



**Minutes of Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council Meeting on  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 in the Burgh Halls at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Chair Martin Crook (MC), John Kelly (JK), Lyn Aitken (LA), Ron Smith (RS), Verena Throp (VT), Mike Vickers (MV), Gill Fawcitt (GF), Scott Oliver (SO), Fraser Falconer (for part), Councillor Tom Kerr (TK), Councillor David Tait (DT), Police Scotland – PC Neil Gordon (NG), Inspector Scott Robertson (SR)

**Apologies:** Ian Kelly (IK), Aileen Boyle (AB), Fiona Low (FL)

No declarations of interest at the start.

1. Minutes of previous meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> January. These were approved and proposed by SO and seconded by JK.
2. Actions from previous meetings not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Number	Owner	Action detail	Current status
05/005	AB	Discussions about the governance of the sub-groups to be carried forward to September meeting. AB to check completion of governance form from all sub-groups and engage where there are any gaps.	Completion of sub-groups has been undertaken however a template is required for the Advent Fayre group. <b>Action: JK to organise wrap up meeting of the previous Advent Fayre Group. MC to organise new Advent Fayre Group meeting</b>
09/002	MC	Contact WLC about any activity on traffic regulation orders or reviews of the High Street	Double yellow lining of parts of the High St still under review.
11/04	TK	AB raised a concern raised by a member of the community about the lack of support to people in their houses when individuals have left hospital. It is believed that is known that there is a challenge in LLBCC area but there is no challenge in Livingston. One concern raised to AB is that carers are not paid for travel therefore using carers from Livingston is not a viable solution to the lack of resource in LLBCC area. TK will look into this situation re 'in house' care options and challenges	There have been changes to care at home arrangements to address the problems highlighted. The position to be monitored. Close this action.
12/003	TK	Overflowing bins at Sainsbury's - TK queried whether WLC empty the bins. TK to investigate responsibility of WLC re this	<b>February update – TK advised that message has been sent to Sainsbury's and he will chase them up.</b>
1601/01 1601/02 1601/03	MC FL	Advent Fayre	<b>JK to organise a meeting with JK, TC and Stewart Ness. MC to consider engagement with Round Table, Rotary and Deacons Court to discuss the way forward and options. FL advised that she can raise this at the Rotary meeting on 8 February (Action 1601/03 – FL).</b>
1601/05	IK	Groups to indicate funding requirements for 2016/17	<b>To be discussed at March meeting</b>

**Police Report:** NG reported only minor incidents over the reporting period notably:

- The oil spillage on the Lanark Road has been investigated but there appeared to be no obvious culprit and no re-occurrence.

- 9 public nuisance calls including for a fire at a new ballpark at Doomsdale Sports Ground.
- 3 disturbance calls but nothing to action when the police arrived.
- 3 thefts including one from a vehicle at the rugby club car park. The point was made that in this area foliage from trees cover the streetlights and cast deep shadows. It is suggested that trees need pruning.
- 5 parking offences in the High Street within the previous week.
- 2 drivers had been stopped with no insurance and their vehicles confiscated.
- There is concern that the bottle banks at Sainsbury's are overflowing. The police are apprehensive that youths sometimes gather at this point and may take advantage of the mayhem that can be caused from throwing loose bottles.

SR outlined the changes resulting from restructuring within the division. In future there will be two officers dedicated to the Linlithgow Ward. One officer will report to the Community Council on a regular basis. 999 policing will be based at Broxburn (previously from Livingston). Police compliment will be a Sgt and 10 officers from Livingston/Broxburn/Linlithgow up to 10 officers can immediately be sent to any incident. In response to a question from JK it was confirmed that if a TTRO is in place for a parade then there will be a police presence.

**Health & Social Provision:** VT reported that no-one had attended the drop-in. Initiatives being explored are a family eating disorders group in Linlithgow and a pilot family support group. VT is attending a social innovation in healthcare meeting in Edinburgh. The meetings to discuss paediatric services at St John's Hospital Livingston are to be held at the Howden Park Centre on Monday, March 7 at 6:30PM and Wednesday, March 9 at 2PM

**Planning:** JK referred to the planning report of February 2016 which had been previously circulated. A discussion of the current fall in the population of Linlithgow was attributed to a lack of appropriate development which in term is linked to the delay in the construction of Winchburgh Academy. It was decided to pursue a number of actions:

1. Make contact with Winchburgh Community Council in order to obtain their current view on the secondary school situation linked to the apparent stalling of the development in Winchburgh.
2. Write to our 3 elected representatives with a copy to Lorraine McGroarty & Fiona Low reiterating our concern at the lack of progress in the construction of Winchburgh Academy. **Action JK**

The six-week consultation on air quality in Linlithgow is to commence shortly.

RS and JK attended a meeting recently with Steven Tolson, a researcher for a Scottish Government funded project entitled "A Review of Current Practice in Community Led Plans and their Connection with Spatial Planning and other Statutory Plans".

JK has been in the asked to give oral evidence to the independent panel undertaking a review of the Scottish planning system for the Scottish Government in Glasgow on the 25th February.

**Advent Fayre:** there was a brief discussion on the disbursement, if any, of the balance of the Advent Fayre account. It was decided to award the 4th West Lothian Scouts £400 being made up of £49.76 from the bucket collection and the remainder from the Advent Fayre account. TK was in favour of retaining the remainder of the money to forward fund the 2016 Advent Fayre. It was decided to defer the decision on whether to make disbursements to local charities until the new Advent Fayre committee had met.

**Communications:** MV to hand over the webmaster role to SO. SO to pursue contacts at the Gazette. **Action MV/SO**

**Chairman's Report:** MC gave a brief update of the Town Management Group meeting at which it was agreed that the flowerbed area adjacent to the pedestrian crossing outside Low Port school would be

improved including a disabled ramp. A project team is in place. The client will be Linlithgow Community Development Trust. Drawings and tender documents are to be prepared. Also agreed was the siting of the Provost lamp to the outside of the Burgh Halls.

**Treasurers Report:** Treasurers report tabled.

**AOB**

1. The Town Seal. JK to ascertain progress. **Action JK**
2. GF informed the meeting that the West Lothian Leader launch will take place on 17 March 2016. There will be a drop in session on Thursday, 21 April at Linlithgow Low Port Centre Lounge between 16:00 and 19:00. This is an opportunity to access community funding.
3. As this is Gill Fawcitt's last Community Council meeting before she and John leave for Somerset MC gave a vote of thanks acknowledging Gill's input as the representative of the Linlithgow Community Development Trust on the Community Council.

No other business. Meeting closed at 9.08 pm