

## Introduction

Greenfield House has been left empty for a number of years and the promised development of Retirement Flats has not happened. There are increased concerns for the building.

## Concerns

- Greenfield House is a Historic building and it would be a lost to Alloa if it was to be destroyed.
- There are now a lot of broken windows and each window has 12 panes.
- Youths can hurt themselves near, within or on top of building. In fact some locals reported that they had seen youths on the roof with lighters
- Calls re empty buildings use up police time which could be better used elsewhere
- There are always issues around the Greenfield park and an empty building is a magnetic for trouble.
- There are less calls to the Police now then before at Greenfield. Last year there were lots of issues as a local resident outlined
- Police urged public to report issues to the police. You could report issues anonymously if frightened
- There was also concerned that the police did not take the reports from the public seriously. As has been the case before the police urged the public to contact them when the public thought a crime was being committed.
- A side debate about the lack of local knowledge of the police call centres which are as far away as Inverness started. This was a known issues and passed up the Polices management line. Some felt that the police were not counting all the calls they received and some thought that they should always get an incident number but it was explained that this was not always the case.
- Concerns were expressed by locals who had done research in to issues around another development owned by Kapital in Fife

## Political commitment

There was a clear political commitment to looking after Greenfield house by the politicians present this included several councillors who had been in touch with the company, as well as the local MSP and MP. The MP who was present was happy to write to the company to raise peoples concerns as well as rise in parliament if need be. Cllr Earle had written to the company several weeks ago but had not had a reply. It was mentioned that the local MSP had also written.

Cllr Craig Holden whose has the remit for Housing and the Environment had been in touch with the officers of the council about what action the council could take. Although officers had inspected the outside of the building it was not in a state that required an enforcement notice and a compulsory purchase order was not an option at present. Cllr Holden would however continue to discuss with officers what options the council had. Certainly the best solution would be that the development started and the building was secured

## Access to building when being redeveloped

The talk of development highlighted an issue of access to the site as the wee bridge over the burn had a very low weight limit. Councillor Holden said that this had been discussed at the time and a route over the park had been one solution.

## Local Key Holder

The local key holder said no problems contacting the owners. At least one result of the meeting was that the community police were able to talk to a local key holder. This is especially important if there is a fire or the police have to enter the building to remove any one who has broken in.

## Agreed Actions

The meeting ended with a commitment by everyone to work together to resolve the issues around Greenfield house and to encourage the owners to engage with the local community about the concerns about the current state of the building

## **Working Group**

One person from each group:

Alloa Community Council

Clacks Councillors

MP office

MSP office

Police

Bob Dingwall

## **Issues to be resolved**

When will development start

If development not starting soon what action can be taken to protect building for Alloa

Secure fences needed around property

Garden and grounds around property needs maintaining

How does historic Scotland or council get to inspect internally

After meeting community police spoke with a local key holder

Does building have public liability insurance and what security measures are required for the insurance?

What pressure can be applied to owners to live up to their promised development

What pressure can be placed on developers to start the work.

Does the work need to start or end before the planning permission runs out.

What is the exact date that planning permits runs out.

What can the different agencies do to secure building

Council

Police

Fire and Rescue

Health and Safety executive

Historic Scotland

Everyone was keen that the Capital residential Ltd engage with these concerns. As the Alloa

Advertiser was there we expect there to be an article in next weeks paper.