

Minute of Zoom meeting 9/6/20

Present: Pat Kenny, David Temple, John Thompson, Norrie Scott, Peter Frame and Gina Temple

1. **Apologies:** Paul Mepham and Ruth Stephen.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting** – approved. Pat Kenny proposed, Peter Frame seconded.
3. **Planning Applications**
20/00264/DPP Pat Kenny had checked out this application for the Dandara Estate and it is a change of style of 4 houses on the existing plan, converting the attic space to another room, effectively changing the houses from 4 to 5 bedrooms.
4. **Correspondence** – all correspondence for the past 2 months has been circulated to everyone by email and or hand delivery the only matters arising from this are as follows:
 - Fly tipping at Burghlee, Norrie Scott reported this, Peter Frame confirmed this had been cleared up.
 - Litter at the Nature Reserve and Edgefield Road. Norrie Scott reported that this has increased exponentially since McDonalds re-opened. He has contacted Midlothian Council and McDonalds.
 - Gina Temple reported Japanese Knotweed on the piece of waste land between Dunelm Mill and Hawthorn Gardens to Environmental Services at Midlothian Council.
 - SUSTRANS – Funding is available for temporary improvements in cycle and pedestrian paths throughout Midlothian.
 - Scottish Government “Planning Procedures and Covid-19” document. A discussion was held on the proposal to allow building sites to extend their working day to 7 am – 9 pm Monday to Saturday to allow them to catch up and allow safe social distancing on sites, perhaps even a shift rota. Some residents had expressed concern about this as the three building sites in Loanhead are either in the middle or adjacent to residential housing. This document also raises the possibility of on-street seating to allow bars and restaurants to re-open whilst maintaining social distancing. It was agreed to write to Peter Arnsdorf raising concerns about noise and disturbance to residents and request that extending working hours would be for a temporary, fixed term period and that deliveries would remain at the current normal working day and ask Planning to ensure that any other local ordinance is adhered to e.g. parking restrictions. It was also agreed that on-street seating was not a viable option for bars and restaurants in Loanhead town centre due to the pavement sizes and the residential properties above the premises.
 - A stone (stones painted by local children) snake has appeared in the Memorial Park and gets longer every day. There is another one at Loanhead Primary School. We have received an email from a resident asking if this could be retained somehow as a memory of the lockdown period. It was agreed that this would be a good idea, and that the first step would be to approach Midlothian Council to check that they would have no objection to something like this in the Memorial Park.
5. **Loanhead Community Support Update.** Gina reported that currently there are 44 volunteers as 6 have now gone back to work. 17 have still not been assigned to any activity. 50 individuals are receiving support, 11 Foodbank collections, 1 Emergency Food parcel, 3 Dog Walking, several people receive regular welfare calls, but the bulk of requests are for regular shopping and/or prescription collection. Pat Kenny congratulated the group on the tremendous job they have done and commented on the liaison officers’ support from Midlothian Council. John Thomson confirmed that so far we have spent £275.66 of the Emergency Crisis Fund.
6. **Any other competent business**
David Temple reminded everyone to dig out their bunting for next weekend to celebrate the “At home Gala”.