

**Minutes of Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council Meeting  
Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> August 2013 held in the Burgh Halls**

**Present:** Chair – Clive Dyson (CD), Lyn Aitken (LA), Eddy Cornock (EC), Nick Davis (ND), Debbie Dow (DD), John Kelly (JK), Fiona Low (FL), David Tait (DT), Ron Smith (RS), Jack Thompson (JT) and three local residents.

**Apologies:** Ian Kelly (IK), Bruce McCallum (BM), Mike Vickers (MV), Councillor Tom Conn (TC), Councillor Martyn Day (MD), Councillor Tom Kerr (TK).

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Previously circulated - approved as a true record of the meeting of Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

**1. Matters arising not on the agenda**

	<b>Action</b>	<b>By</b>	<b>Result</b>
1	Notice of meeting in District Diary of Gazette and notice boards	JK	Completed
4	The experimental parking restrictions at Clarendon were considered successful - notice give to Councillor Tom Kerr	JK	Completed
5	Scottish Canals notice of opposition to residential boats adjacent to Manse Road bridge forwarded. Alternative preferred site North of St Michael's Hospital rejected by Scottish Canals.	JK	Completed

**3. Report from Working Groups – Development and Planning**

The Miller Homes development of 14 houses on East Mill Road, Linlithgow Bridge is at an advanced stage within the planning process. To be resolved are the contribution to support affordable housing and the contribution to support educational provision. After due consideration the Community Council decision is to support this application. However, the Community Council wishes to be kept informed of the amount of the contribution to support affordable housing and where this is likely to be spent.

**Action JK**

Wallace Land have submitted a planning application (ref 0518/P/13) for planning permission in principle for a 12.6 ha residential development including green space, SUDS, access roads and associated infrastructure at Burghmuir A, to the south of the Blackness Road. The decision of the Community Council is to oppose this application on the grounds that it is premature in the context of the developing local plan, is contrary to the current local plan and will compromise other development sites potentially advantageous to the local community. This decision to be communicated to WLC Planning Department.

**Action JK**

It is anticipated that an application for planning permission in principle will be submitted by Gladman Developments in respect of a proposed housing development at Clarendon Farm. This is likely to be one phase (adjacent to and with access from Clarendon Road) of the two element proposal on which Gladman have recently consulted. Any application for a housing development before the publication of the Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report in November will be opposed by the Community Council for the same reasons given for Burghmuir A.

**Action JK**

Ron Smith reported briefly on a meeting of members with Craig McCorrison (CM), Planning Services Manager, at which *inter alia* the most efficient communication of the views of the community with respect to development within L&LB were discussed. CM expressed no preference for the method of communicating comments but acknowledged the role of the Community Council as a statutory consultee. Currently, the Community Council is not consulted but just made aware of the weekly list in the same manner as any other interested member of the public. CM agreed to reply to the Community Council on how the consultation process could be improved.

An early meeting of the planning forum was requested.

**Action JK**

### **3. Report from Working Groups – Health & Social Provision**

JT reported that the problems impacting St John's are the same as those affecting other parts of the UK. Three doctors have been recruited from Burma as medical fellows to improve the situation in Lothian. A St John's Hospital community meeting is to be held in the Burgh Halls on 28 August. It was decided to make health the Community Council topic for the next edition of the black bitch magazine.

**Action JT/DT**

### **4. Report from Working Groups – Housing & Social Housing**

There was no report from the Housing Group. This will be a topic for discussion at the next meeting.

**Action IK**

### **5. Report from Working Groups – Youth & Education**

FL reported on the current state of school capacity in the LLBCC area. Between 2014 and 2018 there is some capacity but after 2018 additional accommodation will be required. A full description of school provision is in the August edition of the black bitch magazine. The current situation with the Academy is contingent on a proposed development at Westfield. It was agreed to investigate this situation through the planning department.

**Action JK**

## **6. Report from Working Groups – Communication**

DT made the suggestion that the Community Council contribute an article per issue of the Black Bitch magazine. This was agreed. The next topic is to be Health. A suggestion was made that Anne Daly (Linlithgow BID) be contacted for advice/cooperation with regard to a Linlithgow survey.

CD advised that the first round of website training had been completed satisfactorily. Requests were made for further training on a working group basis. CD proposed that each group agrees a date for further training.

**Working Groups**

## **7. Report from Working Groups – Events**

1. Flodden. ND reported that 44 tickets had been sold for the event on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> August. ND requested help from members attending.
2. Remembrance Day Parade. Booking of Longcroft Hall awaiting notice of approval from West Lothian Council.

**Action ND**

3. Advent Fayre. DD reported that the Linlithgow Ladies Choir were on board and awaiting advice. LA reported that the Rev Christine Barclay of St Peter's Church had agreed to give the address. An early meeting of the Advent Fayre Group was requested. JK to contact Stuart Ness.

**Action JK**

4. RS reported that the judging for Beautiful Scotland had taken place and the results were expected 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September.

## **8. Reports – Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Councillors**

EC reported that funds amounted to £1857.82. CD to check that forms deposited with the Bank of Scotland requesting a change of signatory to the account had been passed.

**Action CD**

There were no other reports.

## **9. AOB**

1. A discussion on pavement advertising ( A boards, banners, etc) concluded that notwithstanding the planning regulations, tasteful advertising was acceptable. Advertisers that crossed the boundary of good taste would be spoken to on an individual case basis.
2. RS answered a query over the status of the land surrounding the flooded sandpit to the west of the Lanark Road by stating that his belief was that the land had been restored following the closure of the sandpit and was available for public use. TC to be asked to confirm.

**Action TC**

3. ND alerted members to the number of scams currently being perpetrated largely on the unsuspecting and vulnerable. A number of examples were cited. ND suggested that information relating to scams should be circulated.
4. JT advised members that he had an old etching recovered from outside of the Burgh Halls and requested advice on how it should be restored. LA suggested that the restoration team at Hopetoun House may be able to assist.
5. A member of the public attending commented (after the meeting to the secretary) that he had difficulty hearing because of the hall acoustics and the fact that some members were sitting with their back to him.

**10. Close**

The meeting closed at 20.35

John Kelly

Secretary.

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