

Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 18 September 2008 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Park, Bonnyrigg at 7.30pm.

Present: Neil Stewart (Chairman), Ian Baxter (Vice Chairman & minutes), Dorothy Innes (Treasurer), George Birrell, Brian Scott, Elaine Ferguson, Ruth Scott, Gilbert Scott, Benny McIntyre, Cameron Scott.

In attendance: Mr E & Mrs Alison Ramsay, Sergeant Peter Jones (Community Sergeant), Councillor Bob Constable

Apologies: Stewart Renwick

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting.

Amendments: None

Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were proposed by George Birrell, seconded by Gilbert Scott

Matters arising:

May Meeting

- Consultation on draft model scheme of establishment of community councils. Response supplied. **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. Response received from Royal Mail indicating Bonnyrigg is well supplied. **Discharged.**

June Meeting

- Disappearance of materials from improvement work at Eskdale drive
Action: JA (Carried forward)
- Development Melville Dykes road
Covered later in this meeting. Discharged.
- Drinking fountain — the fountain is 100 years old and CS felt that the date should be marked in some way. C/F
Action: JA (Carried forward)
- Police attendance at BB parades SR to raise with PC Stewart
According to PC present, No reason why BBs cannot have a parade. **Discharged**
- Autumn Newsletter – **Covered later in this meeting. Discharged.**
- Viridor Meeting 24th June — **SR attended, Minutes in correspondence folder – Discharged.**

Finance:

Current Account	£1,230.70
Twinning	£1,735.63

£40.61 to be paid out for poppy wreaths.

Police Report:

Peter Jones (Community Sergeant) gave the following report:-

Crime	Recorded	Solved
Violent	1	2
Sexual	1	0
Dishonesty	21	3
Mal Misc	11	3
Other Crime	7	7
Totals:	41	15
Solvency Rate 37.0%		

No thefts from houses being reported at the moment in the Bonnyrigg area. Recorded crime is down. Bonnyrigg currently has the lowest rate of youth disorder in Midlothian. Following the road show to youth groups & schools, over 200 youngsters have joined various organisations.

There will be a 'Have Your Say' meeting in the next few weeks – details to follow.

Operation Eskimo (anti-social behaviour initiative around Christmas) will be repeated this year.

Midlothian Councillors' Report:

Councillor Bob Constable –

- Encourages everyone to respond to consultation on post offices. George Birrell expressed concern about car parking provision behind post office.
- Work on Chesters to Cockpen distributor road - safety audit still to be done before it is opened. Neil reported he had received a letter advising of speed limits of 40 & 50 mph along stretches of the road.
- Midlothian Council single status – bringing staff onto one contract and salary basis; currently under consultation.
- Polton valley – second phase of work on Springfield Mill currently under way.
- Gilbert asked about the new dental service in Bonnyrigg, having recently been told it will be for emergency treatments only, contrary to earlier reports – Bob will find out.

Action: BC

- Elaine asked about allocation of council housing – Bob reported that this is still ongoing.
- Brian referred to rubbish still accumulating on the Glen Road. Bob to chase up.

Action: BC

Planning:

51 High Street — Plans have been redrawn, based more on social housing with less space for vehicles.

81 High Street — Application has been withdrawn

42 new houses near Melville Dykes Road – Midlothian council have written to the developer on a number of issues and are awaiting a response.

In the same area of Melville Dykes Road there is a proposal to build another hotel parallel to the driving range. Information on this is available in the library. Concern was expressed that the speed of traffic on the road is currently too high and that there needs to be better provision for access to public transport on the A7.

Planning permission has been granted for flats to be built at the Staiside Inn.

Transport:

Lothian Buses has extended No 31 Polton Mill to Rosewell on 3 extra services weekday morning and evening.

Ian distributed printed copies of new leaflets which provide a summary of services between Bonnyrigg & Dalkeith. Other leaflets will provide a summary of Bonnyrigg to Edinburgh route.

Twinning:

There was further nothing to report.

Lasswade Post Office closure:

Consultation is currently open on this. The problem with Lasswade is the low transaction rate. However, the Poltonhall post office seems to be well used.

Town centres and local High Streets meeting:

Taking place on Wednesday 24th September in the Council Chambers Edinburgh at 7 pm. Brian offered to attend on our behalf, along with Stewart if he is available.

Invitation to Paul Thomas, MD of First Edinburgh

Agreed to write to Mr Thomas, inviting him to the October or November meeting (at his discretion)

Action: IB

Autumn Newsletter:

Agreed it is probably too late to organise a newsletter ahead of the Christmas lights. Decided to work towards producing one in early spring, publicising the proposed clean-up.

Correspondence:

Folder containing correspondence being circulated too slowly.

NHS Lothian leaflets

Midlothian travel map

Viridor Liaison Group minutes (26th June meeting)

Midlothian Voluntary Sector Forum

Midlothian Business news

Midlothian Council minutes – August meeting minutes

Sepa View

Midlothian Travel News

July, August & September newsletters.

Post Office Closure –

Area plan proposal, branch access report.
Email from Postwatch regarding closures.

Mavisbank House press release

Press Release announcing £2m stabilisation programme and also the announcement that Historic Scotland will pursue compulsory acquisition of the House.

Edinburgh Lothian Greenspace Trust

Formerly the green Belt trust. Newsletter & annual report.

Association of Community Councils

Summer newsletter

Ballot paper on new constitution. Closing date for response is 30 September.

Queen's Award for Enterprise

Queen's Award for voluntary service

Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning

Letter from Midlothian Council

Closure of Dobbie's road for 3 weeks

Midlothian Voluntary Sector forum

Meeting Thu 30th October @10 am

Midlothian Council – Strengthening Communities Group

Meeting on Tuesday 23rd in Dalkeith

Ironside Farar

Requesting information on parks

Melville Housing

Advice of AGM

PDCC Meeting minutes

Civil Society for Freedom of Information

Meeting at Strathclyde University on Tuesday 30th September

Federation of CCs

Proposal to move venue of meeting around Midlothian

AOCB

Stewart raised via email the issue of presenting a case to the Scottish Government for a new Lasswade High School. Bob Constable reported that Fiona Hyslop (Education Minister) has visited the school and is aware of the problems. Neil suggested that we as a Community Council should formulate a submission to the Scottish Government after discussing with LHS.

Dorothy asked what stage the Midlothian Community Hospital is at. Bob advised that the planning application has been approved. Dorothy asked if there is planned to be a bereavement suite – Bob will look into this.

Action: BC

Dorothy reported problems with congestion in Douglas Crescent.

George asked Bob to look into the reinstatement of dropped kerbs following gas installation in Eskdale Terrace.

Action: BC

Brian asked about use of coal community funding. Bob advised that there are currently a lot of requests already received.

Elaine asked about the walkway, and that even following installation of lights, it is very overgrown. Bob to follow up.

Action: BC

George reported problems with cars parking on Dundas Street (outside Costcutter), despite promised by police and Cllr Aitchison to look into it. Bob and Neil will email the police about it.

Action: BC/NS

Neil advised that due to work commitments he may stand down as a community councillor over the next year.

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