



Draft Minutes of Linlithgow & Linlithgow Bridge Community Council Meeting.

Tuesday 28th October 2014 held in the Burgh Halls.

Present: Chair John Kelly (JK) Lyn Aitken (LA) Aileen Boyle (AB) Brenda Galloway (BG) Ian Kelly (IK) Fiona Low (FL) Ron Smith (RS) David Tait (DT) Verena Throp (VT) Councillor Tom Kerr and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Debbie Day (DD) Gill Fawcett (GF) Bruce McCallum (BMcC) Mike Vickers (MV)

Police Scotland – Peter Robertson (PR) Councillors Tom Conn (TC) and Martyn Day (MD)

1. **Minutes of meeting held 23rd September 2014.** After IK requested the addition of 'for' between '£128' and '15 meetings' in his Treasurer's report, the minutes were unanimously approved as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by IK seconded by AB.

2. **Actions** Christmas Tree Lights. TK informed the meeting that as the BIDs committee wished a project and had £15,000 available to upgrade the lights this year, it was the best way forward to let them take this over. They intend to provide lights for 16 trees between the Low Port and West Port, with the existing Christmas features remaining as at present. Stewart Ness was keeping TK informed and the planning was quite far ahead. AB asked if the Christmas tree lights at the Cross were included in this, and was informed that these were the responsibility of the West Lothian Council and the cost for this comes out of their budget. RS wished that these lights could be multi-coloured. DT wished that a real feature could be made at the Cross. TK stated that the Cross Well would be a good feature, and work was proceeding on its electrics and plumbing, but the sandstone could not take the wear and tear of it being a 12 month feature. He was asked to persuade the Council to highlight the Burgh Halls. TK suggested that the Community Council went along with what was proposed explaining that arranging the power supply and sourcing it was as expensive as buying the lights.
JK is to ask Stewart Ness to come to the Community Council meeting in December to start discussions on strategy for 2015 lights.
IK raised the issue of street lights which weren't working and was told he could report it to the Council by referencing the number on the lights, but if he wished, he could pass this on to TK and he would contact David Wilson at the Council.
AB advised that the other 2 actions included in the September minutes have been completed.

3. Updates from Working Groups

- a) **Planning and Development, including response to Main Issues Report.** JK stated that
 - i) Burghmuir- the Reporter has still not come to a decision.
 - ii) Clarendon – the appeal would be heard in the Burgh Halls on 29th October 2014
 - iii) Cala at Springfield – is progressing to reports. West Lothian Council objects that the social housing is on land that is too small in proportion to the other houses and the social houses don't match the other houses. Education – there is no capacity at the Academy.
 - iv) Kettilstoun – the applicants have had their public consultation, but haven't applied for planning permission. The Environmental Assessment is being done.

- v) JK hasn't discovered the status of the Main Issues Report. It recognises Clarendon as a possible site for house building. RS stated that this is a material consideration which has to be taken into account. AB moved a vote of thanks to JK for all his hard work on the Community Council's behalf regarding planning and the Main Issues report response.
- b) **Health & Social Provision.** VT stated that a summary Report on the Public Consultation held on 11th September was in progress, and she hoped that it would be finalised by the end of November. She also commented on preliminary areas which were noteworthy regarding dementia, a tie up with users of the Foodbank, eating disorders and suicide. VT would be attending the quarterly Community Council Meeting with NHS Lothian and CHP management on 3rd November at St John's Hospital, with the hope that there will be better communication. Also on the same day she will meet with the Anorexia Nervosa Treatment Team (ANET) regarding treatment, and on the 5th November Advocacy regarding some of these issues.

LA reported regarding West Lothian Community Public Partnership for Health. She stated that new members are needed for the Licensing Forum. Licenced Premises are given a licence for 10 years, and the staff have to be retrained after 5. Some Licensees haven't done this, and may lose their licence. The MRI scanner will be in use shortly. Kate Marshall has been appointed the Community Champion for Health in the Local Area on Health. There has been some discussion as to whether patient records could be used on an anonymous basis for numbers by drug companies, but this has not yet been agreed.

c) **Events.**

i) JK stated that the **Remembrance Parade** was ready except for the catering arrangements afterwards. It has been the tradition that the Community Council offers refreshments to those who have paraded. This year this will be held in the Rugby Club. The catering will need a team of 4, including one person with a Food and Hygiene Certificate. They need to be at the Club from 11am onwards. The service starts at 10.50am until 12 noon. Last year there were 150 people. FL AB VT & IK volunteered to help. BMcC is getting the food etc. IK's wife has the Hygiene Certificate and will also help.

ii) **Advent Fayre.** The Community Council run this event on 29th November. It involves Stewart Ness, and is largely paid for by West Lothian Council (last year it cost £6,500), but the Community Council co-ordinate it. The Deacon's Court will provide stewards for the event.

Lighting the torches. Last year demand outstripped supply. This year there will be a stall at the entrance to the footpath where people will collect the torches and take them to the lighting points. The stall will close when supply runs out. There will be more lighting points this time. FL will try to get helpers to light the torches from Rotary. There will need to be 12 helpers. The lighting will start at 4.40 pm. The stewards and first aiders will meet at the Burgh Halls at 4pm for their briefing. JK has yet to receive permission to take a street collection. West Lothian Council pay for the torches. AB offered to support JK in the judging of shop windows. There needs to be a review of the events team to add more people. JK is asking DD to take publicity photos. DT has contacts if she is not available. There are also heavy barriers to be moved. IK noted that management of the car park at Lowport may be needed for the Advent Fayre times and JK to link with Peter Robinson to discuss this.

- d) **Housing and Social Housing** IK stated that a meeting is to be organised potentially December or New Year. West Lothian Council haven't made a planning application for Mill Road to build social housing. The number to be built has been reduced, and they are to be

single bedroom flats because of the lack of capacity in the schools. It was asked whether there will be priority for people living in Linlithgow? There was also discussion regarding allocation of Council Housing in the town.

- e) **Youth facilities, youth groups and education.** FL has to liaise with the 3rd Business Link teacher at the Academy. The people in the vulnerable group all gained college places after having job placements in Linlithgow businesses. Interact is going on and Linlithgow Grange Rotary Club are taking it over and running it at the Academy. FL is linking with LYPP re the proposed skate park.
- f) **Communications** Only DT is left when there used to be 3 on the group. He's trying to get an article in the Black Bitch for every issue to raise the profile of the Community Council. The Advent Fayre is a possibility. VT may have an article for the January issue. JK may have an article ready re the Advent Fayre for 11th November. DT stated that there needs to be some way of ingathering information from the community on a regular basis. Online surveys are a possibility. The Planning Forum public meeting came across well, and is exactly what we need. Similarly with VT's Public Health Consultation. This group also needs more members.

4. Reports.

Chairman –no report.

Treasurer a written statement was submitted regarding finances at present. There is £750 in hand for the perambulation leaflet, and £350 for Remembrance for the wreath etc. AB is to be appointed signatory for cheques to replace CD.

No report from **Police Scotland** due to holidays.

Secretary-Review of West Lothian's Draft Revised Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils

Feedback is requested on the draft provided to members by 3 November. West Lothian require the Community Council's views by 7th November. MV is representing the Community Council to the CPP. West Lothian has 41 Community Councils and **MV advised that typical numbers of Community Councils attending WLACC is seldom more than 8.** There is no reason why the Community Council can't contact CPP direct. One new item relates to Business Members on the community. One of the mains concern in the feedback from LLBCC is the role of WLACC in the future and LLBCC are concerned about this. It was noted from a recent WLACC meeting attended by MV that Alan Wright the chair is stepping down at the AGM on 27 November. AB will circulate the email update from the WLACC meeting on 23 October for awareness. BG moved that a vote of thanks be given to MV for his tenacity and hard work in this regard.

Representation on working groups. Some groups need more members. This was deferred. Bruce is stepping down as Chair in December. More members are needed to LLBCC and there is some potential interest and JK and AB are linking with these individuals.

Any Other Business - IK mentioned the letter regarding a public meeting explaining future electrification work on the Edinburgh Glasgow railway (this has now been circulated to members.) RS discussed future storage of the Perambulation of the Marches leaflet and DT indicated that he had a source for this.

Meeting ended 9.08pm.

Brenda Galloway, Minute Secretary

31st October 2014.