**Riverside Community Council Public Meeting Minutes**

**Riverside Primary School**

**Date: 26th June 2024**

**Members Present In Attendance Apologies**

Joan Murphy Di Alderdice Lorna Smith

Fiona Dyet Andrew Fraser Parvin Morrissey

Jude Treliving Cllr Nunn Pat Morrissey

Bob Dale PCs Hunter and Spike

Fiona Berrow Chara Parraco

Ashleigh Philips 10 residents

Carol Robertson

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| **Minutes** | Actions |
| 1. **Welcome**   Joan Murphy welcomed everyone to Riverside Primary School (RPS) and introduced Judi Legg as a new Associate RCC member for the Old Harbour Woods (OHW).  Good news of the month: according to a University of Exeter study of over 1000 people over the age of 40, playing a musical instrument or singing in a choir can lead to improved memory and thinking skills in old age. |  |
| 1. **Declarations of Interest**   No Declaration of Interest was recorded. |  |
| 1. **Approval of Previous Minutes**   Minutes for May adopted. Fiona Dyet proposed; Joan Murphy seconded. |  |
| 1. **Matters Arising from previous minutes not to be addressed within the meeting**   None. |  |
| 1. **Reports** 2. **Chair**   **Cornton CC**: Joan Murphy and Fiona Dyet recently met with Stuart Meldrum, the new head of the Cornton Community Council, and is hopeful to collaborate on projects in the future.  **Forthside Master Plan**: A meeting with residents of Riverside and Sharon Marklow from Stirling Council took place on Friday 21st June. Joan Murphy thought that the meeting went well and that Sharon Marklow was very enthusiastic and knowledgeable about the project. There is no final plan yet and the design guide is still very fluid. The full minutes of the meeting can be found here attached at the end of these minutes.  Joan Murphy gave a short summary of those minutes at the meeting:  MOD Site: There has been lots of interest in Stirling Studios and hope is that it will be used ASAP. There will be work done to create additional access to the site via the road by the Skoda garage. Stirling Council are aware of concerns regarding parking, noise, pollution and carbon creation. Cllr Nunn mentioned the carbon saving of using the existing buildings.  Housing: There is an ongoing discussion with planners about the mix of houses and flats in the development, with no plans currently out to architects.  Sustainability: There will be a separate meeting organised by Judi Legg with Stirling Council, Treelink and Riverside Naturally regarding sustainability and the Old Harbour Woods.  Road Safety: The road currently most commonly used which passes by Toast and the Vue Cinema will be accessible only for bikes, taxis and buses. Andrew Fraser again raised concerns about the junction where the proposed road for cars meets Shore Road, which Sharon Marklow said is part of the traffic survey currently happening.    The next meeting with Sharon Marklow will be Wednesday, 21st August at 6pm at Teith House. Any further questions, contact [riversidecommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:riversidecommunitycouncil@gmail.com) and the RCC will pass on to Sharon Marklow via Stephen Bly. This system means that all questions and issues are kept track of and replied to.   1. **Secretary:**   **Yellow Lines:** Proposal to add further double yellow lines on Forth Street and down Shore Road have been turned down by Stirling Council.  **Forth Street:** The ongoing leak is to be sorted within 28 days of the 7th of June.  **Grit Bins:** The long-awaited grit bins have been promised by next winter.  **Waverley Park:** The long grass which was hindering access for buggies and wheelchairs has now been cut lower.  **School Streets:** There is no funding for pursuing the project further.  **Giant Hogweed**: The problem is ongoing throughout Riverside and there is a particularly bad patch on Dean Crescent. Cllr Nunn assured RCC that any hogweed found on Stirling Council land has been dealt with but will contact Cowane’s Trust regarding their land.  **Potholes**: The resurfacing work on the underpass between Riverside and Tesco seems unsatisfactory as it has left an uneven, blotchy surface. Cllr Nunn explained the new risk-based approach to road defects, where a hole in the middle of the road is deemed to be less risky and is less prioritised compared to one at the edge of a road which is more likely to endanger cyclists and damage cars.  **Payphone**: RCC was given the opportunity to purchase the payphone on Millar Place for £1 to be used to house a defibrillator. There is currently a defibrillator just around the corner from the phone on Abbey Road and it cannot be used for a book swap or community pantry.  **Pavement Parking**: From 15th July 2024, Stirling Council will ban pavement parking.  **Plant Swap**: At Cambuskenneth Village Hall, Sunday 7th July at 2pm.  **Remembering Together**: Giving space to reflect on the impact of COVID, there will be an event as part of the national Remembering Together campaign at the Riverbank Centre on Friday 5th July, 11-13:30. Complimentary refreshments provided.  **First Aid Training**: Fiona Dyet has been in touch with the Bowls Club for a First Aid course. Date and price unclear as yet, but will be advertised on the Riverside WhatsApp group when known.  **Police Report:** 2 reports: 1 detected and 1 undetected, relating to minor vandalism and assault on a minor. There were 11 calls, mostly related to seeking assistance for members of the public.   1. **Treasurer**   There was no income or expenditure this month. The annual accounts are being checked and Fiona Berrow will meet in July to get them signed off.  . | Joan Murphy to follow this up. |
| 1. **Sub-Groups** 2. **Planning**: No news. 3. **Active Travel**: Reminder than both Recyke-a-bike and Forth Environment Link offer free loans of various ebikes. More information can be found at <https://www.recyke-a-bike.co.uk/hire-a-bike> and <https://felscotland.org/bike-library/> 4. **Environment:**   **Planters:** Most of the replanted planters are doing well and have lilies emerging, with two needing a top up.  **Litter Pick:** The litter picking equipment is being used regularly. The recent litter pick with McDonalds employees went well, yielding 24 bags of litter. They have offered to join in on future community events.   1. **OHW**: Joan Murphy mentioned that the giant nettles at this time of year can create an unpleasant environment in the OHW, which is something which will hopefully be addressed when a management plan is developed with Stirling Council. Cllr Nunn asked DA for further information about a suggested management plan for the woods. 2. **Roads and Parking**: Andrew Fraser raised concerns about the proposed plan to remove the mini roundabout on Abbey Road as part of the new cycle path. Ashleigh Philip has used the fixmystreet app (also available at fixmystreet.com) to report issues on Shiphaugh Place and has found it particularly useful to highlight when it is a danger to bikes. |  |
| 1. **OAB**   **Forthside**: The plan for the Forthside Development can be found here: <https://engage.stirling.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/forthsidemasterplan>  Jo Miller led everyone in a song to finish, promising to lead a round at the next meeting. |  |
| **Next meeting: Wednesday, 28th August 2024. Venue: RPS.** |  |

**Minutes of Riverside community meeting with Sharon Marklow, SC planner and lead on Forthside masterplan and development. 21.06.24 12.00 noon**

Present: Judi Legg (JL), Joan Murphy (JM), Ashleigh Phillips (AP), Andrew Fraser (AF), Tor Mackay (TM), Imogen Scott (IS), Andy Cloquet (AC), Danny Murphy (DM), Paul Dumbleton (PD), Gillian Armstrong (GA), Sharon Marklow (SM).

1. **Welcome & intro**

SM thanked the group for their attendance. She reported that the situation with the plans and Design Guide is still very fluid with lots of separate moving parts and lots of ‘asks’ from/for particular features. SM also stated that the “final” masterplan is not final and there will still be chance to comment on the next version.

Brian Roberts, interim Chief Executive is leading on this project.

1. **MOD site/ Stirling Studios**

* There is a lot of interest from the film industry to lease the buildings (Ti
* meline -see photos attached). The proposed housing in front of the existing MOD site is currently being reconsidered due to the development of the new film studio but nothing will encroach on the existing greenspace, along the riverfront, as at that point, there is lots of existing infrastructure services, including the district heating pipes.  There is currently consideration of raising the height of the  large MOD building to accommodate a range of filming needs, although there is still great interest in the site from the film industry if the adaption is not made to the height. There is currently a consideration of the amount of homes that can be built on the site. The site is in the current Local Development Plan for 250 units. There is also consideration of the number of homes on this brownfield site as well as the return on selling the land for new homes. Access to the film studio will likely incur a large number of additional vehicles requiring access to the new film studio site. Concerns were expressed by a number of attendees re possible parking, helicopters, noise pollution etc. An early piece of work will be to open up the road between the Skoda garage and the MOD site to allow development.
* Most of the buildings within the MoD site will be retained.
* JL asked how certain impacts including the dirty water runoff from hard surfacing would be offset. SM acknowledged this needed further consideration.
* TM asked about potential bottleneck of traffic within Riverside and SM is aware of the issue.
* TM also said that park & ride could be an option to dissipate increased traffic.

* SM reported that there is much interest in the new Stirling Studios from the hospitality and technical studies etc. departments at Stirling College.
* AC raised the issue of exclusion zones out with the Studios site for filming and SM reassured that there are a large number of agencies including H&SE, SEPA as well as the Council who will give the permissions or otherwise for this.
* SM reported some thinking about making the existing park & ride smaller to increase space for other usages, citing limited current usage. The roundabout providing access into the car park is also likely to change.
* JL asked whether film companies applying to lease the new studios would be asked by the Council to interrogate their sustainability plans. SM answered in the affirmative.

1. **Housing**

* There is on-going consideration of the proposed new housing along the riverfront and the space requirements for servicing, parking, green space, residential amenity, ensuring the success of the film studios and ensuring that there is good connectivity around and through the site.
* There was talk of any new child residents of the scheme going to both Braehead and Riverside Primary School.
* SM stated that flats are, in general, not suitable for social housing and that her preference was for a mixed community with different types of housing that also blend into the commercial buildings.
* TM commented that the Riverside Quay building was too tall and met with unanimous agreement.
* JM asked if any contracts had yet gone to architects and SM confirmed that they had not.
* SM agreed that many of the drawings in the Design Guide are contradictory and this was caused by things moving very quickly with no time to update all drawings This is something that the Council will pick up on through finalising the documents.
* SM stated there is no money as yet for the development of the Town Square.
* JL requested more/grouped trees in the Square.
* The Engine Shed want to extend their property towards the town. JM asked if the Engine Shed would re-open to the public but there are no plans at present but SM would raise the issue with them again.

1. **Old Harbour Woods, Woodland & Natural Environment**

* As there are number of issues to be discussed relating to this, JM requested a separate meeting for interested parties to discuss plans for the woodland and greenspace areas. SM agreed and JL will co-ordinate getting a date for the meeting with Riverside Naturally, OHW group, TreeLink and SM.
* PD asked about the site currently fenced with broken heras fencing and JL stated the dangers to children and problem with unmanaged invasive species.  SM said she did not know if the Council could get the fencing removed as the ownership is not known.
* JL asked if SM knew who in the Council was being asked about the deferred funding application which the RCC OHW group had made to the CSET grant fund. SM said to give the funders her email address and she would find out.

1. **Other issues**

* TM asked about the potential for existing buildings across to be utilized including The Prudential building.
* IS pointed out the importance of creating a ‘sense pf place’ with references to the cultural history of the area perhaps being shown through art or sculpture trails. There was general agreement.
* AF queried the apparently continuing use of the T-junction nearest the railway bridge.  It appears to be sub- standard to an extent which is potentially dangerous, and should have been closed before the first of the Forthside developments went ahead. SM said this was part of a current traffic survey and assessment and still awaiting the results.
* AF asked why, on p103 of the plan, the Hydrogen Strategy has been dismissed in the document. SM replied she would revisit this.
* AF noted that there was no mention of the needs of elderly or disabled people in the Masterplan, although there was reference to “accessibility”.  He was concerned about the standards to which the proposed housing might be built - thinking, for instance of door widths, room dimensions, etc.  SM indicated that a proportion of Stirling Council’s housing might take that into account, but could give no assurance concerning private developers’ intentions.  And that she would take this into consideration.
* AF said that more parking was needed and AP stated 40% of Stirling’s population have no access to a car and that the emphasis on active travel within this development was proportionate. Several people agreed and that multiple car ownership per family is not helpful.
* AF stated that the bi-directional cycle tracks proposed on pages 126,127 of the Plan are dangerous, that people don’t know what to do on these and that they are not now used across Europe. SM said this was under review.

SM stated that she can be contacted direct rather than via Stephen Bly but RCC will keep channeling all comments also through Stephen Bly as some comments should potentially be fielded to other officers.

It was agreed that regular meetings with SM would take place every 2 months with the next meeting taking place on **Wednesday, August 21st, at 6pm at Teith House**

JM thanked SM for her time and energy and SM said that receiving regular comments was very helpful and would lead to a better design.