

Kinnaird & Inches Resident's Association Meeting Minutes Log

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

Minutes of Meeting on Monday 15th January 2024 @ 6.00pm, Kinnaird Primary School

Office Bearers In Attendance:-

Ben Adam – Chair

Iain Henderson – Treasurer

Apologies - Ailsa Herd - Secretary

Joined by:

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.

Now that the change to SCIO is underway, there should be more impetus and requirement to grow the membership – see section 9 too.

How can we get a Youth Club going? Janitorial back up required.

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:

Ongoing

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. Ongoing

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 last 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.

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. Ongoing.

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

Concerns raised by two Facebook respondees raising road safety concern in the area in general, but in particularly Moss Road. Can anything be done to help slow traffic down a bit or make things safer? The council suggests Cala/Persimmon to be contacted about it, but the roads are all adopted by the council.

See above from Mark Rinkus at last meeting. We have not been able to take this forward as yet. RA to send email to Cala/Persimmon and the Council Roads Dept (through the councillors).

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. **BWA to pick this up now that we have applied for SCIO status - ongoing**

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.

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.

Gary Bouse to enquire for us on this front. **Ongoing**

5 Litter Picking:

A litter pick held on 1st October was very successful and should be replicated.

We should continue to apply for help on Facebook to link up people who are currently conducting litter picks, and it should be part of a leaflet drop.

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. **WhatsApp group to be set up and used for litter picking and other activities (split into groups)**

BE THE CHANGE!

Sign up to join
**Kinnaird Village & The Inches
Residents Association!**

We need you!

- Community Connectors
- Event planning and organisers
- Litter Pickers
- Champions for our local area to make improvements
...and many more!

Fancy a weekend local Farmers/Business Market in the park across from
Sainsbury?

Help to make it happen.
Want your local business to be involved? Have an Etsy or Facebook business and
want more people to know about it?

Visit our Facebook group:
*Kinnaird Village & The Inches
Residents Association*

Let's do this together. We'd love to hear from you!

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.

Note this is now in abeyance due to the impact on the potential move to SCIO, where we would not be able to interfere with individual neighbour groups organising factor responses.

However, one attendee, Ross Murtagh who was the ex-chair of Link Housing Group asked if a joint meeting with the RA would be possible relating to consolidation of open space maintenance. The RA confirmed that we would be interested to set up the initial meeting.

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, but which seems to have broken equipment again - Cala have confirmed they are trying to deal with it. Michael Clements has taken over from Ian Conway. Greenbelt to be contacted.

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 - ongoing

8 Drug Dealing & Anti-Social Behaviour:

Drug dealing in the area is still a worry and is actively happening in various locations (Sainsbury's Car Park, Car parking areas, Kinnaird Park, 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.

For drug dealers using electric bikes and covered head-to-toe in black clothing, the Police need a photograph proving who it is so they can do something about it.

Agreed to post the police contact email address or number on Facebook to allow people to send in reports of drug dealing or similar anti-social behaviour. It would confirm that people can submit anonymous reporting to the police (but one of the main issues is if people are taken as witnesses their names would be disclosed).

It was fed back at the meeting to PC Archibald that having an email contact to send feedback is very helpful.

One other bit of feedback from PC Archibald is that K&TI is a good area to police with low levels of police requirement to intervene in incidents.

Gary Bouse confirmed that £12K would get a CCTV installation and 5 years of maintenance. Places For People to be asked with some contribution from the council. RA to ask Places for People about further CCTV or improved lighting.

Places for People and their policies for housing people was queried as there did not seem to be a vetting process for getting a dwelling with them.

9 Community Land Transfer Application:

IH got a call from COSS (Fiona Taylor) last week and IH asked them to look at our potential SCIO application forms and has since confirmed the following points:

1. Tighten up the geographic area for the SLF to include specific postal codes.
2. Clause 10 for membership to be clarified prior to COSS issuing a final version to their lawyers for final comments.

Apart from that, all fine.

Final outcome from the SI check on the land has been completed and we await the final report from Mason Evans (through NHS). Summary of outcomes are below which means we don't need anything else to move forward, as we have already got past the potential issue of the factors and deeds (we agreed to negate any cross-over and not allow the RA/SCIO to be involved in factoring).

Agreed we would re-submit amended SCIO form to COSS for final legal ok, then submit it.

Following that we would amend the Land Transfer form with the outcome of the SI Report.

Following SCIO application we'll need to garner more support and membership of the SCIO. Upgrading comms to email listing for membership would be the next step, and more roles will need to be formed/agreed for others to help.

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. NHS has results and will speak with us this week to deliver the outcomes. BWA will vet this and feed back. 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 outcome is as follows from the land contamination:

The spoil heaps are not contaminated. There is no asbestos contamination to worry about as it is at trace levels throughout. Elevated concentrations of heavier metals WERE found but it was low concentrations which would not be an issue for any general park use (including sports days by the school). If allotments for growing food were proposed it would need remediation or capping (300mm inert topsoil below the upper growing medium), something that raised beds would deal with.

The office bearers and Iain Henderson have looked into the potential application to become a SCIO and an application form has been completed and submitted to change the status of the RA constitution. 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 The COSS lawyer suggested it may be prudent to separate the Factoring from the RA so that there is no link whatsoever between the two, thus allowing the RA to transform to a SCIO.

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. **BWA will need more time and issue previous submission to AH. Ongoing**

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 – **Needs to be re-sent to Gary Bouse**. It was suggested that we issue a survey monkey to ask what people want to use the hall (and MUGA) for. **IH emailed 13 Nov and now has a named contact who will hopefully allow us to take this forward on a meaningful basis. To report back to next meeting**

12 Community Choices Funds:

We need to speak with Greenbelt/Cala about them helping how to get the permission to spend 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. AH spoke with Michael Clements at Cala (taken over from Ian Conway). He says the area has planning for multi-use pitch and not specifically a football pitch, so the planners should be consulted about it, which Michael is going to engage with. Greenbelt would be the ultimate owners of the posts, and he doesn't foresee them having any major objection to the proposed goal posts but they would need to review the proposals once the planners have been consulted. **Ongoing as with AH**

13 RA Office Bearer Replacement for Treasurer:

James confirmed he needed to step down from the RA and a new Treasurer is required. Iain Henderson confirmed he would be happy to take over as Treasurer – agreed by the meeting.

Ailsa Herd as Secretary - Agreed.

Anyone else wanting to become involved please email: kvtiracommittee@gmail.com This will become more relevant once we need the signatures for the initial membership of the SCIO organisation (20 people required)

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. **Ongoing – no update**

15 AOB:

15.1 Will the wildflower seeded area be re-seeded? Or maintained? To be discussed with Cala – add to the list of queries for Cala. AH to ask Michael Clements - **ongoing**

15.2 Facebook – put a couple of topics on it and keep updated with meeting dates. Denise is pushing more on Facebook and the recent Litter Picking is a positive story to help bring in more helpers. - **ongoing**

15.3 Benches was raised again in Kinnaird Park, but benches were checked and no benches are outside people's windows, and they are used by the school for outside learning. - ongoing

16 DONM: 26 February 2023 at 18:00 at Kinnaird Primary School