

Broxburn Community Council Draft Meeting Minutes

Held on Monday 25th May 2013

Held in Old Town Centre, Broxburn

Present: Tom Roy, Sylvia Roy, Cllr Janet Campbell, Murray Kane, Harry Ferguson, Jack McLaren Robert Morrison, Ellen Glass, Russell McLean and Tam Stirling

Apologies: Cllr Diane Calder, Debbie Halloran

Guests: Hazel Hay Business Gateway, Alice Mitchell Business Gateway, Graeme Barrie Resident

Presentation from Business Gateway

Verbal update – Business Gateway, it was great that Broxburn won Great British High Street award

Community, council and everyone working together has made a massive improvement within the town, got £6,000 – currently working with Traders Association on how best to use money.

Broxburn Services – bursting at seems we are now starting to work with West Lothian College very keen to become involved. People taking up additional training.

IT buddies Monday and Thursday mornings – inundated with demand for services. Come September it will get busier.

Big growth for people signing on and looking for help from Advice shop. – Really busy. Appointments working one week ahead.

Credit Union, Jobcentre Plus, College, CIU, Business Information – between Strathbrock and ourselves.

College - 1st course – Access to Work. Teach you how to sign on etc.

Credit Union – no cash on site. Alice Mitchell promotes CU from Strathbrock on Monday.

Advice Shop – call DWP to help claimants.

Claimants on Job Seekers are down to 1.9%. Sitting below average for area.

Down to 91% for closed Shops, offices etc. Hopefully this will change soon.

Where are Minutes being displayed on Notice Board? Abbreviated to be put on front.

Trying to stop fly posting.

Litter was brought up but it has to be carried for Thursday's meeting.

Matters Arising

No Agenda for Meeting.

Minutes of the April meeting were proposed Murray Kane and seconded Russell McLean

Treasurers Report

£2617 in the bank

Planning

Skate park in paper about wheelie bins. Extra patrols from police. Not kids who go to skate parks but other kids wanting to cause bother – setting wheelie bins on fire.

Football pitch at Academy going to planning committee on 3rd June – proposals amended. Move pitch away from housing. Hoping objections reduce. Over 65 rejections

44 different reasons for rejection. Pitch will be open 7 days a week. Proposal can't go ahead the way it stands.

It would be cost effective to sort out the drainage on their own pitch rather than building a new pitch. Field drains need attention. Put a silent fence up and utilise the existing trees to.

Changing rooms will not be changed and school will need to have staff there and the Council will also have to have someone present. Concerns were raised over the standard of the changing rooms. Children will not be in at the same time as the public.

The School will take all the bookings for the use of the pitch but Alpha Schools will be in charge.

Names can be put forward to attend the meeting for the Planning Development Committee. It was noted that each person that attends will get 5 minutes to speak. Cllr Janet Campbell will speak to Wendy McCorrison to ensure that everyone is notified and gets the opportunity to attend and speak.

Concerns were noted over the information on West Lothian Council's portal as some of the information won't open, is delayed in being uploaded and some appears to be missing. Ellen Glass thinks that we should write to the Chief Executive and note our concerns over the information on the portal.

The pitch has been narrowed and moved further away from the houses from the original proposals, but it now won't meet the minimum standard required for FA football pitch.

Residents have undertaken a noise analysis and noise levels at 15m away with a girl's match 76decibels. Cllr Janet Campbell asked if the noise analysis were formal and it was advised that they are formal and will be presented to Wendy McCorrison.

Ellen Glass asked how the residents are managing to meet and discuss, Ellen Glass said they could utilise the Town Hall and Tom Roy could arrange. It was advised to ensure that anyone representing at the Planning Development Committee from the residents ensure they remain focussed and get the key bullet points noted down.

Cllr Janet Campbell advised to ask if they could distribute the points from the objection and give copies to all in attendance.

It was noted the estimated cost for the pitch would be £514,000.

There are currently 13 football pitches currently in Broxburn and the Albion after their extension are looking to get 5 mini kick pitches.

Harry Ferguson asked Wendy McCorriston to see if any update on the Vion site, the developers are still in discussions with West Lothian Council regarding the developer contributions and school provision. A formal planning application has not yet been submitted.

Russell McClean said that he has raised the query with Thistle Industrial Estate regarding the commercial development proposed by the Developers and has still not been progressed.

Cllr Janet Campbell said that there are concerns over the developer contributions; the Developer has employed an expert from Newcastle to assess the development.

Harry Ferguson raised concerns with West Lothian Council re the new proposed primary school in Broxburn as the proposed houses for Vion and Kirkhill developments have not been included within the plans.

It was agreed the developers would be invited back but not until the planning application has been submitted to West Lothian Council.

Harry Ferguson noted that the Library provision will be relocated to Strathbrock Partnership Centre; this means the library building will be redundant and could be sold.

3800 visitors per month to the Library and it was noted that it will increase once it moves into the Strathbrock.

Tom Roy attended the Old Town Centre Management Committee and they feel very strongly about it moving to the Strathbrock.

Ellen Glass said there are two Partnership Centres Bathgate and Fauldhouse with 64.5 hours per week, we are open at 50 hours then 10am -3pm Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri 10am-7pm on a Thursday and Saturday will be 9-1am.

Mobile libraries will be getting sold off as well.

Concerns were raised on the parking facilities at the Strathbrock, the access to Strathbrock for the people in the care homes in Broxburn and the opening hours.

Cllr Janet Campbell and Tom Roy advised the Rent Office is going onto a Kiosk and the housing section will be moved slightly and the area with the glass walls will be where the OC's are based. Concerns raised over the area being allocated and the shared space with Council Information Services.

Cllr Janet Campbell said her concerns are:

- Kids from Broxburn primary will lose the provision when they come out of school
- People use the library once they have been shopping
- Elderly people in Greendykes Road
- Keeping the Town Centre vibrant and facilities in the Town Centre

Cllr Janet Campbell also noted her concerns over the consultation process.

Harry Ferguson asked if they had scrutinised other libraries in West Lothian and checked the footfall as West Lothian Council think that approx. 4000 is not enough per month.

Tom Roy and Ellen Glass are attending West Lothian Council Executive Committee tomorrow, they will not know if they will be able to speak until the committee have agreed to them being allowed to speak.

Tom Roy and Ellen Glass will raise the undernoted points:

- Why is Broxburn being singled out for relocation
- Why when there is a high footfall level?
- Why relocate when it is the core of the town?
- Reduced opening hours
- Sqmt area for the replacement area
- Noise levels for the provision in a main thoroughfare
- Lack of public consultation

Email received from Yo Yums as below:

Dear Debbie,

My name is Gail Findlay and I am part owner of Yoyo Yums take away shop in Broxburn. I'd like to start by apologies for the late email and hope you receive this before the meeting at 7pm tonight. I was hoping to attend the meeting but something has come up.

I have a couple of concerns I would like to raise with the committee.

Firstly I'd like to bring to your attention the minutes from August 2014, where Dorothy Knox raised the question about a planning application for change of venue for our shop. I would like to respond to that. Prior to opening the shop myself and business partner (Coleen Clark) contacted both the environmental health and planning department for guidance on any applications we would need to open the shop under a take away business. After a number of telephone calls between myself and Wendy McCorrison we were informed we did not need one as we have no residents above us and we were not cooking deep fried food. I would be grateful if this could be minuted in this evenings minutes.

Secondly I was very disappointed to find out that my shop had been discussed at the meeting and then minutes posted on the Internet without mine or my partners knowledge. I only found out by chance when I was looking through the internet. Surely to keep good working relations then a courtesy email or phone call would have been appropriate to inform us of the issues so we had an opportunity to respond, this would also eliminate any unnecessary stress to myself and business partner. It would also allow the committee to put factual information in your minute. As I said previously at the moment, if reading the minutes it looks like we are doing something wrong. I would like the committee to rectify this and have my response minute. I would also be grateful for the committee's response to this email.

Dorothy Knox had been advised it was a sandwich shop only with no hot food; it was however then noted that hot food was being provided. Harry Ferguson said he will speak with Planning Department and confirm if a Class 3 is required and we can then respond to YoY ums.

Tom Roy noted that anything discussed at past meeting would be recorded and would be included in previous the minutes.

We have to advise YoY ums that we would respond to them in due course.

Dorothy Knox sent a web enquiry asking what the Community Council response to Edinburgh Airport for flight path changes was? Tom Roy advised that there were no effects to Broxburn changes were mostly from Uphall.

Harry Ferguson said we have to reply to Dorothy Knox and advise that.

Russell McClean said the planes on the route would be quieter planes but thinks they are more Northern than previous.

The changes will be a trial for 3 months from June.

Tom Roy will provide the information that he has been given and is a trial period and await the findings.

Dorothy Knox looking for an update on the progress of the houses at the old Broxburn Primary School. Tom Roy to reply advising the update which is housing delayed until September. Delays due to the interface with the old building. Discussion took place over the departure of the foreman.

Old Town Centre Management Committee had AGM today. Linda Sayers walked them through the process and advised they need to have meetings every quarter.

Donations

Tom suggested. Music Department at the High School have a trip in June 15. To Europe which costs £400. Per student. Would Broxburn Community Council like to make a donation? They are going to 5 different countries; Tom Roy confirmed we have approx. £2617 in the bank. Ellen Glass suggested that we donate £800 to send 2 students or help reduce the costs per student. It was agreed and Robert Morrison seconded.

Gala Day funds. last year cost just under £8,000 and this year will be around the same. The Gala Committee get around £2600 in grants from w l c and donations from local businesses'. Fundraising is difficult But if they don't get funds etc. they won't be able to put on a gala next year. They are hoping to get every gala queen from 1953 to 2016 to attend next year it will be themed yester years with as many original gala queens as possible in attendance. Tom Roy asked if we would give consideration to making a donation to the Gala Committee for next year.

Discussions took place on gathering memorabilia from the previous gala days so anyone with information then we will start to collate so we can get presentation boards and then start to raise funds etc.

Date of the next meeting will be Monday 29th June 2015 at 7pm.