Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 18 June 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, Gilbert Scott.

In attendance: Councillor Bob Constable, Councillor Jackie Aitchison, Jackie Conway (Midlothian Superintendent Lothian and Borders Police)

Welcome: The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and Introduced Superintendent Jackie Conway from Lothian and Borders Police.

Jackie Conway:

Jackie gave a very interesting and detailed talk on her visions for Midlothian police strategy for the future. Below is a short summary.

On 25 April Jackie was promoted to Superintendent in Midlothian, she had been working in CID previously. Among her priorities are antisocial behaviour enforcement and prevention, youth strategy with enough investment. Young people get a bad press but there are a lot of good ones. The community action team will work out of Bonnyrigg 1300 shifts last year there were 1100. There has been a big increase in recovery of alcohol. There are additional officers as community beat officers who know their areas.

An engagement day was held at Salter's gate and the youngsters themselves chose the the topics which included Alcohol, drugs, bulling and knives. The young people themselves are worried by these subjects and are worried about going out in the evening.

2/3 of crime in Midlothian is vandalism with domestic abuse a major problem. 75% young people who offend come from domestic abuse homes.

CAT vehicles are being liveried in police colours and will be used to police the various walkways in the area.

The community police should be informed of any concerns problems in our area. They are the best link for the community.

JC intimated that it was very difficult to man Bonnyrigg police station at all times. The hours that it is manned should be obtained.

JC again reiterated that alcohol is at the route of many problems and removing the source is a major task in improving crime figures. J|C was asked if knife crime was a major problem, she was able to inform the meeting that out of 180 searches only 3 had knives.

IB thanked Jackie for her participation in the meeting. JC then left.

Apologies: Eddie Ramsay, Councillor Derek Milligan and PC Lucy Kennedy (Lothian and Borders Police)

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

Matters arising:

January Meeting

- Pedestrian Crossing —Lothian Street (between the Waverley Cres and Eldindean Rd junctions) *A meeting with strategic services took place, the strategic services agreed to look at providing a safe haven crossing as they felt that they could not justify a proper crossing. After the meeting Councillor Milligan intervened and requested that strategic services provided documents for both a proper crossing at Raes Gardens and also a central pedestrian haven at the bus stop, to put funding bids into the Gourlaw sub committee for both projects*. **Action: John Blair** (Director Commercial Services)/**Councillor Milligan (Carried Forward)**

February Meeting

- Holiday vaccination appointments — *Dalhousie practice replied by letter and SR attended a meeting with The Practice to allow their procedures to be explained. Both practices offer similar appointment procedures with the next available appointment being offered. The waiting time can be from one working day to 7 working days depending if a specific GP is requested. The Practice operate an early appointment (7.30am). One of the major problems is no shows. Regarding holiday vaccinations, Dalhousie require 6 weeks notice as the patient is required to fill in a form with personal details and holiday destinations. The practice nurse then goes through the patients medical records and researches the regions to be visited. A prescription is then issued and an appointment given. However not all inoculations are covered under the HHS and patient may have to go to an agency that does the inoculations privately. Strathesk medical practice did not reply*. **Discharged**

March Meeting

- Visit to Police Call centre — *SR to arrange a visit has been requested for September*

Action: SR (Carried Forward)

May Meeting

- Donation to Ex-servicemen's club confirm if they require donation *Not required* **Discharged**
- Register for data protection— *Completed* **Discharged**
- Water Fountain— JA agreed to contact commercial services regarding cleaning of fountain *A site visit took place and the best that can be achieved is a good cosmetic clean with a high pressure hose.*

Action: JA

Financial Report:

Current Account	£1,421.80
Twinning	£2,139.42

Police Report:
Between 18th May and 15th June there have been a number of incidents at Hawthornden, Hopefield and St Mary's Primary school. These have been vandalisms including broken windows and also 4 incidents where small amounts of lead have been stolen from the roofs. No suspects at this time.

There have been a total of 6 reports of broken windows to various addresses. No repeats at this time and again no suspects traced or identified. There have also been 6 instances of minor damage to cars in Bonnyrigg. These have included an instance of slashed tyres but all have happened overnight and no witnesses or suspects in mind.

Other instances of vandalism/mal mis have included a wheelie bin set alight and also a tree.

A 15-year-old youth was traced and reported for use of an air weapon. A male has also been traced and charged with an assault at the Calderwood Pub dating from the 9th May. There was a complaint received about the Calderwod Pub regarding loud music and a large number people standing outside the premises. On police arrival the noise was not excessive and the doors, which were allegedly open earlier, were closed and there were only 3 persons smoking outside.

Police were contacted about a shell that been found elsewhere and was in possession of a Bonnyrigg resident and they wished advice. EOD were contacted and it was thought to be a WW1 shell which was taken by them an subject of a controlled explosion elsewhere.

Travellers were reported at Wadingburn. There were a couple of caravans there at different times between the 5th and 9th June before they left. This has happened before.
There have been 6 instances of theft from gardens and insecure sheds in the town. The property has ranged from garden lights, furniture and bicycles. A motorbike was also stolen from a secure garage in Pryde Terrace. Barriers were stolen from King George V Park. At this time no suspects identified however enquires continuing.

During the last month the MCAT teams have conducted regular patrols in the area and have confiscated a large quantity of alcohol from youths. A number of ASBO FPT have been issued for urinating and other anti-social behaviour. Operation Esplanade was also run in the Midlothian area with partner agencies. During this further alcohol and offences were confiscated and issued.

There have also been positive MDA searches carried out and a Drink Driver was traced in the Bonnyrigg area.
Midlothian Councillors' Report:

Councillor Jackie Aitchison:
The chief executive is retiring and there were 16 applicants for the position, all male. Six were interviewed which was reduced to two for final consideration. The successful candidate is Kenneth Lawrie who is at present with Scottish Borders Council

Social Work — Midlothian is 2nd smallest authority but have the highest number of children on the risk register
Bonnyrigg Primary School— this will open in the autumn, the old school will be demolished.

School transport— the budget review suggested 3mile radius form the school this is being turned down.
Catchments area— There is major consultation catchments area. The school roles are dropping falling. The council intends to put the fact and figures to the parents for them to tell the council what they want. LHSC is bulging at the seams. MC looking at conference teaching.

Snooker Club— there was a lot of response to the planning application, the planner have turned down the application.

M1h1 (Swine flue)— upgraded to pandemic Lothian health board have commenced plans for inoculation of the whole of Midlothian.

Councillor Bob Constable:
Polton Road— Consideration is being given to installing road bumps

Poltonhall Children's Gala— This was a big success.

Mavis bank house— Historic Scotland made a compulsory order and intend to make the policies available to the public. Officials are taking action to have the locks removed from the gates which are preventing access.

GS asked what were the possibilities of Roslin Glen road re-opening — JA replied that at present the budget for the repair was £300k but the road was still slipping.

Planning:
High Street — this application has been submitted to the reporter for the Scottish government.

Transport:
The councillors were asked if there was any update on the borders railway, but there was no new information available.

Twinning:
St Cyr visit— Adam Montgomery is already in France. Neil Stewart is selecting gifts to take.

Data Protection:
We are now registered

Correspondence:

Public Partnership Forum

Last months minutes
This month's agenda.
Patient Involvement Worker Report
Midlothian Public Partnership Forum Working Agreement
Flyer for a meeting to discuss standard for involving people in the work of the NHS 25 June
Application form for taking part in NHS Lothian focus groups. Closing date 22nd June

Planning for Gain
Presentation handout

Midlothian Council
Minutes presented to Midlothian Council on 26 May 2009
Minutes presented to Midlothian Council on 23 June 2009
Policy DP1: Development in the countryside – Housing Groups. It is a consultation paper following the adoption of the local plan.
Midlothian Travel Map
Licensing Application for variation of premises Licence for Melville Castle. Transfer and change to hours.

Enquire
The Scottish advice service for additional support and learning. They are looking to CC to raise awareness of their services by information posted on our website.

Emails
Midlothian Council Travel Team
June Newsletter

ASCC
Spring / summer newsletter.

Keith Fuller
Email regarding further application for housing adjacent to St Annes path

AOCB:

Fair trade — there is a link on our website to the fair trade website.

Newsletter— CS has given every business a copy of the newsletter

Grass Cutting— GS asked if it was possible for the frequency ofd grass cutting could b reduced to allow the clover to flower, which would help in protecting bees which are on the decline JA will put the suggestion to the appropriate department

Action: JA

Licensing Hours— CS asked if it was possible to curtail the number of hours that some licensed premises are open. JA this is not possible due to the "grandfather hours "rule.

Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday 17 September 2009
(Sports Pavilion, King George V Park, Bonnyrigg) at 7.30 pm.