



# Dullatur Community Council Newsletter

Dear Resident

Sorry to have kept your newsletter on the back burner for so long, but we have had to wait until the various overdue snippets of news regarding NLC Action to Defects arrived.

The Christmas Show “The Penguins Save Christmas” was an outstanding success, playing to full houses on both nights. Thanks to Martin Doogan of Westerton Road making an excellent DVD, the back room girls actually got to see the show. If you would like a copy of the DVD, you can purchase it for £5.00 which will go to the charity. The show raised £287.00 for the charity Unique, some of the older girls in the show went out on Christmas Eve and raised another £130.00 to bring the grand total up to £417.00. Next year hopefully Martin will produce another DVD. Many thanks to our usual crew who helped to put it together, Gillian Rooney, John and Anne Colquhoun, the Ferguson Family and Lorne Browne for putting festive into the Dullatur Christmas. I promise you, the Christmas Show and Merry Christmas Sign will be coming down soon. Bills recovering from his knee op, and as I almost had a heart attack putting the Christmas sign up, I ain’t taking it down. Vertically challenged that’s me, and who said anything about age?

## **What’s been happening?**

**The Community Council** has been constantly complaining to NLC about the general decline and improvements needed around the village. Some of the issues have been ongoing for a considerable length of time. Councillor Murray had his annual village walkabout a couple of weeks ago, probably on the wettest day we’ve had for a long time. We have contacted our MP and MSP with our complaints and are now considering taking NLC to the Public Services Ombudsman.

Cllr Murray Noted;

Blocked gullies in Prospect Road, Victoria Road, the junction of Antonine Road, Glen Road and Victoria Road.

**NLC ACTION;** All blocked gullies have been cleared.

Unstable mono blocking on the junction of Antonine, Glen and Victoria Roads due to infilling sand being washed out from burn overflowing and general surface water.

Collapsed drain on the junction of Antonine, Glen and Victoria Roads due to infilling sand being washed out from burn overflowing and general surface water.

Surface of Prospect Road at the stretch to Dykehead Road breaking up due to surface water.

NLC Roads Dept. has inspected these areas.

**NLC ACTION;** The man hole cover was completed by Scottish Water last week. NLC will now complete the unstable mono- blocking at the junction of Victoria and Glen Road

Lack of general maintenance i.e. leaf sweeping on the footpath, particularly in the old village. The autumn clear-up usually starts in October. The Community Council complained bitterly about this especially at the stepped footpath from Victoria Road to Victoria Terrace. Eventually due to pressure from Cllr Murray the first cleanup was done just before Christmas. This area is maintained annually by Community Services who cut the grass on regular intervals. The Director of Community Services was notified. We have had more action in the last two weeks than we have had in the past year.

**NLC ACTION;** It has been confirmed by Mr Jukes, Director of Community Services that this area will be swept regularly, especially in the period of heavy leaf fall.

Residents of Victoria Terrace have had to take matters into their own hands to safeguard their properties from flooding. In periods of heavy rain, water flows like a river down Victoria Road down the stepped path and flows through the back of their properties affecting some nine homes, from nos. 2 to 10. All the properties in the Terrace have enclosed back yards and all have suffered flood damage. At the end of last year the residents dug out a channel and created a rubble drain channelled to the land drain. They have backed up the spoil to create a barrier backing onto their properties.

Defective lighting at the stepped footpath from Victoria Road to Victoria Terrace. Re above, this is a danger due to the slippery surface. One large tree branch lies over the path and should be removed. Although one light has been repaired, one is still operating on French energy saving time. Lighting columns are in a very poor condition and should be replaced. They are not in keeping with the Conservation Areas in Victoria Road, Prospect Road and Victoria Terrace.

**NLC ACTION;** Good news on that front, it is intended to carry out a lighting renewal scheme in this area in 2008/09. Design work on this will commence later in the summer. The Community Council will endeavour to continue to get the best design possible for the conservation areas.

**The play area** (off Prospect road) known at the Bunny Hop is poorly drained and requires urgent attention. The Community Council has confirmation this area was drained by NLC after a public meeting in 2000. A short term attempt to upgrade the area was made three years ago; however the major problem of drainage was never addressed. The Community Council have kept on and finally we have had some long awaited results.

**NLC ACTION;** It has just been announced that the Parks and Leisure Dept. with the aid of the Geotechnical Dept. are in the process of costing the refurbishment of the area. The footpath however, is badly now badly eroded from the water run-off from the Stewart Milne Development. **This area is the only official kick about area in the village.**

All other grassed areas that may be perceived as common ground especially the main grass areas around the entrance to Antonine Road and the Roman Sun Dial Feature are actually private. It may be thought that the area is owned by NLC as they maintain the play area and the grassed areas. Hacking & Paterson, the factors for the residents of Dullatur Gate passed over all maintenance of the landscaped areas and play area to NLC. In future however, another contractor may be chosen, if decided by Hacking & Paterson. The landscaped areas are owned by portion and an annual maintenance fee paid by the residents of Dullatur Gate, (Taywood) namely all residents in Westerton and Antonine Road to the entrance of Victoria Grange (Stewart Milne). This does not include residents of Mere Court. It will be considered by the residents that "no ball games" signs are erected. This is quite in order. In the private developments in Craigmarloch such signs are displayed and are quite obvious.

**Bunny Hop:** The area is now being used as a fly tipping dump for tyres and other refuse. The Environmental Dept. has already uplifted one substantial load of tyres. As soon as that load was removed double the amount of tyres was tipped into the drainage ditch and footpath. A lockable

barrier has been requested. The footpath round the area is in a poor condition and requires a new surface of aggregate. If you see anyone illegally tipping, take any registration mark and contact the police or contact: [environmental@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:environmental@northlan.gov.uk)

**The Croy Walkway** is impassable due to lack of maintenance; this was the village footpath to Croy and would be a useful cycle track given the parking problems at Croy Station. This has been a frequent request by residents. This area was upgraded by CKDC or CDC many years ago. The Community Council have asked that the Croy / Dullatur walkway is adopted as a core path in the Council's access scheme.

**The Glen Road** is fast becoming dangerous. Half the street lights are not working despite repeated phone calls. The conditions of the trees are poor and Amey have been called out on two occasions in the past year to deal with fallen dead trees. This has caused power failures for several hours affecting many homes. The woodland was maintained by CDC prior to the windup in 1996. The stone banking from the disused quarry walls is unstable due to the volume of water; large stones are falling onto the road. The only safe way to drive down the road is from the central position. The Community Council have received many letters from residents sustaining damage to their vehicles from passing vehicles on the road. The banks of the Chanticleer Burn side are eroding from the volume of water. The concrete frame at the grid is breaking up. The burn is constantly flooding due to a build up of debris, a regular monthly clean out was promised three years ago during the autumn / winter months. Mr and Mrs W Jamieson of Glen Cottage regularly clear out the grid; they have no choice as their property has been repeatedly flooded by the burn overflowing.

**NLC ACTION;** Bars have been removed from the grid to improve the water flow through it. The defective lights should now be operational. A site inspection has been arranged with the arboriculture section and if any trees overhanging the road are identified as being dangerous. Arrangements will be made to have any which are the council's responsibility removed or cut back and notice served on the owners on the land on which any others are located. Arrangements will be made to remove any loose stones from the stone banking at the old quarry wall.

It is quite obvious that the residents of Dullatur value our village and our self-sufficiency is more than evident, how many places will you find residents spending hours in the pouring rain clearing drains, diverting water, clearing debris from water courses and generally improving our village. Even down to picking up rubbish left by mindless "litter bugs". This culture is creeping into the village again please help by doing your bit. Community Services have been notified about the rubbish strewn the length of the Glen Road.

**The Lane** is fast becoming the "hair shirt" of Dullatur Community Council. The pitiful attempt to fill in pot holes the Lane as a "one off gesture" is rapidly deteriorating. NLC quite happily take the annual revenue from the residents of the village and give little or nothing in return. Dullatur at the time of the windup was named the "Jewel in the Crown" of Cumbernauld, and the coffers in Motherwell have benefited extremely well from the name. Is it now about time this somewhat tarnished gem got some TLC. Unfortunately The Lane is still an ongoing issue, with NLC maintaining they have no legal responsibility for the Lane. To the Community Council this still is not a satisfactory statement and will continue with the fight.

**School buses;** Community Council are still monitoring the high school buses, some are still habitually reversing into Mere Court. The regulation is about to kick in that all school buses are fitted with seat belts. Older children have been witnessed standing while the bus is in motion.

## **Local Plan**

The next draft is planned to be issued by March of this year and if approval given then will go to Public Consultation. This process will then go on for approximately one year and during that time it is important that we are vigilant in looking out for any further amendments that may be submitted. Once the preliminary draft plan is approved this then becomes the “official authorised document” which will then be in force for the next 5-10 years. As of May 2007 the local Councillor wards will change to be one ward from Castlecary to Westfield (i.e. The North side of the A80) with 4 councillors representing us.

Cllr G Murray expressed concerns that there were no plans for any Local Authority Housing within his ward. Every housing area is meant to provide low cost housing. He also felt that there was a lack of “retirement flats” within the area. The area on the Dullatur Golf Club at the start of Old Dullatur Road proposed for future development was discussed, but when questioned by the Community Council as to the height of storeys, three to four storeys was mentioned. The Community Council stated that if building properties for the elderly were to be considered in that particular area that bungalows would be more appropriate. Given that all the householders in the immediate area paid a premium price for their plots and properties.

Rumours are circulating that the Dullatur road would be closed between Queens & Kings Drive to allow flats to be built within the waste land between the two roads. There is no basis to this, this is a rumour and has been confirmed a rumour by NLC Planning Dept.

## **Future Development in the Area**

Links area in Westerwood; planning for further houses, max 174.

Dobbies Garden Centre 50 houses – although it would appear that business is booming and at this time they have no intention to sell

Land at Dullatur roundabout – max 307 houses – although issues still regarding sewage problems. Further housing at Garnhall Road (between Old Inns Roundabout and Castlecary)

Main development area appears to be at Abronhill & Luggiebank with 1,000 + houses planned to be built.

100+ houses at Broadwood stadium already agreed – however further housing is planned at Croy and Broadwood – which will escalate the travelling problems on both the road network i.e. Access to the A80 and also Croy station parking.

## **Be safe and secure: Advice from Constable Kenny Foy –Community Safety Department**

British Summer time is now with us – and this increases crime rates with the longer light nights and early mornings. The prime time for break-ins and car snatches is between 5.30am and 6.00am

High value cars are a prime target – if you can use your garage

Don't leave your car keys on a table or near your door – thieves use powerful magnets on fishing rods

Don't leave keys in your door – they can be pushed out and again lifted off the floor with magnets

Be observant – any unusual vehicles – or neighbours cars leaving not **at** the usual time – take a second look

Sat Nav. systems are the new car stereo theft – don't leave them in sight and remember to remove the window holder

Re recent local charity hoax requesting old clothes etc for collection. Polish charity with blue and yellow flyer. Two people have been arrested.

## **Refuse Uplift**

Large refuse collection uplifts – originally these could be arranged free of charge – it was then amended to only 1 uplift per household per year. After much debate from the North Lanarkshire Tenants and Residents Steering Committee and input from Community Councils this has now been formally increased to 3 per year per household

**NHS update** – Cumbernauld residents will be allowed to use the A&E facilities at Larbert once built in approx. 2010. Plans are still in place for a Minor Injury Unit at the Centre Health Centre

**Social Events:** We will be holding A Spring Supper in the Village Hall on Saturday 28 April at 7.30pm. Tickets £12.50.

**Charity Supper;** a fund-raiser for the Scottish Spina Bifida Assoc. on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2007 at the Westerwood Hotel, 7pm for 7.30pm, Tickets £10.00. Let's get together for an evening of good food, good company and dancing. For further information contact Helen on 01236-733977.

**The Village Barbeque** will be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June from 5.30pm. Tickets £7.00, for adults and children over twelve and £3.00 for children over three.

If you are vegetarian please let us know. This is a very popular event get your names down fast.

**Dullatur Lawn Tennis Club** Some junior members of the Club have taken advantage of winter coaching with our resident coach Neil who got us a great deal with Esporta. The current coaching session has just finished and now it's back to the great outdoors. Coaching will start after the Easter holidays and will be set in five weeks blocks of £15.00. The block will be paid in advance and receipts will be given. The new seasons fees and AGM will be announced shortly. This year we are reverting back to shoe tags to identify members. We are aware that individuals are taking advantage of younger members and walking on and playing on the counts. This was witnessed by three committee members last week. If you wish to join the club, contact Margaret Smillie on 729805.

## **The Mother and Toddler Group and Playgroup**

This is a great way of meeting other mothers and introducing your child to new friends if you have just moved into the village. The Toddler / Playgroup is a non-profit making, community based group run by a committee of parents & carers, who employ two qualified play-leaders, Emma and Gillian. The Toddler Group caters for children up to the age of two and a half years and their parents/ carers. The Playgroup caters for two and a half years plus, as a progression towards nursery.

For further information contact Emma.....451082.

## **Educational Groups**

Junior **Spanish and French classes** are held on Tuesdays, 3.45p-4.15pm (nursery club), and 5pm-7.45pm. Classes for adult beginners or improvers are available on Tuesdays 2.30pm – 3.30pm.

Wednesdays from 1.30pm-2.30pm

Contact Jo.....458008

## **5-14 Maths and English** with First Class Learning.

After school support for all ages, from pre-school to teens.

Classes in Dullatur Village Hall. For details, contact Ron Thompson on (0141) 777 7991

## **And Finally**

If you have just moved into the village, a warm welcome and we hope the move was not too stressful. We are an active community, if you can lend a hand in any way, we would be delighted.

Thanks yet again to my trusty band of watchdogs who keep me informed of all the goings on in and around the village.

**North Lanarkshire Council.....Bron Way.....01236-616200**

**North Lanarkshire Council.....Motherwell.....01698-302222**

**Cllr Gordon Murray.....01236-721518 or [murrayg@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:murrayg@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Cllr Bob Chadha.....07939280063 ex 2329 or [ChadhaB@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:ChadhaB@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Cllr Barry McCulloch....07939280056 ex 2658**

**Cllr Alan O'Brien.....07939280055 ex 2540 [OBrienAL@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:OBrienAL@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Cathie.Craigie.msp@scottish.parliament.uk**

**Rosemary McKenna MP.....01236-457788 or [mckennar@parliament.uk](mailto:mckennar@parliament.uk)**

**Chief Executive.....Gavin Whitefield.....01698-302452; [chief.executive@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:chief.executive@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Environmental Contact Centre.....01698-403110; [environmental@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:environmental@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Head of Roads & Transportation....Graham MacKay.....01236-616202; [MacKayG@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:MacKayG@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Head of Environmental Services.....Paul Jukes.....01698-302746; [JukesP@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:JukesP@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Head of Land Services.....Ken Wilson.....0141-304-1846; [WilsonK@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:WilsonK@northlan.gov.uk)**

**Head of Planning & Development.....Patrick Kelly....01236-616203;**

**[KellyPJ@northlan.gov.uk](mailto:KellyPJ@northlan.gov.uk)**

## **Services available in the village**

Pressed for time....Let Gillian do your ironing.....01324-815536

High Class Bespoke Tailoring by Jack Houston @ Robert Dick 0141-554-0655

Fresh Farm egg delivery.....phone John on 738076

Stabling and livery.....Wester Dullatur Farm.....723218

Tree Surgery and maintenance.....Jim Fraser 724482

Learning to drive.....Call Des @ Ability 01236 – 727662

Calling Tired Mums; Fed up! Need a break: Registered Child minder; Fully Qualified NNEB -20 Years Experience Call Jacki Oon 07722 878013

Not sure what colour or make up suits you for that important event. Colour me Beautiful.

Call Allison on 01236- 726855

Luxury People Carrier.....Dullatur Private Hire.....Colin Dunigan, 01236-724225 or 007952-873223

Gordon Campbell.....Telecom Installations, repairs or P.C Problems; call 01236-7 or his Mobile.... 07947143517; also 60's, 70s music for large and small functions (not weddings)

String Quartet for weddings, functions etc.....Peter Markham @Phoebus 724209

Roof Problems.....Tom Rhymer, 721339.

Plumber.....Stephen Scott.....01236-613118. Mobile 07795973942

Electrician.....Bill Mills.....734450 or 07732557485.

Decorator.....David Shields 0141-882-0380. Mobile..... 07885189686.

All kinds of joinery work .....John Henderson.....01236-830289

Tiling.....Tommy Newman.....0141-779-2407

Music Tuition.....Lynn Fraser.....01236-720560

If you have a problem with uninvited house guests.....field mice, squirrels etc,

Contact Jim Armstrong....NLC Environmental Dept.....01236-616537

The Village Hall is available for hire for children's parties and the ceiling and walls decorated and lit for a small fee. Hall hire for residents, £6.00 per hour. Likewise equipment, e.g. chairs, tables and catering equipment can be hired for a small charge.

Margaret Smillie (secretary) Pine Lodge, Victoria Road, G68 0AW. 729805

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