

Minutes of Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council Meeting Tuesday, 26th March 2013 held in the Burgh Halls

Present: Chair – Bruce McCallum (BM), Lyn Aitken (LA), Eddie Cornock (EC), Clive Dyson (CD), Ian Kelly (IK), John Kelly (JK), Ron Smith (RS), Jack Thompson (JT), Mike Vickers (MV), Tom Kerr (TK) – WLC councillor, Jason Wallace & Bob Salter – Wallace Land until 20.00.

Apologies: Nick Davis (ND), Debbie Dow, David Tait, Fiona Low, Councillor Tom Conn (TC), Councillor Martyn Day, Constable Brian Reid (BR)

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Previously circulated – approved as a true record of the meeting of Tuesday 22nd January 2013

1. Presentation by Wallace Land

A presentation was given by Jason Wallace (JW) of Wallace Land Ltd of the proposals for the Burghmuir development. JW outlined the scheme and specifically described the developer contributions proposed. The proposed developer contributions are:

- westbound M9 slips -- estimated contribution £5 million
- serviced land transfer for 150 affordable homes
- additional classrooms at Springfield primary school estimated £0.5 million
- additional works to St Joseph's primary school estimated £1 million
- public transport enhancement estimated £0.3 million
- town centre benefit fund £0.2 million
- serviced land transfer for new health centre 0.51 ha
- contribution to the cost of Winchburgh education campus £3 million.

During the ensuing discussion it became apparent that the contribution to the Winchburgh education campus was consequent to a proposal by West Lothian Council officers to reduce the number of affordable homes from 150 to 90. RS indicated that a contribution to Winchburgh conditional on a development in Linlithgow was stressing the planning regulations. CD considered that the current offering by Wallace Land was confusing and that any discussion that was not overt and in the public domain was unacceptable. In answer to a query JW was of the opinion that a new 40,000 sq ft supermarket was still viable despite the possible planning approval for an extension to the Regent Centre.

BM proposed that following the presentation by JW that item 11 planning secretary's report be considered at this time. JK tabled a draft of the proposed comments for the West Lothian Council planning committee meeting on 17 April. In outline the proposed comments are:

- Linlithgow has been an area of planning constraint for 20 years. The Community Council agree that a static planning policy for Linlithgow is not a valid option and the Community Council look forward to participating in consultations on the Local Development Plan expected in late 2013. The Burghmuir development proposal by Wallace land is one option of the many development opportunities available to Linlithgow. To go ahead with Burghmuir will significantly prejudice or negate other opportunities yet to be considered. After 20 years of planning constraint to effectively over-ride the Local Development Plan process which has only 9 months to run is unacceptable. The proposal is premature.
- Linlithgow is a unique town with a character cherished by its residents.
- The current Health Centre is at capacity but Burghmuir is not an appropriate place for a new Health Partnership Centre.

- Linlithgow requires affordable rented accommodation preferably offered by a Housing Association in the form of a Fully Mutual Housing Cooperative.

Following discussion JK undertook to follow up the affordable housing v contribution to Winchburgh and include appropriate comments.

Action JK

2. Matters arising

Actions from meeting of 22nd January 2013

	Action	By	Result
1.	Write to Transport Scotland requesting clarification of the plans for the proposed Winchburgh station. Note with agenda	JK	Completed
2.	Write to licensing department regarding the advertising banners at the Old Hole in the Wall	ND	Ongoing
3.	It was agreed that CD would take the role of data controller from ND. CD has notified Information Commissioner's Office	CD	Completed
4.	JK as treasurer of the Advent Fayre was awaiting receipt of final expenses from TC before completing a schedule of payments as requested. The balance in the Advent Fayre account is £1824.91. It was recommended that the Advent Fayre committee make disbursements to local groups. JK to speak to TC.	JK	Ongoing
5.	Flodden Quincentenary Lecture - ND had previously advised that the Burgh Halls have been booked for 31 August 2013 for the lecture and expenses estimated initially at £250; to be recouped through ticket sales. ND confirmed that the Burgh Halls would be paid for and that a deposit was to be paid. The total expenses were now estimated at approximately £1000. JK to ascertain from ND what the liability of the community council would be in the event that the lecture had to be cancelled.	JK	Ongoing
6.	Climate Change Grants. CD reported that these were difficult to use in the context of the Community Council	CD	completed

3. Police Report

Constable Brian Reid sent apologies.

4. Local Elected West Lothian Councillor's Report

TK stated that he had nothing to report. A good summary of the West Lothian Council budget was available in the current edition of the attached Bulletin. In a discussion of snow clearance RS reported that there was insufficient snow clearance to the footpath in Friarsbrae.

5. Treasurer's Report

EC reported that the cash in the bank was £511.90. There is £68.52 in accrued liabilities and therefore the amount available at the date of the meeting is £443.40. A cheque for £1172.00 has been received in respect of the Community Council grant for the financial year 2012/13.

6. Chairman's Report

a. It was agreed that the Community Council would not be represented at the Workers' Memorial Day.

b. An upgrade to the Water Yett play park commences on 19 April.

c. The Deacon's night is 16 April at Linlithgow Bowling Club. Community Council will be represented by BM as the Deacon and IK as My Lord. The event on 15 June will commence from the Westport, help is required in carrying banners. The cafe area of the Burgh Halls has been booked for the marches hospitality event. BM stressed the importance of raising the profile of the Community Council with other groups in the town.

d. Encouragement of youth members. JK to determine the need for vetting.

Action JK

7. Secretary's Report

JK reported:

- West Lothian Council has advised that the Community Council grant of £1183 is available to be claimed for the year 2013/14. It is intended that the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013 will be available for approval at the EGM of 23rd April.
- The special project grant scheme application forms have been forwarded by West Lothian Council. Ideas for special project grant applications to be forwarded to JK to be collated for the meeting on 23rd April.
- The current interim election is underway nomination forms to be collated by JK.
- In common with all community councils in West Lothian the election of members will take place on 31 October 2013. All current members are encouraged to put themselves forward for re-election for a four-year term.
- How the Community Council liaises with the voluntary sector is a topic for debate.
- The meeting decided that all e-mail correspondence to the Secretary should be redirected to secretary@llbcc.org.uk JK to liaise with ND.

Action JK

8. Planning Secretary's Report

a. Burghmuir. See item 1 above.

- b. Carendon – There will be a presentation by Gladman Developments Ltd at the next meeting (23rd April).
- c. Regent Centre – Application to be considered 27th March

9. Town Management Group (TMG) Report

CD reported that the TMG had developed a list of projects which may be suitable for a development grant application

10. West Lothian Council Budget

See West Lothian councillor's report above.

11. Community Council Interim Election – Filling of Vacancies

See Secretary's report above

Action JK

12. Action on Matters raised at AGM

Deferred to next meeting

13. Confirmation of appointment/representation on other bodies/groups

List to be circulated

Action JK

14. Any Other Business

CD described the Community Council website, which is based on WordPress, and also described the e-mail protocol proposed for all members of the Community Council. CD proposed a training meeting be held in the meeting room at premises in Mill Road to be advised.

Action CD

15. Close

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.30. Next meeting Tuesday 23rd April 2013.

John Kelly
29 March 2013
Minute Secretary