

Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 19 June 2008 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Park, Bonnyrigg at 7.30pm.

Present: Neil Stewart (Chairman), Ian Baxter (Vice Chairman), Stewart Renwick (Secretary), Dorothy Innes (Treasurer), George Birrell, Gilbert Scott, Ruth Scott, Brian Scott, Elaine Ferguson.

In attendance: Councillor Bob Constable, Councillor Jackie Aitchison, Councillor Derek Milligan PC Rod Stewart (Lothian & Borders Police) Frank Cane (Community Service Officer [part Meeting]), Gail Chapman, Douglas Combe, Benny McIntyre.

Apologies: Cameron Scott

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting. He also introduced Frank Cane to the meeting and invited him to address the meeting on the Midlothian community services scheme.

Community Services Scheme: Community service orders may be imposed as an alternative to a sentence of imprisonment and requires that a set number of unpaid work for the benefit of the community. The minimum number of hours is 80 and the maximum 300. The order must be completed within 12 months of the court date. Mr Kane then proceeded to detail the type of work carried out and how this was matched to the clients, skill, experience and availability. Types of work carried out can be landscaping, painting and decorating, basic joinery work, deliveries and uplifts.

Each project is assessed prior to work commencing with regards to the risk, suitability and location.

The CC asked a number of questions which identified that the scheme was successful, with the work being carried outside the client's normal working time. There was also a boost to the clients moral as they were putting something back into the community and many of them had never had employment. At the present the scheme does not develop clients towards employment but the legislation is due to change to allow this to happen.

The chairman thanked Mr Kane assuring him that the community council would give consideration to any projects which may help our local community.

Amendments: None

Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were proposed by George Birrell, seconded by Ian Baxter

Matters arising:

April Meeting

- Midlothian "Doors Open Day" 2008 — NS had provided St Leonard's church, Pittendriech House, which has special stained glass windows, and Cockpen Church as places of interest.

Discharged

- Street sign Eskbank Road — the sign is on order but will only be fitted when there are number of signs to be erected. **Discharged**

May Meeting

- Improper Parking High Street and Broomieknowe park— Traffic wardens are attending to this problem **Discharged**
- Dangerous parking Dundas Street— all PCs are monitoring this area. **Discharged**
- No Allocation of council houses since 1st April — the new allocation procedures are now in operation but have only just started allocating housing. **Discharged**
- The AGM for the twinning association 26 May — NS attended the AGM which was poorly supported. The constituent twinning committee provide reports. **Discharged**
- Consultation on draft model scheme of establishment of community councils **Action by 1st August NS, IB, SR**
- Tidy up from Cockpen crossroads to Lothian Bridge (A7) — BC emailed commercial services, however JA informed the meeting that the majority of the rubbish was in farmer's fields to the north and the glen to the south which prevent commercial service from uplifting. BS highlighted the fly tipping at the unofficial lay-by at Lothian bridge **Discharged**
- Council Policy on 20MPH speed limit— Midlothian Councils policy on 20mph speed limits is mostly associated on safe routes to schools, this was in line with a nationwide policy issued by the Scottish Executive a number of years ago. A few 20mph speed limits with traffic calming have been or will be implemented where there is a road safety concern for

pedestrians i.e. Roslin Chapel Road and the veterinary College at the bush. BS highlighted that Edinburgh had a number of roads with 20mph that were not related to schools. This is particularly evident on the roads leading of the Lasswade road Liberton. The councillors could not comment on Edinburgh policy. **Discharged**

- Replacement for letter box lost due to post office move. — Regal lodge residents have requested our involvement to have another box installed. DM has asked the post office for a post box. DM will give IB the details and Ian will write on behalf of the B&LCC.

Finance:

Current Account £1221.92

Twinning £1733.43

A donation of £110 received from Poltonhall Community Council received towards the cost of the newsletter

Police Report:

PC Stewart gave the following report:-

| Crime | Recorded | Solved |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Violent | 1 | 0 |
| Sexual | 0 | 0 |
| Dishonesty | 9 | 2 |
| Mal Misc | 21 | 7 |
| Other Crime | 7 | 6 |
| Totals: | 38 | 15 |
| Solvency Rate 39.7% | | |

DM thanked the police for their effective handling of crowd problems when Bonnyrigg Rose played Kelty Hearts.

Pendreich area disturbances:

The problems caused for the residents by groups of children loitering around Lasswade Primary School, was raised. The astra turf was attracting large numbers of primary 6 and 7 pupils.

PC Stewart informed the meeting that the police were aware of the situation and had a number of initiatives in the pipeline, under project equinox, to help with this and other problems in the area. Problems of the school gate continually open did not help the situation. The school had been visited by the police. The police will be carrying out initiatives during the summer months.

PC Stewart confirmed that there was to be an open day on the 29th August at Lasswade High School. A number of activities have been organised and are being supported by various high profile clubs and organisations.

Midlothian Councillors' Report:

Councillor Jackie Aitchison –

- The new hanging basket stand to be positioned at the toll has had to be modified as it did not fit the hole.
- There is a slight design problem with the new litter bins.
- New bollards have been ordered for the high street due to the high attrition rate.
- Campview 12 special houses will be available next year.
- James Hendry under investigations by traffic commissioners. The council are unable to act as they are only parking lorries at Polton House site.
- Scottish gas are carrying out major works during the next few months, replacing pipes.
- Construction has commenced on the new Bonnyrigg Primary School.

Councillor Derek Milligan –

- Lasswade High School is in need of replacement and will cost £40 to £60 million to replace. The school is well run and has a good headmaster and centre manager, who both ensure that the general public make good use of the school facilities. It will take 5 years to open from start of construction, Midlothian was cash rich but the down turn has seriously effected this situation. The government require supplying what they promised.

New schools are planned so far in advance. B&LCC will write to the Education Secretary regarding a high school replacement, and actively campaign for a replacement school.

- All major capital expenditure has been put on hold by the council. There is an estimated short fall of £25m, due to the problems in the housing market, preventing payments being triggered from builders. Secondary council housing will also be hit.

Councillor Bob Constable –

- One of the chicanes on the Lasswade road is the wrong way round. It is too expensive to change. The warning signs will be lit to alleviate the problem.
- Work begins at Sheriffhall on the 30th June to upgrade the roundabout to cope with the Dalkeith bypass. The start is timed to coincide with the school holidays, but the overall project will last 3 months.

GB asked if the councillors could confirm that 50% of the materials had disappeared from the improvement work that was being carried out at the Staiside and Eskdale drive, for wheel chair access, between the 23rd and 25th May. Councillor Aitchison will make enquiries.

Action: JA

Planning:

51 High Street – No further progress

81 High Street – No Further progress

There is a planning application for demolition of dwelling houses and the erection of 42 new houses. It was the feeling of the meeting that this part of Melville dykes road would be dangerous with an outlet from a housing development and the speed of traffic coming down this road. The plans are not yet available. Comments to be sent once we have the full planning documents.

Action: BS

Transport:

The 78 route is now up and running. The bus tracker system is now up and running. The 49 buses are now the new vehicles and look good in the company livery.

Twinning:

There was nothing to report awaiting contact from Mr Jaster.

Drinking Fountain outside church Hall:

NS raised this on behalf CS who was not in attendance. The fountain is 100 years old and CS felt that the date should be marked in some way. There was doubt as to ownership of the fountain and if it was possible to do anything such as making it work again. JA agreed to investigate.

Action: JA

Brixwold Development:

BS asked if there was any truth in the rumours that ASDA were to develop in the area. The councillors informed the meeting that there was no truth in the rumour.

New Member:

GB introduced Benny McIntyre and proposed him for membership of the CC RS seconded.

BB Parades:

EF raised the subject of BB parades. She informed the meeting the BBs could not parade to church as they could not get police to manage the traffic. She had been at a march in South Queensferry where 8 officers were on duty. The feeling of the meeting was that it was possible that the wrong procedures were being used. SR to raise procedures with PC Stewart.

Action: SR

Newsletter:

After the success of the newsletter it was agreed to produce an autumn news letter. There has been significant interest from potential advertisers which should bring down the cost of production.

Action: IB

Correspondence:

The following correspondence was received and the detailed documents are circulating round the CC members.

Spokes Newsletter

SepaView

Viridor

Minutes of meeting held on 8th April

Meeting on Tuesday 24 June SR will represent CC

Action: SR

Waverley Project Newsletter Leaflets available

Council Minutes Presented to the Council on 27 May 2008-06-18

What Community Councils are and what community Councils are not Copy for each CC councilor.

Public Partnership Forum

- May Newsletter on Community Hospital.
- Questionnaire on Community Hospital (received 22 May due to be returned 18 June) Neil circulated an electronic copy to those on email.

Park Road closure

- Commenced on Monday to facilitate gas mains work, and will last for 5 weeks.
- There will be waiting and loading restrictions on some street in the vicinity for up to fifteen weeks, these are Polton Gardens, Pryde terrace, Pryde Avenue, Eskdale Terrace, Hunter Terrace, Hawthornden Gardens, Hawthornden Drive, Moffat avenue and Eskdale drive

Midlothian Voluntary Sector Forum

Minutes and agenda for next meeting.

Licensing (Scotland Act 2005 Leaflets available

Changes to the licensing act began 1 February 2008 completed by 1 September 2009

Travel Team News Letter

- Newsletter and bus departures from Sheriffhall
- PUBLIC TRANSPORT USERS' COMMITTEE FOR SCOTLAND [PTUCS]

Vacancy for [four](#) additional members (3 for registered disabled)

Closing date Friday 20 June 2008 (circulated to those on email)

Lothian Police open day

Commonwealth Games in 2014 Legacy planning

War Memorials Trust

WMT has recently launched a new grant scheme, in collaboration with Historic Scotland, to support conservation projects to freestanding war memorials in Scotland.

Data Protection Guidance

Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 16 October 2008
(Sports Pavilion, King George V Park, Bonnyrigg) at 7.30 pm.