

Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 17 September 2009 in the Sports Pavilion, King George V Park, Bonnyrigg at 7.30pm.

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

In attendance: Councillor Bob Constable, Councillor Jackie Aitchison

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

Apologies: Tracey Murray (Advertiser)

Minutes of Previous Meeting: were proposed by George Birrell and Seconded by Gilbert Scott

Matters arising:

January Meeting

- Pedestrian Crossing —Lothian Street (between the Waverley Cres and Eldindean Rd junctions) JA reported that application for funding for the crossing would be presented to the Gourlaw committee w/b 21 September. JA emphasised that the problem was not in the funding but in the location of the crossing. The council officials deciding on location will be invited to the next meeting to discuss location with B&LCC **Action: John Blair** (Director Commercial Services)/**Councillor Aitchison (Carried Forward)**

March Meeting

- Visit to Police Call centre — SR to arrange a visit has been requested for September **Action: SR (Carried Forward)**

May Meeting

- Water Fountain— JA agreed to contact commercial services regarding cleaning of fountain The operator of the high power hose will return to his normal duties after secondment during the summer. The fountain will be cleaned with the council architect overseeing the cleaning, which will be stopped should it prove to be detrimental to the stonework.

Action: JA

September Meeting

- Water Fountain — as part of the clean-up JA suggested a plaque should be mounted to commemorate the fountain. Appropriate wording may relate to the history of the fountain. IB will contact the history society via Neil Stewart for advice.

Action: IB

Financial Report:

Current Account		£1,256.98		
Transactions since last meeting				
	Debits		Credits	
Abbey Print	£ 351.88	Advertising revenue from Newsletter		£290.00
Information Commissioner (Data protection register)	£ 35.00			
Gifts to St Cyr	£ 67.94			
Twining		£2,140.31		
Transactions since last meeting				
	Debits		Credits	
		Interest		£ 0.89

Police Report:

Figures supplied after the meeting

June		Received	Solved	
Violence	1	1		
Sexual Crimes		3	2	
Dishonesty		32	4	
Vandalism		3	2	
Other crimes including drugs		5	4	
Total		44	13	detection rate of 29 %

July		Received	Solved	
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Violence	0	0		
Sexual Crimes		0	1	
Dishonesty		18	5	
Vandalism		6	0	
Other crimes including drugs		12	12	
Total		36	18	detection rate of 50 %
August		Received	Solved	
Violence	3	1		
Sexual Crimes		0	0	
Dishonesty		29	12	
Vandalism		11	0	
Other crimes including drugs		4	6	
Total		47	19	detection rate of 40 %

Detection rate for the year to date 40.3 %
 SR to contact police regarding no representation at the meeting

Action: SR

Midlothian Councillors' Report:

Councillor Jackie Aitchison:

Campview Road — the plan for 32 houses on the site of the old salt depot was stopped due to contamination of the site due to it's use as a salt depot and subsequently it's use as a coach garage and maintenance unit, which has contaminated the site with heavy machine oil. However the council is moving funding for cleaning up the site and build social housing on the site.

Polton Road — Funding is being sought for the building of ramps similar to those installed in Newtongrange which have proved very effective.

Roslin Glen Road — The road linking Roslin and Rosewell is still slipping and would require the full roads budget to rectify. There is no point in commencing remedial work while the road is still moving.

Curitol site in the high street — further applications have been made for development of this site. The proposed plan is to remove 50% of the existing café and flat to create a larger opening on to the high street. This application goes before the council next week for consideration.

Bonnyrigg Primary School — the school opened as scheduled with the official opening taking place next month. The old school is being demolished.

Community Hospital — the project is 4 weeks ahead of schedule and on target for opening autumn 2010.

Lay-bye at Wadingburn on Edinburgh road — an application has been received for the positioning of a fast food bar. The application has been "called in"

Licensing Committee JA informed the meeting that both BC and JA had objected to the person involved in the bank robbery at Bonnyrigg being granted a license to run a pub. Unfortunately their colleagues on the board did not support their views. They did reiterate that he was under license and one step out of line would mean return to prison. BC stated that their view that he had only been 3 years from his release from prison and this was too soon for the granting of the license.

Anvil Public house — A new licensee had been granted a licence for the Anvil. The licensee has a good record and at onetime was licensee of the Chase.

Councillor Bob Constable:

Springfield Mill — The new recreational area at Springfield mill Polton was officially opened on Sunday the 13 September.

Lasswade High School — BC had attended the LHSC senior prize giving, and stated that LHS|C was a credit to the community.

Licensing act— the new licensing act is now in operation.

Planning System— the new planning system is now coming into operation.

Festival of Friendship — the festival takes place on 19 October.

Mavisbank House — access to the policies of Mavisbank house is now available via the entrance at Polton where the gat has now been unlocked. Midlothian Council wants the area to be available to all residents of Midlothian.

DI asked the councillors who was responsible for the monitoring of debris at the Tesco roundabout, as there had been parts from a motor accident lying on the roundabout for almost 3 months. JA replied that it was the responsibility of MC and should have been removed earlier as there are supervisors and managers whose job includes identifying and areas that require special cleaning/attention.

EF asked if it was true that the old surgery was closing. The meeting was informed that this would not happen until the community hospital was open when the resources would be moved to the new hospital.

Planning:

Sand Quarry at upper Dalhousie— BS attended the initial meeting of the liaison committee where he will represent the CC. The quarry is located above Rosewell with access from the new distributor road at the second roundabout from Cockpen where a private road will be built over the fields.

A £2 levy for every ton extracted will go to central government funds. The company did offer 25pence per ton to the council, but this would mean the MC taking on responsibility for re-landscaping after the project which will run for 18 to 24 months. It is better value for the rate payers if the company retains responsibility for making good the environment. Dave Mackay was appointed as Chairman for the 1st year. Brian Scott will chair the meetings for the second year.

Extraction commences in October.

De Quincy road— Planning application for 4 flats have been submitted.

Bonnyrigg Market— Temporary Application for the market has been submitted.

South Melville Cottage— Planning application to extend a cottage which adjoins the Melville golf shop and office, has been refused as nearby land is designated as an area of landscape value. BS found this very strange as permission had been granted to build a hotel in the same area.

GB raise the issue of lorries using the road through Bonnyrigg instead of the distributor road to return to the open cast coal mine. JA stated that both Scottish coal and Scottish power applied heavy penalties for any vehicles breaking the order that all vehicles should use the distributor road to access the site. Any vehicles which are spotted using Bonnyrigg should be reported to the council.

EF noted that building was commencing at Hopefield and asked if this meant that council houses would be built as she believed that this was the agreement. The councillors explained that this was the case that 10% of land is made available to the council to build houses. It was also part of the planning that a new school would be built. These agreements were triggered when the 199 house was built. Due to the economic climate it would not have been sensible to pursue the build as it would probably have put the builder out of business. If the economic climate is now improving the agreement will be implemented at the appropriate time.

Transport:

Nothing to report.

JA intimated that the MC had had a presentation on subsidised bus routes and a review of these routes was under way.

Twinning:

St Cyr visit— This was a very successful visit with the provost taking part in a number of meetings. The visit coincided with the festival celebrating mid-summer. Representatives from St Cyr are visiting Bonnyrigg 16 to 18 October. IB/NS organising this visit. IB asked that we register for Lothian Community Transport Service (LCTS) the cost is £11.75, the transport can then be used during any visits. This was agreed.

Action: IB

Newsletter:

There are a number of articles in planning for this edition, including cleanup, Christmas lights, composting and the seniors forum. IB will plan this edition and any articles which cannot fit will be placed in the next edition. Display adverts have been obtained from N&S construction and Broomieknowe Golf Club.

A security company have offered to provide an article on security issues and promote the company. There was concern that this would be more an advert than editorial, and it is possible we could ask the police to provide a similar article. IB will discuss with the company.

Action: IB

Correspondence:

Public Partnership Forum

Notes from June meeting

NHS Draft Participation Standard 18 June 2009 response by 15 August

July Agenda and Notes
Podiatry Letter
Current request involvement
July Special Newsletter Community Hospital
August agenda and notes
Patient transport Scottish ambulance plans for the future copy of presentation and issues raised at the meeting.
Evaluation of Midlothian Mental Health Services 2009
September Agenda
Agenda for development event 30 September
Midlothian Council
Midlothian Council minutes presented 25 August
Licensing Application for variation of premises Licence for Melville Castle. Transfer and change to hours.
Licensing Application for variation of premises Licence Dobbies Garden world
Community planning newsletter.
Proposed Stopping order for old Rosewell Road
Proposed traffic order. Waiting restriction on Eskdale Drive opposite to the entrance to Lasswade High School.
Queens Jubilee Award for Voluntary Service
Letter asking for assistance in identifying appropriate organisations.
Letter John Swinney
Model constitution and code of practice, and thanks for all your work
Scottish Heritage
Summer magazine.

Emails

Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy
Invitation to an open day 25th September 2pm to 5pm. Anyone interested.
Midlothian Travel team
Newsletters for July August and September
Seva View
Spring and Summer Magazine
Spokes
Summer Bulletin
Edinburgh and Lothian's GreenSpace Trust.
Annual report for 2008.

ACOB:

IB asked the meeting to consider meeting during August in future to reduce time that the CC is available for decisions and consultations. The meeting unanimously agreed. The cc will now only be in recess July and December.

Hopefield Pathway — a request from a resident was received regarding the lack of a proper pathway between Hopefield and Sherwood particularly for children attending Sherwood school. The existing paths were over grown, and although there is a grass route which passes the SUDS ponds it would require a bridge to be built over the burn. The councillors were asked to progress consideration.

Action: JA

Small Grants Fund— GS informed the meeting that the Federation of Community Councils were managing a fund for organisations carrying out small projects. The organisation must raise 50%. IB suggested that there would be a number of criteria required before the grant would be made. IB asked if GS could obtain a copy of the criteria.

Action: GS

Street Name— BS requested if it was possible for a street to be named after Davie Dunn, who was killed in attempting to prevent a bank robbery in 1994 and is a Bonnyrigg hero.
JA advised the meeting that it was the developers who now named the streets in any development but he would make the appropriate contacts to suggest the name.

Action: JA

Armistice — a letter was received from Lasswade church inviting a representative from the CC to lay a wreath at Lasswade on the 8th November at 9.30am. It was agreed that IB will attend Bonnyrigg and SR will attend Lasswade. EF will purchase the wreaths.

Action: EF

Invitation to cannabis conference on 9 October — No one was available to attend

Association of Scottish Community Councils (ASCC) conference 1 November SR will attend

Midlothian Questionnaire on ASCC affiliation — SR will respond

Action: SR

Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 15 October 2009
(Sports Pavilion, King George V Park, Bonnyrigg) at 7.30 pm.