street (Masonic Club). Documents since received Co-op are applying for this.

raised the matter of planning permission that has been requested for Cloaksland Road. Land is for field but application has been made by . Deadline for this is 24th February 2018.

said that other discussions both for and against need to take place. Galston has an empty shop syndrome – no new units needed at this time.

Events - raised the issue again of completing paperwork to get permission to hold events (4 pages) Elena going to invite person responsible for this to come to Community Council Meeting

Catherine Drive Laybys – November Mins.

asked if the laybys are going to be extended to top half of road. E. Witham to find out.

Finance

read out report as statement received late again. Statement will be issued with Minutes

Secretary

No report

Date of Next meeting

Next Meeting Tuesday 13th March

AGM – Tuesday 10th April – Community Centre