

BONNYRIGG & LASSWADE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held on 18 November 2010 within Sports Pavilion, King George V Park Bonnyrigg at 19.30 hrs

Present: Ian Baxter (Chair), Dorothy Innes (Vice Chair), Stewart Renwick (secretary), Ruth Scott, Cameron Scott and Gilbert Scott, Eddie Ramsay

In attendance: Councillor Bob Constable, Councillor Jackie Aitchison, Graeme McGrath (Lasswade PS Parent Council), John Laidlaw (Local Resident), Steven Brown (Local Resident), John French (Hawthornden PS Parent Council), Marnie Crawford, Scott Douglas, PC Stewart Morrison

Apologies: Elaine Ferguson (Treasurer), Dawn Morrison, Chris Rae (Lasswade Primary School)

Welcome: Chairman welcomed all to meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Proposed Gilbert Scott Seconded by Cameron Scott

Matters Arising:

August Meeting

- (A) Oak Bench — to determine costs ER will contact Mayshade garden centre. We need to write to NHS Lothian to ensure that it is acceptable in a PPP and we will not have future costs. *We are waiting a reply from Mr Eddie Egan chairman Midlothian Community Health Partnership.* **Ongoing**

ACTION: SR

- (B) Closure Bonnyrigg Police Station— it was suggested that should the police station be closed alternative accommodation could be found in the new LHSC. It was agreed to write to the Chief Constable putting forward our views. *A reply has been received from Jacqueline Conway Area Commander Midlothian. The decision process is in progress but there are many unknowns at present due to the current budgetary constraints. An officer has been appointed to scope accommodation and property in order to prepare the police to properly to deal with the cuts likely to be passed on by the Scottish Government and Midlothian Council.* **Cleared**

October Meeting

- (C) Gourlaw Committee Grants—*John Blair preparing report and could not respond to CS request. CS has now requested information under the FOI (Freedom of Information act). When was the cheque signed and who was it sent to as it was not Bonnyrigg Rose. The Advertiser is still preparing an article on the subject. JA identified himself as a member of the Gourlaw sub-committee and could not comment on this particular grant as it was being looked at by the council audit committee. He did however explain the funding dispersed by the Gourlaw sub-committee for the members of the public who were in attendance. It is money paid to the council for use of the Coal Haul Route from the open cast mines above Rosewell. It amounts to 25pence per ton. JA had advised CC to wait until there was a substantial amount accumulated in the fund. Grants are for environmental projects. Bonnyrigg Rose had applied for funding to upgrade their car park, which would be used by the general public during the week and by the football club on a match day. £37,500 grant was approved with match funding from BR. As the car park has not been upgraded in the 2 years since the grant being approved the councils audit committee is now investigating the grant. JA informed the meeting the audit committee meets in public and anyone can attend. BS hoped that the Advertiser will not make unsubstantiated claims, and wait on the report and committee findings being published.* **Ongoing**

ACTION: BC

- (D) Newsletter delivery — It was suggested that it may be possible to have the newsletter delivered with the Midlothian News. IB will contact Kenneth Lawrie. *IB has emailed as is waiting a reply.* **Ongoing**

ACTION: IB

- (E) Lasswade road traffic — There is a meeting in Lasswade High on Monday at 6.30pm IB will attend IB attended the meeting. *Rhona Brankin chaired the meeting, where there were many diverse views. Chicanes confusing, speed changes, bumps full width of the road were a selection of the subjects covered. John Laidlaw commented that parking was a problem on this road. MC speed policy is 20mph only at school.* **Cleared**

- (F) Cherry Road Centre — RS asked if it was true that the Cherry road centre is to close for 3 months. BC would try and find out if it is true. *JA informed the meeting that he had the portfolio for this are of the council services. He told the meeting that the facility would be closed for 4 weeks in January. MC had managed to obtain funding from the health board for the project He commented that Ikea and Dobbies were investing £10k in upgrading their disabled toilets. There are trust funds that have councillors as trustees, which will be used to build proper toilets to cater for severe disability.* **Cleared**

Financial Report:

Current Account:	As at 18 th November 2010	£ 1,386.51
Transactions		
Debits	£368.58 (Abbey Print for Newsletter)	
	£100.00 (2 years secretarial honorarium)	
	£ 7.68 (Stamps for chairman)	
	£476.26 Total	
Credit	£430.00 (Income from Newsletter)	

No Interest is being added to this account as it is a flexible current account.

Twinning Account:	As at 18 th November 2010	1,612.47
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Transactions

Debits	None
Credits	None
	There is still no twinning grant

Police Report:

Total Crimes Recorded: 53

Total Crimes Solved: 17 - 32.08% solvency (This YTD 37.46%, Last YTD 47.43%)

Break down as follows:

	Received	Solved
Sexual Crime	1	0
Crimes of Dishonesty	22	7
Vandalism	22	2
Other Crime	8	8

- There have been 302 calls received to the Bonnyrigg and Lasswade area for the month of October.
- On 16/10/10 a male was arrested and cautioned and charged with breach of the peace after shouting at a group of females causing them fear and alarm I Cameron Crescent. The male was held in custody to appear at ESC on 18/10/10.
- About 0220 hours on 31/10/10 the front windscreen of a motor vehicle was smashed whilst it was parked secure and unattended outside an address in Gordon Avenue by a traffic cone being thrown at same.
- Between 2000 hours on 31/10/10 and 0830 hours on 01/11/10 a motor vehicle parked secure and unattended at an address on De Quincey Road was damaged by person(s) unknown puncturing the offside tyres.

INCIDENTS OF NOTE IN BONNYRIGG

ATDS officers stopped a motor vehicle in Dundas Street, Bonnyrigg. There was a smell of cannabis from within the vehicle and the 22-year-old male driver and his vehicle were searched under Section 23 MDA 71. A total of 5 bags of herbal matter were recovered.

As part of Operation Erase (ThinkB4YouDrink), between 1700 and 2100 hours on Friday 8th and Saturday 9th October, a much-publicised Operation Esplanade was undertaken across the Penicuik, Loanhead and Bonnyrigg Area with great success.

At 17: 00hrs on Wednesday 20/10/2010, the complainer was within home address, when he received a telephone call from a male purporting to be from SKY Equipment Insurance. The male, described as Asian accent, told the complainer that his SKY Equipment insurance had run out and that cover could be commenced after complainer provided card details for sum of £350.00. Complainer provided the required 16 digit card no. along with security no on reverse. Background noise gave the complainer the impression of being a call centre. Complainer later learned in conversation with his wife that there insurance had not expired and following contact with SKY Customer Services, realised this was a scam.

SM commented that the armistice parade was very well organised.

Over the last week there have been break ins or attempted. He emphasised the need to keep doors locked.

SM is intending having a monthly surgery on a Friday between 8 to 5pm. A location has still to be identified.

If any person has any information about the incident's listed above or indeed any other issue please contact your Community Officer or Bonnyrigg Police Station.

PC 5907E Stewart Morrison & PC 3912E Ian Hutchison Community Officers Bonnyrigg/Lasswade/Rosewell

E-mail EDivCBOPKGroup@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Telephone: Bonnyrigg Police Station 0131 663 9221 or Crimestoppers: 0800 555 111

LHSC

JL was in attendance at this meeting as he was concerned at the entrance to the new LHSC. It was pointed out that it was requirement that the entrance would be from the Rosewell road and not Eskdale Drive. JA informed the meeting that the project proposal had been presented to the full council and had been accepted. The costs are £39.6M with the government providing £23M. The council will have to fund the shortfall. It will be a 25mtr pool with the pool split during

the day between public and pupils. The public footpath will have to be moved towards the back of the new site. Meetings will continue with the old people's forum and the library working group.

Midlothian Councillors' Report:

Councillor Aitchison

The 3 local councillors attended all 3 memorial ceremonies at armistice. He was impressed with the attendance of youth at all the ceremonies.

The fire at Stobhill wiped out 5 vehicles valued at £80k each. 5 have been written off giving £5k in scrap value and will receive 35% from the insurance. MC will need to find £500k to replace the vehicles.

MC is waiting on notification on proposals regarding Fire and Police boards as well as health board. There are 8 fire boards and it is expected that this will be reduced as will the other boards.

Community pay back order - the feeling is that the offender should pay back to the community but it is difficult to find people to oversee the orders.

MC need to look at all of their supported bus services.

Councillor Constable

At a meeting with the chief constable the new superintendent was introduced.

BC had attended a very interesting seminar on school IT Glow which is an Intranet for Scottish education. It was demonstrated by linking a School in Newtongrange with one on South Uist.

ER commented that there appears to be a number of fires in the area, JA responded that there had been a number of bins set alight.

CS pointed out that the quality of lighting was poor in the high street. It was noticeable as he turned off the high street up Park Road. JA informed the meeting that the lights were of the type that got brighter as it became darker. JA will ask for them to be checked for proper working.

ACTION: JA

Community Engagement – Midlothian meeting the challenge

There will be a £19.9M shortfall over the next 4 years in the council's budgets.

The council is looking at (a) Asset management (b) Procurement (c) Customer service new web site. They are also in discussion in shared service with East Lothian. The council's view is against privatisation and to protect voluntary services.

BS was of the view that we should be jointly recycling. JA stated that by 2014 we need to be 50% recycling at a national level and to achieve this we will need to up our game.

On cuts BC stated that it was the responsibility of officials to put forward recommendations and the elected members to decide which recommendations would be accepted. Official have been asked to provide a paper on the impact of 1% to 5% cuts. CS hoped that the council will not split over the party divide as the cuts are so great that the services are important. BS belief is that party politics should not enter into the decisions but they should be the best for Midlothian. The chairman urged all members to fill in the questionnaire with their personal priorities.

Review of winter services:

JA reiterated that gritting is of no use when the temperature is below -5 °C staff are preparing for this years winter. The CC view was that the council had performed quite well during last year's snow as the conditions were exceptional. The CC would recommend more strategically placed grit bins which could be used by members of the public. Another suggestion was that MC bought a supply of snow shovels to sell to the public at a reasonable price. Awareness is a problem and the web site should be used to improve communications with the public.

Planning:

Offices are planned for the Hopefield site. There is planning for 21 flats at the Staiside. There is a large number of decking planning applications as anything above 30cm requires planning permission.

Transport:

Nothing to report

Twinning:

Nothing to report.

Newsletter:

IB the delivered a large proportion of the newsletters. 2 other people delivered and 2 others have offered. There is a plumber who wishes to advertise. The next autumn issue will feature a 'Focus on' article on the ex-servicemen's club to coincide with Armistice Sunday.

Fair Trade:

Schools are all keen to move towards Fair trade town status. GMC provide an update from Lasswade Primary School. The school is running an Enterprise project between P2 and P6 to create a Cooperative Fair trade Shop within the school - links with OneWorld Shop and local Co-Op already established. The school hope to become a 'Fair trade School' during this session i.e. prior to Christmas 2011. A number of activities are planned during the year including Fairtrade fortnight - a Fair trade stall will also be set up at the Christmas Fair Wed 24th Nov. The school are very interested in working with Lasswade & Bonnyrigg Community Council to support bid to become Fair trade Town. The school are producing a Fair trade Cookbook after Christmas - perhaps the Community Council could be involved?

JF informed the meeting that Hawthornden has a parent base and are holding a Christmas Fair over the festive period.

Correspondence**Midlothian Council**

Minutes presented 26 October

Variations to Licence hours for Broomieknowe Golf Club and 72-74 Lothian Street Reyesville which is changing to a restaurant

Travel Newsletter October

Midlothian Fuel Poverty Awareness day

MC been given funding by National Energy Action to host an awareness raising event about the help that can be provided to households who live in fuel poverty. The morning event will include speakers from the Energy Savings Trust and the Housing Strategy Team.

PPF steering group

Survey on when meetings would best be held. I have replied

Agenda for Nov meeting

Notes on October meeting

List of current requests for involvement

Carers Action Midlothian – Summary of meeting

Older People Planning Group – Summary of meeting

Spokes

Newsletter

Dalkeith and District Citizens Advice Bureau

AGM on Wednesday 1 December 2101 at 6.30pm

Also included nomination form for Board Membership

Newbattle abbey

Christmas at Newbattle – in book

ASCC

The community Councillor Autumn 2010

Digital UK

Information on digital switchover which will take place next June.

Scottish Health Council

Connect autumn newsletter

Midlothian Access Forum

Minutes of the October Meeting.

Access Forum's completed questionnaire forwarded to Historic Scotland

Email**ASCC**

Reply from ASCC on our insurance cover. There is also an article in the ASCC magazine on the insurance

AOCB

Bonnyrigg events committee.— the chairman recommended that we contribute £200 again this year to the Christmas light switching on ceremony.

ACTION: SR

BS raised his concerns on how easy it would be for a child to climb into the SUDS pool areas at Hopefield. We had been told at an earlier meeting that this was intentional as if a person did get into difficulty in the water the height of the fencing was such that it did not prevent others from getting access to assist.

Next Meeting: 20 January 2011, Sports Pavilion, K G Park at 19.30hrs.