

Minutes of Loanhead and District Community Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 7pm via zoom.

In attendance: Pat Kenny, Ruth Stephen, Norman Scott, Jenny Gray (representing Colin Beattie MSP), David Temple, John Thompson, Daya Felwick, Paul Mephram, Peter Frame, Cll Kelly Parry.

The chair thanked everyone who helped to set up this meeting and appealed for a volunteer to take on the position of Secretary noting that the duties would be shared by 3 community councillors so as to spread the workload. Without a Secretary the Community Council will be unable to be run efficiently.

1. **Apologies:** Tracey Bain.

2. **Minutes of 9th November 2021** – approved with amendment: Daya Fenwick was in attendance. Proposed by John Thompson, seconded by Norman Scott.

3. **Matters arising:**

- Tracey Bain appointed as Community councillor – Ratified.
- Railway line path repair – No update
- CCTV in Midlothian – No update
- Dog fouling – no update
- Grit bins – Norrie gave update. A list of Midlothian grit bins has been updated on council website and bins have now been numbered to simplify requests to refill them.
- Dryden Terrace – Pat gave a report. Still to be resolved
- Hawthorn Gardens – Norrie arranged a meeting with councillor Russell Imrie, David Miller (Midlothian Consultant Engineer), and Wayne Clark (Midlothian Operations & Asset Manager). The Puffin Crossing – There was no requirement to contact Community Council on this matter as it had been passed March 2020, perhaps residents in the area should have been consulted. Narrow footpath – Pat reported that he will contact the contractor working at 24 Hawthorn Gardens to arrange for the hedge to be removed. Thereafter the council will widen the pavement and reinstall the barrier on the pavement.

4. **Heritage Trail Update:**

- Ruth had a successful meeting with the Prenter Family and three wall plaques will be designed commemorating i) MacTaggart Scott Engineering ii) Sir William MacTaggart iii) railway bridge railing, Coghorn.
- It may be necessary to increase the size of some of the wall plaques to accommodate the proposed wording, guidance on this was sought from councillors Imrie, Parry and Winchester who agreed to fund larger wall plaques if they are required.
- Ruth is liaising with local families and businesses to ensure as much history as possible will be included in the Heritage Trail. She is also in communication with Midlothian Council regarding guidance on erecting wall plaques in public spaces /properties.
- Paul Mephram is designing the map for the Heritage Trail. Once a draft is available it will be distributed to community Councillors and ageing Well Walkers to proof read before going to print.

5. **MTRap Update:**

- Norrie reported: –
- Sheriffhall Upgrade, Grade separation plan is scheduled to be completed in late 2027. A public enquiry may be necessary.

- Obscured traffic lights in Loanhead, Paul Johnston had contacted colleagues and the obstructions have been removed.
- Core Path – Straiton Nature Reserve, Funding is coming from Elected Members' Environmental Funds.
- Drain on Edgefield Road flooding Railway Path, Wayne Clark has contacted colleagues get this resolved.
- Faded road markings, parking on pavements, pot holes,etc, still ongoing.
- Next MTRaP zoom meeting: Monday 21st February 2022 at 6pm – 7.30pm

6. Mcdonalds Drive Through:

- Colin Beattie's office to look into this.

7. Ongoing Items:

- Hazardous road sign, George drive – removed, new sign ordered (Colin Beattie)
- War Memorial, new railings – installed (Pat Kenny)
- Damaged Pedestrian Crossing at Memorial Park – Work done.
- Canmore residents requiring help – In hand (Pat Kenny)
- Fountain Green Paving deteriorating – In hand (Ruth Stephen)
- Loanhead missing artifacts – In hand (Catherine Duns)
- Request for new litter bin Ashgrove – In hand (Ruth Stephen)
- Small Grant Application – In hand (John Thompson)

8. Pentland Park, Nivensknowe Park, Straiton Park:

Paul Mephram raised a number of concerns. It was suggested the best way forward for the residents of the three parks would be for each to set up a Residents Association.

9. Loanhead Football Pitches:

Peter Frame gave an update and noted his disappointment that the council had voted against the motion put forward by councillor Parry for the improvement of the Loanhead pitch. It was noted that two of our councillors for this ward had voted against the motion which was deemed very disappointing as the community council would expect them to work for this community.

10. Derelict Land Act:

David Temple mentioned this as perhaps a way to possibly have something done about Mayburn House – Jenny to look into this.

11. Planning:

It was agreed to object to one of the planning applications (Pat Kenny)

12. Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 8th march 2022. Venue to be advised.