

**BONNYRIGG AND LASSWADE COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2007  
IN THE SPORTS PAVILION, KING GEORGE V PARK AT 7.30 PM**

**Present:** Neil Stewart (Chairman), Ian Baxter (minutes), Dorothy Innes, Gilbert Scott, Ruth Scott, Cameron Scott, Brian Scott

**In Attendance:** Councillor Derek Milligan, Councillor Jackie Aitchison, Tracey Murray (Advertiser)

**Apologies:** Margaret Workman, PC David St Clair-Gunn

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** No amendments required. Minutes proposed by Dorothy Innes and seconded by Gilbert Scott.

**Matters Arising:** None.

**Financial Report:**

Expenditure –

No changes since last meeting.

Current Account = £409.44

Twinning Account = £1,308.73.

**Police Report.**

The following report was presented by Neil Stewart on behalf of PC David St Clair-Gunn:-

**Statistics**

Violent Crime	1 Recorded	0 Solved (Positive Line of Enquiry)
Sexual Crime	0 Recorded	0 Solved
Crimes of Dishonesty	18 Recorded	10 Solved
Vandalism	15 Recorded	6 Solved
(Recorded figures remain low in comparison to other months which is good)		
Other Crimes	3 Recorded	3 Solved

37 Crimes Recorded, 19 Solved = 51.3% Solvency.

It is interesting to note that Recorded Crime for this year to date (May – January) in comparison to last year is –25% and the solvency rate is + 6.65%.

These figures are encouraging and hopefully this trend will continue.

It is very frustrating and disheartening to report the vandalism to the War Memorial in the King George V Park which occurred last weekend. Enquiries are on going to try and trace those responsible. Operation Excalibur officers are progressing this enquiry and assistance has been provide by Lasswade High School to glean information from pupils in the hope of having these people traced.

Overall the Festive Period was a very quiet one. The behaviour of the locals and visitors to the town to celebrate the New Year was excellent with very few calls recorded. More problems were caused by the atrocious weather than with anti-social behaviour.

As there was nothing else of note to report, it was noted that PC St Clair-Gunn would accept any questions or concerns from the meeting via e-mail and would then attempt to contact members direct or alternatively answer their questions at the February meeting.

**Reports from Midlothian Councillors.**

**Jackie Aitchison -**

- 1) Town centre improvements all but completed. Some areas of local flooding have been identified and are being addressed.
- 2) Storm damage to the middle tree in Twinning garden - awaiting improvement in weather before working on this.
- 3) Condition of Peden's Garage (Polton Street) - representation made to developer to address concerns.

- 4) Todhills Park & Ride - delayed until April as complications arose near gas main in the area.
- 5) Community hospital - finance now in place. Hopeful work will start soon.
- 6) Conservation areas - consultation about to begin.
- 7) Jackie & Derek, along with Rhona Brankin, will be involved in a seminar on youth disorder coming up soon.

#### **Derek Milligan -**

1) New development at Cockpen - the marketing area (festooned with flags) has been given consent for 18 months only.

#### **Planning**

Ian Baxter had objected on behalf of BLCC to an application to block a path off the Rosewell Road, following information that PDCC had done so. The path is a recognised footpath running across waste ground, which had been annexed by the owner of an adjoining property.

No other issues had arisen.

**Core Path Planning** – Nothing further to report.

#### **Correspondence**

**Waterwatch Scotland** - leaflet received on water quality monitoring.

**NHS Lothian** - Public meetings during January, consultation on primary care - nearest is Dalkeith Arts Centre 20th Jan; leaflets also supplied.

**Midlothian Council** - meeting minutes

**Midlothian Council** - Local Plan, suggesting amendments - consultation on these now closed

**Midlothian Council** - Bulky uplifts consultation - advising that responses will be collated and presented to council on 23rd January.

#### **Twinning -**

No reply to date from St Cyr. Neil Stewart had looked at the St Cyr web site and noted the town now has a new Mayor and different councillors.

Midlothian Camera Club has notified us of their interest in twinning.

Neil will write to the new mayor, copying in others on the council, to ascertain the current position.

Neil will also enlist the help of Midlothian Twinning Association.

#### **Transport**

N31 to be extended through Mayfield

#### **A.O.B -**

Cam Scott asked if war memorial can be moved to centre of town. After discussion, it was felt that the lack of space and noise problems made this impractical. Ian Baxter suggested removing the wreaths after a period as they seemed to be attracting the interest of vandals. Derek Milligan offered to speak to the British Legion to discuss this.

Brian Scott asked about creating a conservation area at Cockpen. Derek advised that the area is included in the consultation proposal currently being progressed.

Brian also asked if there were any plans to alter Sheriffhall roundabout with the building of the Waverley Line and asked why development is being planned in such a congested area. Jackie Aitchison advised that there is a shortage of land for development which was the reason for using the parcels of land in that area. He said development of Sheriffhall itself is the responsibility of the Scottish Executive. Derek advised that the Structure and Local Plans all include grade separation for Sheriffhall.

**Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 15th February 2007.**