

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

At a Meeting of the Community Alliance held in the 'The Brock' Meeting Room, Council Offices, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton on Tuesday, 12 November 2019 at 2.0 p.m.

Present: Anne MacDougall, Chair; Councillors Caroline McAllister and Sally Page; Rhona Young, Clydebank Seniors Forum; Barbara Barnes, Health & Social Care Partnership (HSCP) Locality Engagement Network; Brenda Pasquire, West Dunbartonshire Citizens Advice Bureau; Jack Fordy, Community Councils' Forum; Jackie Maceira, West Dunbartonshire Access Panel; Frances McGonagle and Polly Wheelans, WDTRO.

Attending: Suzanne Greer, Acting Communities Manager/Community Empowerment Officer; Stephen Burns, Communities Project Worker - Communities Team and Craig Stewart, Committee Officer.

Apology: An apology for absence was intimated on behalf Councillor John Millar.

Ms Anne MacDougall in the Chair

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were no declarations of interest in any of the items of business on the agenda.

NOTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Note of Meeting of the Community Alliance held on 29 August 2019 was submitted and approved as a correct record.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT STRATEGY

The Acting Communities Manager/Community Empowerment Officer gave a short presentation on the West Dunbartonshire Community Empowerment Strategy, 'Making Things Happen in Your Community'.

Following a question and answer session, Anne MacDougall, Chair, thanked Suzanne for the interesting and informative presentation.

CONFERENCE PLANNING FOR COMMUNITY ALLIANCE CONFERENCE IN FEBRUARY/LAUNCH OF THE COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT STRATEGY

The Communities Project Worker – Communities Team gave a verbal update in relation to the plans for the above. After discussion, it was noted that arrangements were well in hand for the 'Get Involved' Community Conference which would be held in Clydebank Town Hall on Saturday, 22 February 2020.

LONELINESS AND ISOLATION FUND/FUNDING FOR ELDERLY

Rhona Young raised the issue of a fund of £10,000, of which approximately £2,200 remained for disbursement, aimed at combatting loneliness and isolation in the elderly. After discussion, the Acting Communities Manager/Community Empowerment Officer advised that the website link giving further information on conditions, etc. could be circulated for information.

GREENSPACE ISSUES

Having heard Anne MacDougall, Chair, it was noted that this item had been raised by some members of the community, and it was about the state of some of the parks and cemeteries, and concerns of leaves not getting lifted.

Having heard the Acting Communities Manager/Community Empowerment Officer, it was agreed that, in future, it would be helpful if officers could be provided with a summary of what the issues/concerns were, in order that an appropriate response could be provided for the meeting.

COUNCIL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Rhona Young raised the issue of difficulties in being able to contact officers using the council telephone system. Having heard the Acting Communities Manager/Community Empowerment Officer, the Community Alliance agreed to note the terms of the discussion that had taken place in respect of this matter. Again, it was agreed that it would be helpful, in future, if officers could be provided with a summary of what the main issues of concerns were, in order that an appropriate response could be provided for the meeting.

ENFORCEMENT ON NEW PARKING LAWS – 2021/ITEM FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE (CPWD) MANAGEMENT BOARD

It was noted that this item would become law in 2021, and was mainly concerned with pavement parking causing difficulties to wheelchair users and those with prams/buggies, etc.

ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

Some discussion took place on organised dog walkers using parks, such as Levensgrove, for walking dogs. The Community Alliance noted the terms of the discussion that had taken place.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting due to be held on Wednesday, 15 January 2020 at 2.00 p.m. in the Council Offices, 16 Church Street, Dumbarton would now be held on 12 March 2020.

The meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.

ⁱ As corrected by the Community Alliance at its meeting on 12 March 2020