

BROXBURN COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting
25th August 2014
held in the Old Town Centre, Broxburn
at 7pm

PRESENT

Members: Chair Tom Roy, **Secretary** Ellen Glass, **Treasurer** Dorothy Knox Robert Morrison; Harry Ferguson, Murray Kane; Sylvia Roy; Russell McLean.

Minute Secretary: Kirsty Hughes

Councillors: Cllr. Diane Cambell.

APOLOGIES

Cllrs. Tony Boyle and Janet Campbell; Jack McLaren.

Previous Minutes dated 30th June 2014 were discussed and the following amendment was required:

YoYo Yums – DK noted that no planning applications have been received. All other matters details of the 30th June Minutes were accepted as accurate and proposed by Murray Kane and seconded by Sylvia Roy.

Matters arising and carried forward from Previous Minutes

1. **William Tracey Group** – TR advised there has been complaints from Hillview residents of gunshot noises early morning and they believe they are coming from Wm. Tracey and residents are wondering if they are using guns in addition to the hawk being used. It was agreed that the Community Council and DC would both request Environmental Health to investigate.

ACTION: DC & TR

2. **Old Town Centre Gardens**

EG advised she has spoken with Gordon Connolly and he has confirmed the £20k that is available for this project is for any suitable location in the town and if the pensioners who lease the Old Town Centre are unwilling for this work to take place there, it doesn't necessarily have to be used in the Old Town Centre entrance.

TR advised that £5,000 out of the £20k fund has to be used to pay for essential repairs for the fire exit path from the Old Town Centre. Concern was raised as to why this money had to come out the £20k and not paid by WLC as essential Health and Safety repairs/maintenance – it was agreed that the terms of the lease should be investigated in order to check whether this has to come out of the £20k.

It was agreed that the Community Council should put letters in the residents and shop owner doors inviting them to a meeting and/or asking them to give their approval to progress improving the access area to the Old Town Centre and if they are not interested, an alternative area should be identified to use the money for improvement.

ACTION: EG & TR

New/updated items discussed

1. Planning updates

We were notified that the Pit Stop Café had lodged an Appeal re their Planning application being refused - a site visit is planned in order to reach a decision soon.

DK also mentioned an e-mail had had been received from Martin Costello (Enforcement Officer at WLC), re a number of visits he would be carrying out on a number of other business premises where no planning permission had been requested and will provide an update soon. Chris Norman is also investigating and required to provide an update on the issue previously raised of green sludge in the ditch on the land between Dalton's shredder and Loaninghill Fabrication Co. Ltd.

Discussion took place re the importance of the Community Council reviewing the West Lothian Development Plan and submitting any comments/concerns re proposals. It was agreed that the questionnaire re the plans should be completed and submitted to WLC.

ACTION: DK

EG advised public engagement sessions are planned to take place on Tuesday 30th September from 10am-6.30pm at Burgh Halls, Linlithgow for members of the public and also in the evening from 7pm for Community Council representatives to attend. An alternative session for any Community Councils who are unable to attend on 30/9 is also being held at the Civic Centre (Conference Room 3), Livingston on Thursday 2nd October at 7pm.

HF also mentioned in the WL Development Plan mentions 250 houses at the Vion site.

2. Land Contamination Issues

Contamination Report for the Candleworks has now been sent to Dorothy Knox but a copy in layman's terms is still required.

ACTION: DK/TR

3. Non-Denominational Primary School

HF advised he had contacted David McKinney at WLC in order to obtain information re proposals for the additional non-denominational primary school infrastructure which is required to support the proposed housing development plans for Broxburn. Unfortunately no response has been received to date and HF will chase up response for the next meeting. DC also mentioned the need to obtain additional provision to accommodate the planned increase in nursery places also.

HF mentioned he will be attending a Parent Council meeting at Broxburn Primary School over the next few weeks and will obtain more details then and update on this also at the next Community Council meeting.

ACTION: HF

4. Community Trust Group Proposal – New Sports Facilities

TR advised he has recently attended a meeting with JC and it has been noted that a group of individuals within the Broxburn area, plan to develop a Community Trust Group. The Group is interested in acquiring the existing premises/land at the bottom of Church Street (next to Stewartfield Park) in order to develop a future sports facility. TR

advised that WLC have confirmed the land will not be put up for auction for private sector sale as it has been earmarked as a 'community asset' for a group to take over for the benefit of the community. KH mentioned it has previously been noted that the management group of Albyn Football Club, are keen to ensure any new sports development sites are added to the existing site of the facility at Albyn Park.

Question was raised re the requirement for volunteers to be sought to join the Trust Group and also for the Broxburn community to be consulted on whether they wish a Trust Group to be formed. Brief discussion took place re how the Trust could be set-up and it was explained a paid Director would require to be appointed with a core start-up team in the first instance and TR advised there have already been some names put forward for this. TR also confirmed the Broxburn Town Centre Management Group is already aware of the plans for the development of a Community Trust Group and that further updates would be provided to the Town Centre Management Group in the future.

HF mentioned he had noticed the Town Centre Management Plan shows a possible development of ten new houses on the land at the bottom of Church Street which TR has specified as being the area available for the development of a sports facility by a Community Trust Group. HF also mentioned at Hillview Avenue area there is a plan for a further 45 houses being built.

It was agreed that TR would arrange for a representative of Kirknewton Development Trust to attend a future Broxburn Community Council meeting to outline how they became established and to share their success stories.

ACTION: TR

5. Youth Calls

EG gave an update on the number of youth calls recorded in the Local Area Committee Report, comparing figures for July 2014 with July 2013 and mentioned that overall in the Broxburn Ward, there has been an increase in the number of youth calls but all individual statistics have reduced with the exception of public space assaults and fire raising which have gone up slightly. Main areas of concern for youth calls have been Wyndford and Cardross areas where police have had to spend more time following a spate of thefts. Off-road motorbikes are also continuing to cause concern and officers are conducting patrols to detect and deter at known hot-spots.

Air Quality in Broxburn has exceeded the Statutory criterion for Nitrogen Dioxide but were below the statutory criterion for fine particulates. It has been agreed that this will continue to be monitored and an investigation is currently underway to check for any possible health related concerns.

EG advised that this report is available online for members of the public to view – link is: <http://coins.westlothian.gov.uk/coins/Agenda.asp?meetingid=6062>

6. Christmas Tree Invoice

The revised invoice submitted to cover the costs of WLC buying and erecting the tree has now been paid.

7. Community Council Review

TR advised that despite contacting Peter Reid of Broxburn Academy, to seek volunteers for membership of the Community Council (16-18 year old junior members can now take part and take up Office roles), no communication has been received back from Peter Reid and EG advised she would contact Peter Reid in the hope of obtaining junior members.

ACTION: EG

8. Town Centre Management Group

The Broxburn Christmas celebration events will be held this year on 6th December. It was agreed that confirmation would be obtained at the next Town Centre Management Group meeting re who will be paying for this year's Christmas tree. TR agreed to check re access to the noticeboard keys and confirm this along with details of tree payment at next Community Council meeting.

ACTION: TR

9. Parking at East Mains Industrial Estate

Discussion took place re need for the Community Council to address concerns with West Lothian Council re the number of cars and lorries parked on the road of East Mains Industrial Estate as concerns have been raised as to whether people are using it as a park and ride facility. It was agreed to contact Kevin Hamilton, Road Transportation Safety Manager, to arrange a visit to the site and to provide feedback. No action had been taken re this and EG advised she would action for the next meeting.

ACTION: EG

10. Voluntary Sector Gateway Newsletter

EG provided information on Voluntary Sector Gateway's 'Kulture Klub' initiative which will integrate young people aged between 11-26 years old in West Lothian - bringing them together by breaking cultural barriers and creating a fusion in music, art, food and language. Further information on this and details on Voluntary Sector Gateway, including volunteering opportunities can be viewed at:

<http://www.voluntarysectorgateway.org/>

11. Update on St. John's Hospital/NHS Lothian

Inside St. John's – EG advised the maternity upgrades are now almost complete and next is the upgrade of the special care baby unit. An MRI scanner is now installed and to be commissioned in September – this will make a great difference as will avoid patients always having to travel to Edinburgh hospitals for MRI scans.

Parking at St. John's is still causing concern.

EG recently attended the NHS Lothian meeting at Howden Park Centre – unfortunately there was very poor attendance as only 7 people attended. EG expressed her concern that a number of improvements/additional facilities were planned for Edinburgh hospitals (specifically improved A&E services and Dementia care services), but nothing similar seems to be planned for West Lothian.

EG asked DC for an update on the plans for Health Champions for our Community Ward. Further details will be provided in due course.

TR asked question re the plans for development at Bangour Village – DC advised she would provide further updates on this in due course.

12. War Memorial

EG advised War Memorial Parade will take place on 9th November and AGM on 3rd September at Strathbrock Partnership at 6.30pm.

13. Pensioner Group Christmas Fund

EG advised that Broxburn Senior Citizen's Association, Golden Age Club, Hanover Court Social Club, Uphall and District Old People's Welfare have not written back to obtain money that is available from West Lothian Council for using for Christmas for the Pensioners. EG also advised this funding does not necessarily have to be spent on a Christmas Lunch but can be used for other things (e.g. trips etc.). Concern was raised that the individuals themselves may not be aware of this funding being available for them to access.

14. Blyth Road – New Speed Restriction

EG advised a 20mph speed limit has now been approved for Blyth Road, Broxburn.

15. Broxburn High School Building

A question was raised re what type of housing provision is planned for the Old High School development. TR advised they are Council one and two bedroomed flats and are for over 65 year olds. It has been indicated that they may be prioritised for people who are disabled. EG advised she would enquire re further details and provide further update at future meetings.

ACTION: EG

16. Broxburn East End Liaison Group

DK advised that she has contacted Vion on behalf of the above Group to check re security measures for the Vion site. Vion advised they are content that the area is secure and that there is no risk re theft or travellers moving on to the site.

17. Development of Vion Site

Alistair Reid Thomas of Broxburn Regeneration has contacted DK to advise they are now carrying out site investigation and testing phase of the land for contamination and they wish to attend a future Community Council meeting to provide a further update. DK suggested they attend the next Community Council meeting. DK has confirmed that any attendance at the next Community Council meeting must not be on the basis of it being regarded as a Public consultation meeting for the purpose of pre-planning approval but only an update on what they are doing and planning. It was agreed that wider public consultation/planning presentation meetings would require to be arranged separately.

ACTION: DK

18. West Lothian Funding Fair

The Community Regeneration Funding newsletter details the above event which will take place on Monday 22 September at Howden Park Centre, Livingston from 3.30-6.30pm. The Fair will provide information and advice on funding available from funding providers such as: Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery; Lloyds TSB Foundation; Children in Need; Land Trust; Coalfields Regeneration Trust; sports, arts and local grants.

19. Food Waste

The next phase of the rollout of West Lothian Council's food waste initiative will take place from October (excluding flats and rural areas). A series of information roadshows and press releases are planned. This rollout will target a further 52,000 households.

20. Local Democracy

EG advised that regardless of the Referendum results, the Scottish Government have advised they will be seeking people's views re democracy in the future.

21. Committee Services Customer Satisfaction Survey

Customer Satisfaction Survey to be completed by Community Councils – brief discussion took place to allow EG to complete and submit a response on behalf of Broxburn Community Council.

Action: EG

22. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Monday 29th September 2014 in Broxburn Old Town Centre at 7pm.

WWW.broxburncc.org.uk

**** The meeting will be recorded for accuracy of minutes unless someone wants to discuss a personal problem in which case it may be turned off if requested.**