



**Minutes of Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council
on
Tuesday 25th May 2021, online.**

Present: Chair Des Martin (DM), Fraser Falconer (FF), John Kelly (JK), Paula Ryans Stokes (PRS), Mike Vickers (MV), Councillor Tom Conn (TC) and 1 member of the public.

Apologies: Pamela Barnes (PB), Martin Crook (MC), Liam Fraser (LF), Graeme Grant (GG), Joyce Hartley (JH), Ian Kelly (IK), John Ralph (JR), Scott Oliver (SO), Ron Smith (RS,) Margot Watson (MW), Councillor David Tait (DT), Provost Tom Kerr (TK).

Membership and Declarations of interest: No declarations of interest.

Welcome DM welcomed all to the meeting.

1. Minutes of Linlithgow and Linlithgow Bridge Community Council Meeting Tuesday 27th April 2021. Proposed PRS, seconded FF.

2. Matters arising from the April minutes.

- a) Smoke detector replacement – Further emails to be sent to Fiona Hyslop MSP and Lorna Slater MSP. **Action JK**
- b) Springfield Trees – Letters due to go out to all Springfield residents. Closing date for comments 30th June 2021. **Action JK**
- c) Low Port Centre – No report
- d) Templars Court hoarding – TC reported that contractors were on site to tidy the site and replace the hoarding. Caithness slabs have been ordered to bring the pavement to the building line and street furniture will be provided. This work has been “conceded” by the planning officer. TC confirmed that the approach would be to have the site looking aesthetically pleasing following which legal planners will pursue the completion of the frontage building as per the planning permission.

3. LCDT Report.

FF reported that the let of the library to LCDT by West Lothian Council had been agreed. There is some work required to the heating, the roof and the toilets and this is progressing smoothly. It was expected that legals would be tidied up during the week commencing 31 May. LCDT will be operating in an “experimental mode” reacting to those that come through the door. The facilities provided by Transition Linlithgow will be based at the library. Transition has previously experienced great demand for the tool library, bikes, etc. Meeting spaces will be available. The key to the success of the new hub will come from its central location and the policy of remaining agile and responding to demand. The links with St Michael’s continue.

4. Community Council Election.

JK confirmed that the Community Council election will be held on 14th of October 2021. Further information, including advertising posters, can be expected shortly.

5. Linlithgow Visitors Centre.

No one at the meeting had information regarding the Visitors Centre. It was agreed to contact Gordon Smith.

Action JK

Note: Gordon Smith confirmed that he had no written documentation and referred the Community Council to Stewart Ness.

6. Standing Reports.

Chair - DM stated that a primary focus for the Community Council in the coming months must be on encouraging new members. Lorraine McGrorty will be contacted for advice. A large, representative and interested Community Council is important for the town.

Secretary - JK referred to the written report, circulated prior to the meeting, giving several road closure notices, a report on the Linlithgow Loch, Water Source Apportionment project and the submission of the "heat in buildings strategy" consultation.

Treasurer - IK reported by email that there had been no movement in the bank account. JK advised that on the resignation of Gordon Smith the Community Council now had only one signatory to the bank account and a further two signatories were required. MV agreed to be a signatory to the bank account.

Planning - JK advised the meeting that the Local Place Plan consultation closes on 25 June 2021. A decision on the planning application for the Deanburn development by Cala is on hold pending the resolution of contractor contributions to road infrastructure. It was agreed to send the previously circulated objection letter in respect of the Clarendon farm planning application. DM stated that there was a strong argument to stop all future development in Linlithgow pending a resolution to the severe infrastructure problems. JK advised that the Reporter is yet to issue the final decision on the planning appeal for the proposed Wilcoxholm development.

7. AOB & Public Participation Questions:

TC advised that the resurfacing work to Capstan's Walk and Station Road is now complete. Bollards to prevent traffic movement will be installed within the week.

8. Meeting Close & Next Meeting DM thanked everyone for their attendance. The meeting closed at 20.25. The next meeting of the Community Council is to be held on Tuesday, 22nd June 2021.

John Kelly, Secretary,
7th June 2021