

DRAFT

LOANHEAD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 13th June 2017 in Loanhead Library

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

Action

Present: Pat Kenny, Ben Shore, Charles Hamilton, Annabel Hamilton, John Thomson, Jackie Aitchison, Gina Temple, PC Helen Mason (Penicuik), Lyndsaye Bain, Mary Clapperton, Norma Bews, Sandra Miller, Jackie Wood and Peter Frame.

Police Report: P.C. Helen Mason from Penicuik gave the report. In the month of May 56 crimes were recorded, 17 of which were solved. Police received 237 calls during the period. There were various incidents but she highlighted the seizure of a cannabis cultivation at Mavisbank, windows smashed in a car parked in Herb Terrace, windows smashed at Paradykes School on two different occasions, building materials stolen from the Taylor Wimpey site and various other acts of vandalism. PC Mason said that an increase in vandalism was happening all over Midlothian not just Loanhead. A copy of the full report is appended to these Minutes.

Lyndsaye Bain representing “Friends of Burghlee Park” complained about the parking on days football training/matches take place (Saturday and Sundays). It was pointed out that there was nowhere else for parents/coaches to park.

Lasswade High School is already over capacity (1600 pupils) when it was designed for 1420 maximum. As a result the new intake of S1 pupils from Loanhead will be sent to Beeslack Secondary School. These new S1 pupils will travel either by coach or on public transport but will not pay. However, other pupils in S2 – S5 from Loanhead attending Beeslack have to pay their travel costs of £312 per annum, even older siblings in the same family. It was agreed that this was discrimination and the parents were urged to write to the Director of Education asking for “Grace and Favour” to include the older pupils in the transport plans. They should also be lobbying their local councillors Pauline Winchester, Kelly Parry, Russell Imrie and MSP Colin Beattie. They were asked to send the details to the CC and we will also write a letter of support.

For some time now the CC had been pressing for a new High School for Roslin, Bilston and Loanhead so that our children did not have to be bussed up and down the county. In fact, this will be included in the Neighbourhood Plan which is about to be revised. The recent surge in current and proposed house building in these areas and this development of full capacity at Lasswade High School makes a clear case for an additional high school.

1. Apologies: Councillor Pauline Winchester.

2. Minutes of previous meeting were approved by Annabel Hamilton and Jackie Aitchison.

3. Matters Arising:

- Loanhead Library HQ Building is to be demolished – work has already started. It was suggested that if a community buy out of the existing library building was to be initiated then the first step is to contact Kenneth Lawrie, Chief Executive of Midlothian Council.
- No update on emptying bins on a Sunday, collecting refuse on a Monday.

PK/GT

- John Ritchie Award – Jackie Aitchison to make the nomination for Alan McLaren

JA

4. Planning:

Planning applications:

- **17/00428/MS**C – Although this application is for the Roslin & Bilston Community Council **details were noted for information.** 308 dwelling houses and 42 flatted dwellings to be erected on land South West of Bilston, Seafeld Moor Road, Bilston.
- **17/00404//S42** Application to develop land by the erection of a boundary fence without compliance with conditions 3 and 4 of planning permission 16/00497/DPP. This application is linked to **16/00497/DPP** Change of use of building from warehouse to vehicle maintenance and service depot at 2A Nivensknowe Road.
- **17/00439/MS**C Erection of dwelling house at Land at New Pentland Farm House, Loanhead.
- **17/00443/DPP** McDonalds Restaurants, Straiton Mains. Installation of Cladding to Building.
- **17/00444/DPP.** Formation of dormer windows, alteration to existing pitched roof to form flat roof and extension to dwelling house at 59 The Loan, Loanhead.
- **Mayburn House.** The last report was that the Council were still waiting on information from another agency before proceeding to serve the enforcement notices on all the relevant interests. Mr MacLeod reports that at least one car has been permanently removed.
- Stewart Brewing Ltd. Have applied to vary their use of premises activities and licence to include: Bar Meals, Recorded Music, Live Performances, Dance Facilities, Theatre, Films, indoor/outdoor Sports, Televised Sport throughout the year and to expand their opening hours from 10.00 a.m. to 11 p.m. every day. They also want to have space outdoors that would be used in the summer for drinking so the licence would cover everywhere inside their fences. Increasing capacity from 50 to 800 to cover beer festivals and any events they wish to hold throughout the year instead of applying for occasional licences. **It was agreed that there were already a number of licence premises in Loanhead and we should object to a permanent licence.**
- Football pitches, MUGA, Skate Park. It was agreed that we continue to support the development of a MUGA and Skate Park on the Ramsay Bing site and that the developers of the Old Paradykes School site should be asked to make a financial contribution to a fund for this. However, any surplus from the Paradykes School Hub should be used to enhance the football pitches alongside the Leisure Centre. A letter supporting the latter will be sent to the Council.

PK/GT

PK/GT

5. Correspondence.

- There will be a Midlothian Learning and Work Fair at Dalkeith Library Arts Centre on Thursday 15 June from 2 – 5 pm. – Noticeboard.
- Gordon Jack a PhD student with the Scottish Sentencing Council is in the early stages of recruiting volunteer focus group participants on public perceptions of youth crime and youth offending. This would take up no more than two hours of delegates' time and can be arranged at a mutually convenient location.
- Linda McNeil, a resident of Mayburn has complained about the grass area at the top of Mayburn Hill – which has been left to grow and asks if this a result of council cut backs. It was suggested that this had probably been left as a wild life area but she should contact Commercial Services at Midlothian Council to check.

JA

6. Any other Competent Business

- The Friends of Burghlee Park also object to a new playpark being cited in the park. They were assured that they would not be receiving the old equipment from the park adjacent

to the Leisure Centre as this had been disposed of. It was suggested they should contact Helen Gilroy (Facilities) or the Chief Executive of Midlothian Council to take the matter further.

- Tommy Goldie is co-ordinating group to discuss Road and Pavement issues in Midlothian.
7. **Date of Next Meeting** – 11th July 2017.



Criminal Activity May 2017

Beat Areas MW01 and MW03 – Loanhead & District



During the month of May in the beat areas of Loanhead & District there were 56 recorded crimes reported, of which 17 were solved. During this time period there were 237 calls to police.

Incidents of Note

- About 9am on Thursday 4th May police carried out a drug search warrant at an address on Mavisbank, Loanhead. A cannabis cultivation was discovered in the house and a 43 year old man was cautioned and charged with a report being submitted to the procurator fiscal.
- About 11.10pm on Sunday 7th May police were called to Mason's Arms, Loanhead following a report of males arguing. Police attended with no trace of any males involved.
- About 11.10am on Thursday 11th May a stolen motorcycle was recovered from a property at Burghlee Crescent, Loanhead.
- About 6.45pm on Thursday 11th May police were called to the wooded area at Dryden Loan, Loanhead after youths were seen setting a fire. Police attended with the youths running away.
- About 6am on Friday 12th May it was discovered that a car parked on Herd Terrace, Loanhead had its window smashed, with nothing stolen from within.
- About 9.10am on Friday 12th May it was discovered that a car parked on Park Crescent, Loanhead had its rear window smashed with a number of items stolen from within.
- About 6.50pm on Friday 12th May it was discovered that a van parked on Dryden Terrace was vandalised.
- About 1.10pm on Saturday 13th May at Loanhead Road, a 23 year old male was charged with careless driving and issued with an anti-social behaviour order warning for driving.
- About 9.20pm on Wednesday 17th May a small fire was reported at Paradykes Primary School. The Scottish Fire Service attended and extinguished it.
- About 6.30pm on Sunday 21st May police were called to IKEA following reports of abusive youths. The youths had moved on prior to police attendance.
- About 8.30am on Tuesday 23rd May it was reported to police that a work tool was stolen from a roadway work site on the Loan, Loanhead at the junction with McNeill Avenue, Loanhead.
- About 10.15am on Tuesday 23rd May it was discovered that a quantity of building material was stolen from the Taylor Wimpey site on Loanhead Road, Loanhead.

- About 9pm on Wednesday 24th May it was reported that a small fire was started next to a bin at Paradykes Primary School. This was extinguished by staff with no damage caused to the building or bin.
- Overnight on Wednesday 24th May an attempt was made to break into a business premises on Mayburn Walk, Loanhead by unknown persons. No entry was gained.
- About 6.30pm on Friday 26th May a call was made to police to report youths in Loanhead asking adults to purchase alcohol on their behalf. Police attended in the area with no trace of youths.
- About 7.10pm on Friday 26th May an 11 year old girl was assaulted by a 15 year old girl in Memorial Park, Loanhead. A 15 year old girl has since been charged with assault.
- About 5.30am on Sunday 28th May Paradykes Primary School was broken into by forcing open a window with nothing apparently stolen.
- About 8.50am on Monday 29th May it was reported to police that two windows at Paradykes Primary School had been smashed.

- **If any person has any information about the incident(s) listed above, or indeed any other crime, please contact your Community Policing Officer PC Graham Black via 101 or email:**
LothianScotBordersPenicuikCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

- **Additional Information**

- Hate crime and domestic abuse can now be reported online via the official Police Scotland website at www.scotland.police.uk or by visiting a Third Party Reporting Centre – details of which are also on our website.
- Information regarding crime can be passed to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or through an Online Form - both of these routes are completely anonymous and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- **Police Scotland use social media to circulate the latest news, events and information to the public via Twitter (@LothBordPolice and @MidLothPolice) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/LothiansScottishBordersPoliceDivision and www.facebook.com/MidlothianPolice).**
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- TELEPHONING POLICE SCOTLAND
- If you need to contact Police Scotland then the number you use will depend on whether what you are reporting is an emergency or not.
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- You should always use 999 when:
 - * there is a risk of injury or loss of life
 - * a crime is in progress
 - * someone suspected of a crime is nearby.
- For non-emergency calls please use 101 to contact Police Scotland