



**Minutes of Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council Meeting on
Tuesday 28th June 2016 in the Burgh Halls at 7.30pm.**

Present: Chair Martin Crook (MC), Lyn Aitken (LA), Pamela Barnes (PB) Aileen Boyle (AB), Ian Kelly (IK), John Kelly (JK), Fiona Low (FL), Maire McCormack (MM), Des Martin (DM), Scott Oliver (SO), Mike Vickers (MV), Councillor Tom Kerr (TK), Councillor David Tait (DT), Police Scotland – Andrew Murray (PB) & Neil Drummond (ND) and 2 members of the public [George Adam (GA) & Derek Haldane (DH)]

Apologies: Councillor Tom Conn, Ron Smith (RS), Verena Throp (VT)

Declarations of interest: no new declarations of interest noted.

(1) Minutes of previous meeting on Tuesday 24th May 2016. These were approved and proposed by MC and seconded by SO.

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

Ref:	Action and By whom	Current status
05/005	Discussions about the governance of the sub-groups to be carried forward to September meeting.	Latest group structure circulated.
09/002	Contact WLC about any activity on traffic regulation orders or reviews of the High Street MC	It was recommended that MC contact Kevin Hamilton or Graham Malcolm at WLC. Carry forward.
1602/02	Town Coat of Arms JK	JK reported that the last payment has been made to the Lord Lyon. <i>Post Meeting Note: The Coat of Arms has been received.</i>
1603/01	JK suggested applying for a 'Special Project Grant' for West Lothian Council to support the cost of the survey – Action 1603/001.	Special Project Grant has been submitted to Lorraine McGrorty. June update – no information received as yet therefore keep action option.
May - 01	Consultation on processions	Submitted - item closed
May - 02	Community Empowerment Act consultation PB	Submitted - item closed
May - 03	West Lothian Association of Community Councils AB	Response made - item closed. However noted that there is a need to come to some conclusion.

(3) Spotlight Sessions

3a. Air Quality Management. Paul Couper, WLC, was to present on the progress of the Air Quality Management but was unable to attend.

3b. Parking. The Chair invited George Adam (GA) to make a statement. GA put forward the view that number plate recognition cameras and information boards breached the planning regulations where such an installation was installed without planning permission. GA stated that Martyn Day MP was to write following the decision on a case in Perth and Kinross. After a short discussion it was agreed that Chris Norman be contacted to ascertain the West Lothian Council position.

Action JK

3c. Edinburgh Airport. JK referred to the previously circulated report which described to initiatives currently being undertaken by Edinburgh airport:

- The runaway 06 trial in which departing aircraft heading East are routed back West over Fife crossing the Forth coast at Blackness and overflying Linlithgow. This trial ends on 25 July. It was decided to write to Edinburgh Airport to record our disappointment on the lack of consultation with regard to this trial and to record the significant number of complaints received from residents.

Action JK

- Altering Flightpaths for the Future. Edinburgh airport is proposing to increase the number of flightpath's available to them, a significant proportion of which will see aircraft overflying Linlithgow at 4000 to 7000 feet. Edinburgh airport is permitted to operate 24 hours a day. A book explaining the proposal was circulated to each Community Council member. JK asked for a small group to be formed to consider this consultation which ends on 12 September. IK and DT volunteered to become involved.

Action JK

3d. Interim Election. *Note this item was addressed at the beginning of the meeting.* The results of the election were announced. The chair welcomed Maire McCormack and Des Martin (DM) to the Community Council.

(4) Working Group Updates

- **Transport** – PB invited DH to introduce the results of his previously circulated report entitled "Delivering a Better Linlithgow Town Bus Service: consultation report 22 June 2016". The report describes a project to identify a viable pathway towards more sustainable bus services for Linlithgow. DH outlined three possible options for taking the project forward:
 - Linlithgow Link to act as transport coordinator.
 - Linlithgow Community Development Trust to act as coordinator.
 - A new group set up specifically to manage transport services in Linlithgow in partnership with West Lothian Council and local bus operators. This third option is considered the most feasible at present.

The ensuing discussion addressed the survey methodology specifically whether the survey included children; the method of payment for a better service; the cost of electric buses; the fundamental change that is required on the part of the community; and the place for cycling. PB proposed that a subgroup be formed. MM and MV volunteered to be members of the subgroup together with periodic involvement by MC.

Action PB

- **Health & Social Care** – VT is taking forward the work on eating disorders.
- **Planning** – JK referred to the previously circulated planning report and highlighted the following points:
 - The letter received from Craig McCorriston indicates that West Lothian Council does not accept that there has been any breach of statutory requirements regarding consultation. It was decided to refer this matter to the Scottish public services ombudsman. **Action JK & MC**
 - The Local Development Plan has been submitted unamended to the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division. The Plan will be examined by a Reporter. The Community Council can do no more until the completion of the Reporter's examination.

- The planning forum is continuing its work by developing a multi attribute place standard model in an exercise recommended by the Scottish government's chief planner and chief architect.
- **Youth facilities, youth groups and education** – FL advised that the work described at the meeting in May is ongoing.

(5) Police Scotland Update – ND described the on-line survey “Your View Counts” (www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts) which will enable the police to set the priorities for West Lothian. There is no closing date, the survey is ongoing. ND also reported an incident at Linlithgow railway station which resulted in a stalker being apprehended. The Community Council's attention was drawn to the Police Scotland youth volunteers programme (PSYV) which aims to strengthen the relationship with the police and young people; links are being established with the Academy and LYPP. In a separate part of the meeting AM asked for advice on how best to alleviate bus congestion outside Platform 3 which is particularly bad during the evening rush hour. TK advised that the police contact Falkirk Council who have responsibility for the bus routes from Bo’ness.

Action AM/ND

(6) Councillors – TK reported on the following:

- A redistribution of funding has allowed £150,000 to be available to enhancing transport in West Lothian including a taxi service from Newton to South Queensferry. The number 31 service will continue to serve Springfield, with Dechmont and Ladywell added to the route. In order to retain an hourly service an additional bus and driver will be provided. There is the possibility that the re-routed 31 will go via Braehead. This is still being discussed with Ian Forbes. The L1 service will continue to be Monday to Saturday but with an additional three hours possibly at the end of the day.
- A floor layout for the new partnership centre has been proposed. TK passed across layout drawings.
- The air quality management initiative continues.
- A query regarding the height of heritage lighting in Station Road has confirmed that the lighting has been installed at the height specified and agreed with the Town Management Group.

After discussion PB stated that she would update the "save our L1 bus" Facebook page with the details of the revision to the timings of the 31 and L1 and request comment. DM raised a concern that the rail electrification cables appeared to be close to pedestrian areas at Royal Terrace. TK advised that the power cables had not yet been installed and that the wire referred to was a structural stay.

(7) Treasurer – IK verbally reported that the total funds in the bank were £3,266. IK stated that a full report will be circulated to members following the meeting.

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

- MV raised concerns on the reduction to the staff of Low Port Centre of four persons and queried the changes in the service that would be made. It is understood that the Cafe will be closed. DM stated that Low Port Centre used to be run by a community management committee but this ceased to operate when West Lothian Council took over the stewardship of the centre. Concerns were raised regarding actions that impact the community not being notified in advance.
- SO stated that an e-mail address for each Community Council member had been set up.
- The point was raised that there should be a regular agenda item "what is happening in Linlithgow?". There should be a formal link with the Local Area Committee to which a representative of the Community Council should have an automatic right to attend.
- LA reported that Children's Services at St John's hospital Livingston would be enhanced by consultants being on call at all times with practice nurses available. The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health have published their review of Children's Hospital Services in Lothian which has been approved by NHS Lothian. A full service will be provided next year.
- DT reported that issues surrounding the allocation of social housing in Linlithgow are being addressed and advised the community Council to invite housing officers to a meeting of the community Council.

(9) Vote of Thanks - MC gave a vote of thanks to Aileen Boyle for her services over a number of years as secretary to the Community Council. In her time Aileen has enhanced the structuring and distribution of information coming into the Community Council, significantly improved the governance and transformed the recording of minutes.

Meeting closed at 9.20 pm.