

DRAFT

LOANHEAD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 9th May 2017 at 7.00pm

Loanhead Library

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and congratulated the successful candidates from last week's local elections and expressed the hope that they would attend regularly and support the work of the Community Council.

Action

Present: Pat Kenny, Ben Shore, Charles Hamilton, Annabel Hamilton, John Thomson, Jackie Aitchison, Gina Temple, Councillor Pauline Winchester, Councillor Kelly Parry, PC Dan Lennie and PC John Cassidy (community policemen from Bonnyrigg).

Police Report: During the month of April in Loanhead & District there were 88 recorded crimes, 25 of which were solved. During this time period there were 292 calls to police. As in previous months the majority of the reports were youth disorder, a number of shoplifting offences and a cannabis cultivation had been removed. . A local school had all its windows smashed costing £18K to replace them and this does not account for the damaged items inside the classroom. Pat Kenny asked what the community could do to try and alleviate matters. PC Lennie said that the first point should be to report anything suspicious to Crimestoppers. He also suggested that a CC representative could join the Retail Crime Partnership Straiton. The rural crime initiative finished on 7 May and was very successful most dog owners were happy to put their dogs on the lead during the lambing season. The full police report is appended to these minutes. Copies of the crime report were circulated at the meeting.

1. **Apologies:** Peter Frame, Harry Fisher and Daya Feldwick.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting** were approved proposed by Annabel Hamilton, seconded by Ben Shore.
3. **Matters Arising**
 - In response to the comment in the April minutes "There is not a lot for them to do in Loanhead except football and dancing..." under the Police report. Catherine Duns has forwarded the following information on several activities: **Loanhead Friday Junior Club** for P1 – P6, Fridays 6.15 – 8.00, Loanhead Community Learning Centre. **Midlothian Youth Platform**, Ages 12-21, twice a month (2nd Monday at 6.30pm and 4th Friday at 6.00 pm in the Lifelong Learning & Employability Building, Croft Street, Dalkeith. **Army Cadets** Age 12+ Mondays and Wednesdays 7 – 9 pm in Army Cadets Hall adjacent to the Loanhead Leisure Centre. **Connect Bus. Loanhead Brass Roots Youth Band** – every Wednesday evening at MacTaggart Scott Works Canteen, Hunter Avenue. **Boys Brigade. Rainbows. Brownies. Pom Poms. Disco Dancing. Gymnastics.**
 - **Playpark Equipment** – The new playpark will be public, owned by MLC, and they have provided the £85k funding. The equipment removed from the leisure centre was disposed of as the manufacturers will not guarantee the Health and Safety requirements of equipment that has been moved. The proposals for the new playpark were discussed and it was agreed to put forward comments that at least 1/3rd of the equipment should be suitable for children with disabilities and perhaps something for older children along the lines of the climbing frames at the original park.

- **Edinburgh Airport Consultation** Pat Kenny and Gina Temple attended the round table briefing event for community councillors at the Scottish Parliament, Holyrood on Thursday 20th April. We put in a response to the planned change in air routes and the LDCC signed up to the open letter to the Civil Aviation Authority urging the CAA to postpone the current consultation until after the guidance review is complete, and to not consider any proposal for new flights paths from Edinburgh Airport Limited until the airport can demonstrate full compliance with the new standards. The briefing was attended by a large number of community councils from East Lothian, West Lothian, Midlothian, and Fife. Pat Kenny reported that the documentation was jargon heavy and even aviation experts were having problems deciphering it. Kelly Parry suggested contacting Ian Johnstone MLC for assistance with the next stage.
- **Foreign Exchange Students disembarking buses in the middle of the road.** Andrew Coventry emailed the Council about this and although they have no jurisdiction over the Foreign Exchange Students scheme they asked if we could suggest alternative streets for these buses to use. A suggestion will be forwarded that in future the New Paradykes School could be used as there will be a turning point for buses in the car park.
- **Library HQ Building.** As reported in the April minutes it was noted that from the Estate Walkabout Report on 25 January 2017 Stephen Clark (Housing Strategy and Performance Group Manager) gave the following update “We are planning to build (council houses) on the site of Loanhead Library HQ and Social Work Building. Not exactly sure when we will be on site here and we will have to secure planning permission but would hope that building work would begin in 2018. Consultation would take place with Planning/Roads (department) for access to the School”. Ben Shore had hoped to retain this building for the community and to use it for his ministry Free Baptist Church. His main concern was that the building will be demolished then the site lie dormant for years. Further discussion on the current Loanhead library building being retained instead of being made into a car park took place and the councillors were asked to look into the possibility of a community buy out.
- **Paradykes School Update.** Charles and Annabel Hamilton, Pat Kenny, Jackie Aitchison and Gina Temple went to a walk round the site earlier this evening. The build is currently running 1 week behind schedule but the developers feel they will catch this up and it should be ready on time.
- John Thomson gave the **Treasurer’s Report.** We have received our £300 grant, current bank balance £1273.24. He reported that the bank had lost the forms for the change of treasurer from Harry Fisher so the process will have to start over. It was suggested it might be simpler to open a new account then transfer the money over by cheque.

PW/KP

4. Planning:

- **Planning applications:**
 - 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 to discuss this more fully at the June meeting as the Licensing Board has not been appointed yet.

- **There was no time to discuss the following planning applications, therefore members are asked to contact Gina Temple if they feel any objections should be raised.**
- Ref No. 17/00273/S42 Section 42 application to amend condition 1 of planning permission in principle 09/00354/OUT at land between Loanhead Road and Edgefield Industrial Estate. – After querying this with the Planning Officer an S42 application is to keep the original planning permission live. However, if the Council approve a S42 application it is a new planning permission in law. Therefore the Planning Authority could impose new/amended planning conditions and impose a new Section 75 Legal Agreement to secure developer contributions.
- Ref No. 17/00212/DPP – Alex F. Noble Garage, Swinton Place change of use from public open space to car sales and formation of hard standing. This was discussed at our last meeting and it was agreed to oppose this, but so far only 5 objections have been raised. All members of the community council were urged to make an objection.
- Ref No. 17/00301/DPP - Former Nobles Foods, Edgefield Industrial Estate. Part change of use of Industrial Building (class 5) to a climbing facility (class 11). Current landlord splitting unit into 7 smaller units, this proposal is for 2 of these units.
- Ref No. 17/00294/DPP – IKEA, Costkea Way, Loanhead. To erect a new canopy at East elevation and to extend existing canopy by 6.5m at entrance and external path to be altered.
- **Mayburn House** – no update.

5. Correspondence

John Ritchie Award – nominate Alan MacLaren and Jackie will put together a case. JA

- **Loanhead Neighbourhood Plan Relaunch** there will be a meeting at the Kabin Thursday 18 May at 11 am to discuss this.
- **Distribution of Federation monies.** The communications budget of £1000 is to be split between the Community Councils.
- **Training for Community Councillors** a one day training event will be held on Saturday 7th October, and 2 half day events in February and June 2018 by the Communities Team.
- There will be parking restrictions and 4 way traffic lights at the junction between The Loan/Dryden Terrace for 7 days from 9th May.
- Social Innovation and Creativity Workshop – noticeboard
- Community Defibrillators Awareness Campaign – noticeboard.

6. Any other Competent Business

- The Scottish Government is currently running a public consultation on Unconventional Oil and Gas in Scotland. The consultation explores the evidence on the potential impacts of shale oil and gas, and coal bed methane, and the technologies involved in extraction, including hydraulic fracturing. The deadline for responses to the consultation is 31 May.
- **Distribution of Minutes:** In future, GT will place copies of the minutes in the LDCC folder in the Library for people who do not have email addresses.
- John Thomson asked the councillors to look into the practice of emptying the bins on a Sunday, leaving the bags to be collected on the following day. This is causing debris to be spilled over the street.

7. Date of Next Meeting – 13th June 2017.