

Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 18th October 2007 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Park, Bonnyrigg at 7.30 pm.

Present: Neil Stewart (Chair), Dorothy Innes (Treasurer), George Birrell, Cameron Scott, Ruth Scott, Stewart Renwick & Jane Park.

In attendance: Councillors Jack Aitchison & Derek Milligan.

Apologies: Ian Baxter (Vice Chair), Brian Scott & Gilbert Scott.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

These were accepted without amendments, proposed by Stewart Renwick and seconded by Dorothy Innes.

Matters arising

Buses – Councillor Aitchison confirmed that the No 31 [Lothian Buses] service at Cockpen was now using part of the new distributor road. A 12 minute daily service frequency was in place. It was hoped that this would raise awareness with new residents in the area.

Twinning – Councillor Milligan confirmed that enquiries were being made by Midlothian Council with regard to re-establishing contact with St Cyr l'Ecole Town Council. No report as yet.

Midlothian Federation of Community Councils – Ruth & Gilbert Scott would represent BLCC at future MFCC meetings.

Finance

Current Account	£1022.32
Twinning	£1720.61

[Two wreaths to be laid at Bonnyrigg and Lasswade War Memorials on Remembrance Sunday 11/11/07- purchased at a total cost of £32.00.]

The agreed £200.00 funding for the letter to be sent to the parents of school students at Lasswade High School was available. Neil Stewart would contact Inspector Simpson to confirm the arrangements for payment.

Police Report

No report as the Community police constable was absent from the meeting.

[Note: PC Stewart would be asked to send an e-mail report, if he was unable to attend future meetings].

Midlothian Councillors Report

Councillors Jack Aitchison & Derek Milligan –

- Coal Levy Fund mentioned. Twenty-five pence in the tonne was levied. Approximately £150K would be available in funding. Councillors Aitchison, Milligan & Constable serving on the sub-committee and enquiries would be made to see if Community Councillors could attend meetings. Suggestions for local projects would be sought from Community Councils.
- Enquiries made regarding attendance at future liaison meetings between the Viridor Group and local residents. Viridor very much on top of Health & Safety at the Cockpen site, regular weekly meetings take place between workforce and management on the matter plus production improvement. Noise monitoring also in place. SEPA monitoring the situation. Silicon particles analysed and found to be non-toxic.
- Dalhousie Business Park: No further developments planned until road infrastructure improved.
- Dalhousie Bridge: Estimated cost of upgrading to accommodate heavier commercial traffic, approximately £1.6M.
- Midlothian Council in talks with industrialists to attract more jobs to the area, particularly high-tech.
- Lasswade RFC new facilities commended and much admired.
- Commented on the structure of the new Midlothian Council. Councillor Milligan elected as the new council leader and there were 7 portfolios. The Performance Review Committee would meet on a quarterly basis.

Planning

There was nothing of significance for the community council's consideration in recent planning applications lists.

Brian Scott had offered to take on the vacant post of Planning Convenor and this was approved by the Community Councillors.

Transport

Not much to report as Ian Baxter was absent from the meeting. Midlothian Council Public Transport Unit Newsletters being received from Karl Vanter. These would be circulated.

Twinning

Nothing new to report. Guidance from Midlothian Council was awaited.

Constitution

Stewart Renwick had completed the agreed review and draft copies of the proposed new constitution document together with a revised set of standing orders were circulated. A discussion then followed after which Community Councillors agreed the revised documentation. Neil Stewart would send these documents to Bob Atack, seeking Midlothian Council approval. Clarification would also be sought on the appointment of a returning officer for Community Council elections. Neil Stewart thanked Stewart Renwick for completing the review.

Remembrance Sunday [11/11/07]

Neil Stewart was unable to participate in the ceremony at Bonnyrigg due to other commitments. It was therefore agreed that Cameron Scott would lay the Community Council's wreath at Bonnyrigg War Memorial and Ian Baxter would be approached regarding the ceremony at Lasswade. [Note: Due to other commitments, Ian Baxter was unavailable, so Dorothy Innes agreed to cover the event].

Correspondence

- Midlothian Council – Prohibition of Consumption of Alcoholic Liquor in Designated Public Places Byelaws 1988 (amendment).
- Midlothian Council Minutes.
- Midlothian Council: Licensing [Scotland] Act 2005 Midlothian Licensing Board Draft Licensing Policy Statement.
- Scottish Landscape Forum Report.
- Friends of the Earth – Training Packages.
- Lasswade District Civic Society – Autumn 2007 Newsletter.
- Reply from Melville Housing regarding garages off Pryde Terrace, Bonnyrigg.

Any Other Competent Business

A further newsletter is still being planned but the target will now be Spring 2008. [Neil Stewart & Ian Baxter will co-ordinate the issue].

George Birrell raised the matter of various hired skips that he had noticed in and around the town. With the darker nights now upon us, he said that these skips were mostly unguarded or unlit and were therefore potential hazards. Discussion suggested that parking cones should be posted around them during daylight hours and lanterns at night. Neil Stewart would send an e-mail to Ricky Moffat [Midlothian Council] highlighting the problem, if some of the locations could be confirmed.

Neil Stewart mentioned that he had been contacted by Rhona Brankin's office regarding the use of dispersal orders. He had accepted an invitation to attend a future meeting on the matter along with police representatives. He would advise the Community Councillors when a date for the meeting had been agreed.

Date of the Next meeting: 15th November 2007.