



**Minutes of Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council Meeting on  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in the Burgh Halls at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Chair Martin Crook (MC), Ian Kelly (IK), John Kelly (JK), Fraser Falconer (FF), Fiona Low (FL), Scott Oliver (SO), Ron Smith (RS), Councillor Tom Conn (TC), Councillor David Tait (DT), Police Scotland – Andrew Murray (AM) & Neil Drummond (ND) and 2 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Lyn Aitken (LA) Pamela Barnes (PB), , Maire McCormack (MM), Des Martin (DM), Verena Throp (VT), Mike Vickers (MV), Councillor Tom Kerr (TK) ,

**Declarations of interest:** no new declarations of interest noted.

**(1) Minutes of previous meeting on Tuesday 27th September 2016.** These were approved and proposed by SO and seconded by RS.

**(2) Actions from previous meetings not covered elsewhere on the agenda**

Ref:	Action and By whom	Current status
09/002	Contact WLC about any activity on traffic regulation orders or reviews of the High Street  <b>MC</b>	MC has been informed that traffic studies are conducted on a community by community basis and Linlithgow is next. A consultant will be appointed to make recommendations on traffic management and those proposals will go out for consultation. Scottish Government will adjudicate any disagreements. Documents will be forwarded at the appropriate time and then a sub-committee will be formed. Action closed.
1602/02	Town Coat of Arms  <b>JK</b>	The Cost of Arms has been received. Arrangements for the formal handing over of the Arms have yet to be made. Item carried forward to October meeting.
1603/01	JK suggested applying for a 'Special Project Grant' for West Lothian Council to support the cost of the survey – Action 1603/001.  <b>MC</b>	Special Project Grant has been submitted to Lorraine McGrorty. <b>September update</b> – no information received as yet therefore keep action option. MC to contact Lorraine McGrorty. Item carried forward to October meeting.
1606/01	JK to investigate whether number plate recognition cameras and information boards breached the planning regulations.  <b>JK</b>	JK has written to Chris Norman but has not received a reply. JK to follow up.

### **(3) Spotlight Sessions**

3a. West Lothian Housing Policy. This item has been carried forward to the October meeting.

3b. Pedal for Scotland. The event took place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016. Although the event is strongly supported by the majority of the community there were serious concerns regarding the management of the event. It was strongly held that there was a disconnect between the event and its impact. For example, there was no consultation with the community, no letters were sent out to inform those households who would lose the opportunity of leaving their homes by car or bike during the day and no information on the extent of the disruption. A significant number of individuals felt trapped in their own homes and many in the community were unable to pursue their normal leisure activities. Groups particularly affected were those who worked on a Sunday, churchgoers, and the elderly who are reliant on carers who were unable to attend them. Ambulances were only able to progress down the High Street in a westbound direction very slowly. Councillor David Tait is in regular correspondence with Cycling Scotland in order to tackle these issues for the 2017 event. This is a matter for the Community Council. TC to report to the WLC Local Area Committee (8am on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at Low Port Centre). The local area committee is meeting to which the public may attend. AM and ND advised that the event, being a national event, is planned by a team in Glasgow. It was the children's event that was the cause of the extensive road closures. Police Scotland recommend the extent of the road closure and West Lothian Council comply by issuing a Temporary Traffic Order. It was suggested that there should be a meeting to enable Keith Irving, Cycling Scotland chief executive, to meet with representatives of those affected and address their questions. Cllr David Tait will investigate available dates.

**Action DT**

3c. West Lothian Council use of Glyphosate. This is marketed under the trade name Roundup. TC stated that a report is to be considered by the Environmental PDSP on 1<sup>st</sup> November. The item will be on the CC agenda for the next meeting.

### **(4) Working Group Updates**

- **Youth** - FL gave details of the police youth volunteers programme with the suggestion that LYPP involved.
- **Planning** – JK referred to the previously circulated planning report and highlighted the following points:
  - Weekly Planning List - The Victoria Hall planning application is to be decided on 28th September. Our objection of 26th August has been excluded from the Planning Officer's report which concludes amongst other things that the rear elevation and the glass clad 5th storey is a modern contribution to the High St.
  - The Planning Forum will meet with representatives of Rick Finc Planning consultants re: Wilcoxholm on 6th October.
  - Independent Review of the Scottish Planning System. JK was invited to and attended a two day Scottish Government workshop in Edinburgh to discuss proposed changes to the current system of strategic and local development planning. JK will issue a report. JK to contact Stephen Tolson of the Scottish Community Alliance.
  - Edinburgh airport flightpath consultation: The list of questions to Edinburgh Airport Ltd were answered by email and detail added during a telephone conversation with Gordon Robertson of Edinburgh Airport Ltd. A public meeting was held in the Burgh Halls on 6th September and a response to the consultation submitted.

**Action JK**

**(5) Police Scotland Update** – AM & ND gave a brief summary of police activity over the past month. Of particular concern were a number of car thefts where thieves gained access to houses with unlocked doors and retrieved car keys which were clearly visible and available. There's been action on speeding in Mains Road and St Ninian's Road. A number of thefts of fish particularly Koi Carp have been reported. An arrest has been made in connection with the theft of charity boxes. One person who has been disrupting residents at the Vennel flats has left.

**(6) Treasurer's Report** - IK reported that he had the forms necessary to change the cheque signatories.

**(7) Any Other Business and questions from the floor** - the following points were raised.

- FF raised a concern of residents of Royal Terrace and Strawberry Bank regarding the traffic restrictions that will be in place during the works to raise the height of the wall abutting the railway line. Residents are aware that this will happen but have no information as to when it will happen. A letter is to be sent to Transport Scotland and WLC.

**Action MC**

- MC confirmed that West Lothian Council housing policy will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
- MC confirmed that Lyn Aitken has resigned from the Community Council. Lyn was thanked for her contribution to the Community Council over the years particularly in keeping the Community Council abreast of developments in Health and Care.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.