

Kinnaird & Inches Residents Association Meeting Minutes Log

This shared online document acts as an ongoing, transparent record of residents association meeting minutes.

Minutes of Meeting on Monday 27th March 2023 @ 7.00pm, Kinnaird Primary School Main Hall

Office Bearers In Attendance:-

Ben Adam – Chair

James Alexander – Vice Chair (Treasurer)

Joined by:

Mark Rinkus, Transport Planner

Jim Flynn, Councillor

1 Community Engagement and RA Membership/Interaction:

Overall issue is we do not have enough community engagement or people signing up.

Feeling was we need to get a project or focal point for people to get behind (Farmers Market, Christmas Fayre, Something else for the kids to get involved with, etc). How we set that up and spread the word is the question.

Strathcarron Snowdrop café was raised as an idea, but need access to halls/facilities.

How can we get a Youth Club going? Janitorial

KLSB community café – RA to look into that (food pantry etc) to see if there is a potential tie-in with them for our area.

Action: Ask for feedback from RA attendees for ideas, using the email address below:

Facebook is not considered enough to reach more people and need to come up with more options for people to engage with. First thing is to get more people signed up to the RA email address:

kvtiracommittee@gmail.com

2 Summer Fayre or Similar:

The Christmas window display didn't happen due to running out of time for it. Suggestion for trying to get SOMETHING arranged in the summer – Ailsa has prepared a flyer to ask for ideas (see point 5 for flyer):

Action: Issue flyer/leaflet physically once we get the quote for them.

3 Moss Road -Safety:

Safety of pedestrians was raised as an issue along Moss Road as there should be more segregation of road users and pedestrians.

Mark Rinkus joined the meeting, with Tryst Road & South Alloa Road safety as a topic for discussion.

South Alloa Road – ‘not technically changing the road with the development’ so don’t need to change road speed limit or put in paths.

Moss road will be developed if the next fields are allowed to be developed. Roads Authority team at the council is imbalanced.

Action: James to contact Councillor Murtagh regarding proposed crossing points. See AOB below for other suggestions on what we can explore in terms of cycle paths etc along Moss Road and Tryst Road.

4 Bins For Kinnaird Park & Wider:

The RA needs some members to meet with the shop owners and ask them to buy and empty 3 or 4 new bins. We know they don’t personally do the litter dropping, however if you look at what the rubbish is, it’s mainly rubbish from sweets, drinks, takeaway etc so it would be great if they help keep the place clean by providing bins. Ideally if they could have a rota or own and empty a bin each in the park it would also show locals they care about the area too.

Ongoing Action: BA and JA to meet with shop owners

Dog waste and bins for the dog waste still seems to be one of the biggest issues as both factors and Falkirk Council deny responsibility for them. This has been an ongoing item for years. Jim Flynn suggested larger bins may be part of a solution and we should ask the council about installing larger bins where they have current bins.

RA to contact Jim Flynn as well to ask him to enquire for us on this front.

5 Litter Picking:

We should apply for help on Facebook to link up people who are currently conducting litter picks, and it should be part of a leaflet drop. Ailsa has prepared a flyer which includes that – see below:

Action: James suggested a WhatsApp group is set up for this, and will put up a post asking for volunteers, with one of them to manage it.



6 Factoring:

We need to reignite some interest in this to chase this down to see what the options are, following on from previous Chair's investigation.

From previous minutes: James Alexander agreed to add a page on to the website about factors - "Who is yours?". Query with James if this happened and to what response as a starting point.

Find out from council if we have a map showing the various factors and also the council-owned land.

Ongoing Action: It was confirmed there may not be a map of factoring. If anyone knows otherwise please get back to us.

7 New Park Flooding:

Cala are still working with the contractors to resolve the water issues in the park. Let's see if they can fix it before asking them about it again, although BWA did ask Ian Conway of Cala about it at his meeting with Mason Evans (see 9 below) and he said they were on it. Trees have been planted today and Cala have confirmed they are trying to deal with it.

Trees in the park next to Sainsbury's – NHS suggest they have been surveyed by a tree surgeon but need to ask. We'll contact Greenbelt and NHS on their plans for the trees and the park going forward.

RA to contact NHS

8 Paton Drive:

The CCTV camera has been active now for a while and there looks like there is an improvement.

Drug dealing in the area is still a worry and is actively happening in various locations (Sainsbury's Car Park, Car parking areas, stashes in bushes etc). Police force only has 8 officers to cover the whole area. James confirmed that both the police and Places for People need evidence if they are to prosecute anyone.

9 Community Land Transfer Application:

BA explained the background to the community land transfer request for the two pockets of land behind the school and behind Sainsburys. Potential contamination is a risk on both pieces of land until evidence suggests this was remediated by either the NHS or Cala/Persimmon. This still stands. Contamination testing could cost a few thousands of pounds and will be required at some point, and after a recent meeting BWA had with the NHS, Cala and Mason Evans (the SI company who prepared the original SI which BWA has reviewed), the NHS agreed they should carry out this further SI work to confirm what is currently in place in each location. Mason Evans confirmed the land was contaminated, but mostly with ash spread from the boilers on paths (and potentially in flower beds by the NHS back in the day thinking it was good for the plants). They didn't think there was any asbestos and the spoil heaps are probably topsoil, left after the major soil movements carried out as part of the re-working of the land during the housebuilding phase. BWA to chase up the NHS to keep this progressing, but getting them to carry out a Topographic Survey and SI Investigation will be of major benefit to us, and it will hopefully show the land does not need further remediation.

The office bearers and Iain Henderson have looked into the potential application to become a SCIO and an application form has been completed prior to submission. We have taken advice from COSS (who work for the Scottish Government to help groups like us). We agreed at the meeting to proceed after looking into the implications of title deeds (Persimmon title deeds mention a Resident's Association – does moving to SCIO affect it?). **Awaiting confirmation from COSS lawyer prior to submitting.**

We put an environmental freedom of information request and Iain Henderson pursued this and did not get a response that helps confirm one way or the other if there is contamination. Mention of mineworkings shown on plans that were shared (but mining was not considered a risk in the Site Investigation reporting). We agreed with the NHS we would remove the FOI request if they start dealing with us in a more constructive manner.

The Planning Local Plan has been re-issued confirming the two areas of land are shown to be not allocated for residential use.

10 National Lottery Application for Development Funding:

Confirmed initial application for funding was not approved due to other more worthy applications which were further along the pathway. BA confirmed he awaited feedback from the community development officer contact who had suggested applying for it, to see if we should go back in for it.

BA got feedback to suggest we need to produce applications that are more OUTCOMES BASED. i.e. we want to make our community a better place to live and work by... or we to engage with climate action and contribute to a net zero community aspect.

Ongoing: To proceed with another application.

11 Getting more Use out of Kinnaird Primary School:

Woodlands example update: Jen Kerr at Falkirk Council was contacted. Too busy to respond but needs chased. Iain did keep pestering but no response yet. James confirmed he'd spoken with David McKay at the council to look into supplying an additional janitor. James also asked for an outside switch for the MUGA pitch.

Gary Bouse asked if the RA could confirm a list of potential uses/classes so he can see how they can work with the council education dept and see what could be done. Action was for the RA (all residents) to suggest a list of activities they feel would be useful to have located locally in the school so we can present a suggested number of activities, which was done. It was suggested that we issue a survey monkey to ask what people want to use the hall (and MUGA) for.

Jim Flynn confirmed he could look into this further.

Survey Monkey to be set up to gain feedback. Ailsa, Iain and Denise to progress

12 Community Choices Funds:

Ailsa Herd submitted and succeeded! Well done Ailsa! We now have a pot of money to help with some improvements to park areas and to help spread the word about the work of the RA a bit further.

13 RA Office Bearer Replacement for Treasurer:

James agreed to become Treasurer which replenishes the office bearers – agreed.

Ailsa Herd as Secretary - Agreed.

Anyone else wanting to become involved please email: kvtiracommittee@gmail.com

14 Pharmacy:

In limbo due to appeals by rival pharmacies, but hopefully the main objections will be removed when Lloyds' pharmacy closes down in Stenhousemuir.

AOB:

15.1 Will the wildflower seeded area be re-seeded? Or maintained? To be discussed with Cala

15.2 Facebook – put a couple of topics on it and keep updated with meeting dates.

15.3 Sustrans – Tryst Road – Mark Rinkus asked if the RA would support the initial study into trying to make Tryst Road safer for pedestrians and cyclists as it is the main route for school through to Larbert High, by turning it into a cul-de-sac and transforming it into an active travel cycle/walking route. After a show of hands (23 for, 1 against) it was agreed the RA would be able to help champion such an application. Someone in the RA who is not a consultant to submit the prepared paperwork when required.

Sustrans – Moss Road to also be supported by RA – Agreed by same vote.

BWA and Mark Rinkus to look into further and confirm what can be explored.

Mark also suggested he would put the RA us in touch with the Green Network Trust, who might be able to help fund various aspects of any green space transformation going forward. BWA to explore with Mark Rinkus and present at the next meeting

15 DONM: Last week of May: 29 May 2023 at 18:30