

BROXBURN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes for Monday 26TH August 2013

Held in The Old Town Centre, Broxburn at 7pm

Present: Tom Roy, Chair. Dorothy Knox, Treasurer. Murray Kane. Robert Morrison. Jack McLaren. Steve Dowd.

Public: S Roy; H Ferguson;

Councillors: Diane Calder

L&BP. DNA

Apologies: Councillor Janet Campbell; Ellen Glass

Minutes approved for 24th June 2013

Proposed by: Murray Kane **Seconded by:** Robert Morrison

POLICE REPORT: - see separate report for July.

Guest speaker: Oatridge College – apologies sent- will attend future meeting.

Matters arising:

- 1. NHS / St Johns Hospital.** Weekly newsletters are now being distributed. They are supposed to be in the community but so far have not been seen in all council buildings, shops etc. Meetings are being held around West Lothian which are open to the public starting at Uphall this evening. These meetings are being presented by NHS representatives.
- 2. Update from previous speakers** Mr Norman & Mr McCorriston. We had hoped to have the answers promised in June but they are not available yet. We have now had confirmation of the full granting of planning permission for the project of housing for the elderly at the old high School in West Main Street. It was also decided at an early stage by planning that the Lodge would be demolished. No distance in planning between buildings being demolished and one inhabited standing. It is up to the demolition company to exercise due care and attention. No word on when work will start as yet.
- 3. Cheque for £150** was given to the Buccaneers for BMX track equipment.
- 4. Buses** – decision to invite First Bus to August/September meeting with Uphall CC & Dechmont CC. It was questioned that WLC met them last week re timetables or routes. **Action Cllr DC**
- 5. Bennie housing** public consultation. Letter sent. They replied saying they would like to attend our meeting again. It was made clear this would not constitute or replace a Public Consultation.
- 6. Canal towpath.** A letter received from Scottish Canals stating postponement of planned resurfacing works at Port Buchan Road which were due to commence on 19th August due to unforeseen engineering works. To be asked when they hope to reinstate works. Scottish Canals apologise. Potholes in Pyothall Rd are joint ownership between residents and council. Repair has been turned down previously by council although now a well used road to several houses but BUTCMG may be able to help. **Action Cllr DC**
- 7. Double sided sign** advertising Corstorphine has been removed.

8. **Update on Winchburgh archaeological find.** An archaeologist reported at their WCC meeting that an Iron Age 'roundel' had been unearthed but was severely damaged due to farming over the years behind the Old Beatty School. It has been cleaned, logged and photographed for posterity but will be recovered. There is a photograph taken from the air by kite which shows it clearly.
9. **Old Town Garden** – guest speaker sent apologies and will attend a future meeting. **Action DK**
10. **Old Town Centre Roof (stripping) & letter box.** Letter box has been moved to the other side and is satisfactory. Right hand side is sorted but left hand side still needs work on roof. **Action Cllr DC.**
11. **Wyndford/Kirkhill (the Range) housing** - public consultation. We are still awaiting confirmation of ground problems in this area. **Action DK.**

Other competent business.

1. **Election of Community Councillors:** This is open for everybody to re-elect their present CC councillors or nominate a friend or their self provided they are 16 or over, live in Broxburn and are on the electoral roll. Leaflets are on our web site, in various shops, library, Strathbrock Partnership Centre etc explaining the roll of this non political Statutory Body.
Please contact Lorraine McGrorty at Lorraine.mcgrorty@westlothian.gov.uk or visit www.westlothian.gov.uk/communitycouncils for a nomination pack. Nominations must be received by 19th September 2013 and the 4 yearly elections take place 31st October 2013. If applications are over subscribed there will be 7 days in which to withdraw their nomination. Where this is necessary the closing date for withdrawal of nominations will be 26th September 2013 at 5pm.

Correspondence:

1. **Disabled persons parking.** Notice was received about various proposed changes.
 - a. Convert 71 existing advisory disabled persons parking places to enforceable disabled persons parking.
 - b. Amend 5 existing enforceable disabled persons parking places.
 - c. Remove 83 existing enforceable residential disabled persons parking places.

Our comments included:-

- There should be a clamp down of people who are abusing this system.
 - When people are reporting it they are getting passed the buck.
 - It was agreed that it was better that photos of the holder are on the front of the blue badge now which should help.
 - Edinburgh did a 2 month trial on snooping for correct use and they found 70% were illegally parking.
 - Lack of traffic wardens does not help to enforce this. **Action DK**
2. **Proposed Brox Burn Environment Group** are walking the length of the Brox Burn during early September. This is being organised by the River Forth Fisheries Trust. The Trusts Biologist is particularly keen to bring together people/groups with interests ranging from angling, wildlife, wildflowers, environmental to amenity maintenance etc. Please contact Graeme Hedger Graeme.Hedger@westlothian.gov.uk. for more details. This ties in well with the 'Blue green access' which would help clean up the Burn.
 - a. advertise in minutes, pigeonholes for walking group, library, Brian Curries and the web site.

3. **Tellmesotland** has had good uptake regarding all the information on their web. No volunteers to take on.
4. **Planning Scotland's Seas** – consultation including wind, wave and tidal energy. Those present felt was not relevant to us.
5. **Moving on from Welfare reform** – notice of meeting on 10th September for CC members on anti poverty and feed back on the last year. Must register to attend.
6. **Vion** site update by Dem-master flyers which are in shops (free). Strip out work well underway at the west end of the site, and have now started taking down the outer walls. All gas services have been completely disconnected. Security is present 24/7. There is a 24/7 emergency number 07966167865 if you have a problem regarding the site.
7. **WLACC** report back from meeting on the 22nd August.
 - a. Health care. The NHS are doing their best and are doing a lot of background work looking to modernise the service. It was stated that the public were not expected at the Stakeholders meeting on the 10th August despite having been told at a previous meeting in Blackburn. They reported that there is a mismatch with the Scottish Government and the way doctors are being trained is under scrutiny. The WLACC have not seen the list of patients who are already diverted away from St Johns by Ambulance. They did concede that it is a second year out of university doctor who will be in attendance with a more senior colleague on call by phone or tele-link in Edinburgh after 11pm till 7am, but could not comment if this was safe practise as they are not medically qualified. The meetings around the county are starting in Uphall then Linlithgow, they are open to the public but you have to register if you intend to go along.
 - b. Local Development Plan has been delayed and it is hoped the SES Plan will be published in November with a Supplementary Planning Guide. Consultation starts early in the New Year.
 - c. Land Audit: House completion across West Lothian is down. Too many calls for sites than available in Local Plan. Windfall sites are at 2½ thousand instead of 2 thousand.
 - d. Scheme of delegation: Council house planning is not mandatory requirement to send to Development Management unless there are 15 objections or a statutory consultee.
 - e. Heritage Lottery money. Going to invite speaker to next meeting on 26th September which will start at 6:30pm in the Civic Centre, Livingston, with a buffet. Check WLACC web before going. Talking about forming an Alliance to participate.
8. **WLACC Community Engagement** is a form to fill in explaining how we engage with the community to get their opinion about various 'issues'. The group felt we contributed with minutes; web site; notice boards; groups; library & Strathbrock. Consider an Annual Newsletter Costs about £600 contains news and views and adverts to offset some costs. Get groups to help deliver. Highlights you are there and what you do. Facebook was also suggested but declined in case of abuse. Help from TR. **Action DK & TR**
9. **Invite to 'Sticky Stuff' from Police** force to be held in Glasgow on 6th September by invitation. It is looking at various ways to make society a better place to be. Confirmation required.
10. **Litter Strategy** – a consultation event held by the Scottish Government in Edinburgh on 30th August. Registration required. Closes 27th September for

comments. Litter pick is in place in West Lothian. Confirmation required. WL doing their own campaign.

11. **Scottish Woman's Convention SWC.** Livingston 17th September 11:30am to 2:30pm at Howden Park Centre. The event is open to all women in the West Lothian region to attend. It is preferable to register just so they can cater for the numbers who would like to come along. Registration can be done by phoning 0141 339 4797 or emailing info@scottishwomensconvention.org
12. **Temporary road restrictions for one day Strathbrock Place** from it's junction with Almondell Road to its junction with East Main Street on Monday 16th September from 9am to 4pm.
13. **NHS Public nomination form** for anybody who wishes to recognise a health care worker for their hard work and commitment to the communities they serve. Nominations to be received by 30th August. Ceremony on 24th October 2013. Tel: 0141 578 1779 for further information.
14. **Consultation re Sexual Entertainment Venues** to be completed and returned by 24th September 2013 by CC. Examples of questions were read out. It was pointed out that West Lothian have a blanket ban on this type of entertainment.
Action DK
15. **West Lothian Walking Week** from 16 to 22nd September with Scottish Waterways. Suggested routes are given eg. Muiravonside Country Park, Linlithgow, etc. Look on web site for details. www.broxburncc.org.uk

Questions from the floor:

1. **Any word about Tesco?** No. there has been nothing further to date. Some questions should be answered when Mr Norman replies.
2. **Halls:** Heard it has been sold for £2m. Consortium has now got other premises, Two places earmarked for business at Peniel Place, no further word.
3. **New Council shop in Greendykes Road.** Business Gateway was opened and will include various agencies. It was never mentioned to the Community. The shop was supposed to be for the creation of work and not just relocation of Council staff. It is a disgrace buying it with regeneration money for Vion.
 - a. There is still no measure of success from Pace. There was no information supplied.
 - b. Disgrace that Council could work at the new shop in Greendykes on a Sunday as well as working until 9pm through the week, and also parking on the pavement making people walk on the road without barriers. CC asked to follow this up.
 - c. There are questions about how they have opened without basic facilities of water, toilets and phone lines.
 - d. Regeneration fund for Vion has applications for the £50th. Four applicants have already got. There are 6 (higher class) known applicants which are private. One did not fit the criteria. Opened a place for the over 50s in Bathgate without funding.
 - e. They are advertising BUTA on their window – are they joining?
 - f. The council in the new shop need to clarify what they do and how they can help the public. They should be leafleting the community. There should also be a monitor to count the people going in to check viability. It is situated in a bad place for parking etc.
 - g. Young techno students could help the elderly learn on the PCs which have been sited there.

Planning applications:

1. Station Road. Having been approached about an application which was lodged for three bungalows and a 1 ½ storey house behind 31 & 33 Station Road enquiries were made and we await further information from Consultees.
2. There has just been an application lodged for 4 flats and a town house at 9 Station Road. We will look at this application.
3. Daltons, further to their being refused increased tonnage and increased hours at appeal in 2011 they have resubmitted two applications for same. The shredder machine has still not been commissioned and to our knowledge no base noise level was established. Both are still awaiting decision. This site backs onto an area of Core Development which has a residential housing application been sitting since before they, Daltons moved into the site.

Next meeting 30th September 2013

at 7pm

Broxburn Old Town Centre.

www.broxburncc.org.uk

NB The meetings are recorded for purpose of the minutes unless someone wants to discuss a personal problem in which case it may be switched off if requested.

CC = Community Council. WLACC = West Lothian Association of Community Councils
BUTCMG = Broxburn & Uphall Town Centre Management Group.

Ref: EG/TR/RM/DK

Broxburn Community Council

July 2013

51 crimes were reported of which 27 have been solved to date, which gives a solvency rate of 53% for the month.

This year to date figures are as follows, a total of 185 crimes have been reported of which 98 have been solved giving a solvency rate of 53%. The previous years figures for 2012 were 182 reported crimes with 101 having been solved giving a solved rate of 55%

As can be seen reported crime is up marginally up on last year and solvency is also down slightly.

Incidents of note for July

02/07/2013 – Police attended a call to Lychgate Lane after reports were received of a male in possession of knife. Thankfully the male was quickly traced, arrested and appeared at Livingston Sheriff Court in relation to the offence.

11/07/2013 – A property within Queens Road was subjected to a break in and a quantity of jewellery was stolen from within. Enquiries are still ongoing regarding this incident and I would ask any members of the public to come forward if they can provide any information regarding this or have been offered jewellery recently.

20/07/2013 – A vehicle was broken into as it left parked in Greendykes Road car park over night. I would like to take this opportunity to remind residents of the risks of leaving property on display within their vehicles when left unattended.

25/07/2013 – An attempt was made to break in to Greggs the bakers on West Main Street during the early hours. Thankfully the suspects were quickly captured after the Police dog managed to track them nearby.

Other matters

Remember that as of April 1st dial 999 for an emergency or for non-emergencies call free on 101.

Regards

Vince Manning, Broxburn Police Station, West Main Street, Broxburn
Tel 01506 833709
Email - vincent.Manning@scotland.pnn.police.uk