

## **Minutes of Zoom meeting 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

**Present:** Pat Kenny, Norrie Scott, John Thomson, David Temple, Ruth Stephens, Peter Frame, Gina Temple, Councillors Russell Imrie and Pauline Winchester.

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** approved Norrie Scott proposer, Peter Frame seconder.

### **3. Matters Arising:**

- Mavisbank House, Ruth's suggestions had been forwarded to Ross Ingham Associates.
- Football Pitches – Russell reported that Council Officers had been tasked to look at the problems with the Loanhead pitches again, and come up with suggestions for improvement.
- Dandara Development 20/000694/MS– Russell would forward the information he had received from the Planning Department, he had been assured that the original planning conditions were still in force.
- MTRaP proposal – Norrie was thanked for preparing and submitting the proposal for Loanhead.

### **4. Planning**

As both Councillors are on the Planning Committee they indicated they would not be able to offer any opinions relating to Planning.

- Gina gave more details about Planning application 20/00869/PPP for Melville Nursery Ltd. The proposal is to erect 4 buildings (class 4 business units) with associated car parking and infrastructure on the site. All other applications were noted.
- Straiton West Development – the first public consultation meeting had been held by ZOOM earlier on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Some of the community councillors had attended and asked questions at the meeting. Pat Kenny felt that this type of public consultation was unsatisfactory. There will be a second public consultation in 5/6 weeks. A general discussion about the scale of the development and the proposed one at New Pentland was held. Gina asked if the proposed new A701 relief road would be fully funded by the City Deal – the developers would be required to pay something towards this. Gina also raised the possibility of a new high school being part of the development as it has provision for 400 houses and the New Pentland proposal also has house building taken together with the additional houses being built in Roslin and Bilston a new high school for this area will be needed, especially as the extensive house building that has taken place in Penicuik will probably take up any slack the new "Beeslack HS" would have. Russell said that if the community wish to see new schools as part of this development, that is something they could take to the Planning Committee.

### **5. Correspondence**

- All correspondence was noted, however the following were highlighted:
- Continuation of Training Day Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 9.00 – 11.00 Zoom meeting.
- Crematorium for East Lothian – Pat Kenny asked what about Midlothian?
- Arrangements for Covid 19 support during current restrictions.
- Community Councillor Training events in late February/early March people urged to sign up.
- Webinar on Community Asset Transfer 21/1/21 from 10am to 12 noon, and 28/1/21 from 7 – 9 pm.

### **6. Annual General Meeting**

The AGM due in November 2020 was postponed till March 2021 in the hope that we would be able to have a public meeting. However, in the light of the new restrictions it was agreed to postpone this again till November 2021 as long as the current office bearers were prepared to carry on. Gina had indicated that she would stand down as secretary at the AGM, however said she would be prepared to carry on until November as long as the workload was reduced. A discussion followed on how to do this and it was agreed that she would no longer compile emails into one document or distribute paper copies to anyone. Within the next few weeks she will organize the email account so that everyone on the committee receives all emails that come into the inbox. It may also be necessary to co-opt more people on to the committee.

## **7. Any other competent business**

- John Thomson suggested sending Harry Fisher's widow flowers from the CC in recognition of the support Harry made to the CC and Loanhead over a number of years – this was agreed.
- Participatory Budgets – Russell acknowledged the email the councillors received before Christmas about the money that was earmarked for participatory budgets. They had not replied yet because they are waiting on clarification from Midlothian Council on the amount of funds available and the criteria to be used to allocate it. However, he did indicate that the councillors had discussed pooling their resources to benefit the whole ward. As soon as they have more information about the amount and process they will contact us.
- Collapsed culvert outside McTaggart Scott – Ruth reported that the road had been closed since 13/10/20 and still no work has been carried out. Russell had made enquiries about this and will forward the response to Gina, but he indicated that it was not Midlothian Council that would be carrying out this work but a contractor on behalf of McTaggart Scott.
- Pauline reported on an incident where police were called and a number of arrests made of people driving in anti social behaviour in Loanhead. Gina reported that we have not received a police report for several months – she was advised to contact Sargent Lindsay at Penicuik to chase these up.