

Public Meeting Minutes

Date: 31st May 2023

Members Present

Joan Murphy
Fiona Dyet
Carol Robertson
Fiona Berrow
Parvin Morrissey
Jude Treliving
Bob Dale
Ashleigh Phillip

In Attendance

Di Alderdice
Pat Morrissey
Chara Parraco
Cllr Thomson
8 residents

Apologies

7 residents

1. Welcome

Joan Murphy welcomed everyone to Riverside Primary School and to the first meeting of the newly elected Riverside Community Council (RCC). Monthly meetings have been set for the final Wednesday of every month, except July and December.

2. Introducing Office Bearers and Associate Members

Joan Murphy thanked three previous RCC members who have finished their term: Sue Dumbleton, Emily McLaughlin and Alison Swanson.

Following the successful election, the Office Bearers for the Riverside Community Council are as follows:

Chair: Joan Murphy

Vice Chair: Fiona Dyet

Secretary: Carol Robertson

Treasurer: Fiona Berrow

Planning Officer: Parvin Morrissey

It is noted that Pat and Parvin Morrissey will update and maintain the RCC [website](#).

There are four associate members of the council, with interests in particular sub-groups:

Pat Morrissey

Andrew Fraser

Chara Parraco

Di Alderdice

3. Sub-Groups

There are a number of sub-groups from the previous RCC currently being acted upon which Joan Murphy suggested bringing into the new RCC:

- a. Active Travel and Sustainable Transport (Ashleigh Phillip, Di Alderdice)
- b. Environment (previously Emily McLaughlin)
- c. Greenspace (Fiona Berrow)
- d. Lovers' Walk (previously Sue Dumbleton)
- e. Parking (Joan Murphy)

- f. Imagination Library (Bob Dale)
- g. Christmas and Eater Events (Chara Parraco)
- h. Community Clean Up (Di Alderdice to collect equipment from Emily McLaughlin)
- i. Defibrillators (Chara Parraco)
- j. Noticeboards (Parvin Morrissey)
- k. Riverside Stories (Carol Robertson)
- l. Planters (previously Emily McLaughlin, Bob Dale to email current residents involved)

4. Declarations of Interest

No Declaration of Interest was recorded.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes for March were adopted.
Ashleigh Phillip proposed; Bob Dale seconded.

6. Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting

None.

7. Reports

a. Chair

Police Report: There were no detected cases and two undetected cases in the reporting period.

The undetected cases related to theft of a motor vehicle and minor vandalism. It is noted that motor vehicle theft is very unusual in Riverside and this was a targeted attack on a Transit van. The Police included some helpful information regarding helpful information regarding preventing car and vehicle theft:

- <https://www.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/keeping-vehicles-safe/preventing-car-vehicle-theft/>

- <https://www.scotland.police.uk/advice-and-information/road-safety/protecting-your-car/>

b. Treasurer

Expenditure: It was agreed at previous RCC meeting to spend the rest of the available Let's Get Together money on reusable cups and a hot water urn. These have now been purchased and will be used for tea and coffee for future RCC meetings, as there are no facilities available at RPS.

Current Standing: The annual accounts have been done and are waiting to be independently verified. There is £2.48 left in the Admin Grant; the next grant will arrive in September. There is £170 in Unrestricted Funds.

Future Spending: It is proposed that for items which need to be purchased in between RCC meetings, up to the value of £30, funding could be made available by

agreement within the Community Councillors. This was agreed with the residents present.

c. Planning

Joan Murphy, Alison Swanson and Andrew Fraser have been regularly checking any correspondence regarding Planning in the months when there has been no RCC, as there had been previous concern that issues could slip through during this time. There are thankfully no issues to report.

d. Sub-Groups and Misc. Issues

Old Harbour Woods: Di Alderdice proposed a meeting to cut some Himalayan Balsam on 17th June. Posters with further information will be added to the noticeboards.

Hogweed: Joan Murphy reported significant discussion on the Riverside WhatsApp group regarding the presence of hogweed in various places, both on the riverbank and within grassy areas. There is concern for the safety of children and animals.

Stephen Bly has reported to Joan Murphy that due to insurance issues, volunteers are not able to be trained to treat hogweed. Pat Morrissey questioned whether this was an issue of Public Liability insurance, which was not able to be answered. Cllr Thomson will follow up about insurance, if possible, and suggested contacting Forth River Trust and Nature Scot.

Noticeboard: Joan Murphy reported that the fourth noticeboard (including the Council's one at the Pontoon) was installed successfully on Dean Crescent. However, a resident has complained that it is unsightly from their house and that previous RCC discussion had suggested that the noticeboard would be installed in Lovers' Walk. It is noted that the noticeboard has been installed where the RCC was told to place it: on the grass by Lovers' Walk, which is Cowane's Trust land.

A compromise was proposed that shrubs could be planted to obscure the view from the back. Fiona Berrow will check with Cowane's Trust whether the installation of shrubs is an acceptable use of the funds previously given. It is suggested that Riverside Naturally could suggest appropriate shrubs. Joan Murphy will follow this up with resident.

The installation has currently not been billed to the RCC. Joan Murphy will follow this up.

Green Space/Zebra Crossings: There were two distinct issues discussed: the development of the Green Space and the installation of the zebra crossings. Although distinct, they both are part of the same larger project.

The RCC had been told by Stirling Council to expect two zebra crossings to be installed by the end of the last financial year. This has not happened and there has been no report from Stirling Council regarding the progress of Green Space near town, close to where the zebra crossings had been proposed. Many RCC members aired frustration at Stirling Council for the lack of updates concerning this area and

for the disregard of the work done to consult the residents and raise finances to plan the space.

Cllr Thomson suggested a walkabout with Michaela Jackson, Transport Planning Officer to progress the project and discussion. Joan Murphy and other residents have previously had a walkabout with Tom Horner (Sustainable Transport Development) from Stirling Council.

There was universal agreement at the importance of zebra crossing installations being done as soon as possible, for both safety and access reasons.

Flytipping: Joan Murphy reported that there have been photographs of flytipping around Roseberry Terrace posted on the Riverside WhatsApp group. Several residents have contacted Stirling Council regarding this. The RCC will contact Stephen Bly, and Cllr Thomson requested that all four Stirling Councillors be included in this email to ensure it is dealt with promptly.

Di Alderdice also reported soil being dumped on the riverbank near the Bowls Club, as well as gravel being dumped from a wheelbarrow in the Old Harbour Woods. There have also been several trees cut at the same part of the riverbank.

Forth Crescent Tree: Joan Murphy reported concern on the Riverside WhatsApp group about a tree protruding through the wall opposite the Pontoon Park. This was previously reported to Stirling Council two years ago and was surveyed, but there is concern that the tree has subsequently grown and that the wall could collapse onto the road. Cllr Thomson reported that it has been surveyed recently by the Bridges Officer. Chara Parraco will take a month photo of the issue to monitor any changes.

Parking at Riverside Quay: Jude Treliving questioned whether parking on the double yellow lines on Shore Road outside Riverside Quay would be addressed in the Green Space development. She has seen several near misses with both bicycles and cars due to illegally parked cars and delivery vans. Ashleigh Phillip suggested that the double yellow lines on Shore Road should be extended from the current position down to the pontoon.

8. A. O. B.

WHS PTN: Joan Murphy read a thankyou letter from Wallace High School's PTN regarding the donation of hygiene products and school uniform from Riverside residents. It highlighted the issue of hygiene poverty both at WHS and in wider society.

9. Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 28th June 2023, 7:30pm, Riverside Primary School.