

## Minutes of ZOOM meeting 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Present: Pat Kenny (Chair), Councillors Russell Imrie & Pauline Winchester, Peter Frame, David Temple, Ruth Stephen, Paul Mephram, Gina Temple and Norrie Scott.

1. **Apologies:** none

2. **Minutes of previous meeting:** approved David Temple, Peter Frame seconded.

### 3. **Matters arising:**

- No update on the repair to railway line path, Roslin side of Viaduct. Land not owned by MLC or Greenspace Trust – maybe University of Edinburgh as they own the woodland.
- No update on culvert repair at McTaggarts, work does not appear to have started.
- Councillors still waiting on report from Midlothian Council re CCTV situation in Midlothian.
- No update on dog fouling signs.
- Slow Down signs – Russell checked with Simon Dorward MLC, as there is now a pedestrian crossing at the bus stop at Straiton Retail Park and traffic lights at the entrance to Dandara Estate the sign is no longer needed and has been utilised elsewhere.
- Litter Pickers procurement passed to Council officers for action.
- Location and procurement of new benches – Russell and Norrie walked the proposed Heritage Trail route and have questions, especially the final location at the entrance to Bilston Glen Industrial Estate – discussions ongoing, but agreed in principle.
- Stones for Straiton Pond Path, Russell confirmed that this had also been passed to Council Officers for action.
- Heritage Trail Map – Ruth had been in contact with James Kinch to get information on ordinance survey maps and is currently working on funding applications. Paul offered to produce the artwork and suggested approaching local printers/businesses to see if they would be interested in advertising on the rear to cover the cost of production. Pat also suggested that as the trail will be about preserving mining history she should contact the NUM Retired Miners' Association and the Mining Museum to see what assistance they might provide. Ruth suggested writing to the Forte and MacTaggart families to see if their ancestors could be named in the Heritage Trail – it was agreed she should send the information to Gina and she will contact them on behalf of the CC.

### 4. **MTRaP Update**

- 24 Hawthorn Gardens – Norrie had written to MLC to ask if the widening of the pavement could be included in the Capital Roads Budget. He was advised to obtain costings in the first instance.

### 5. **Any other competent business**

- Suggestions for wording of the Gala Day Banner should be sent to Gina who will circulate to everyone so that a decision can be made. It should take no longer than 2 weeks to get the banner produced.
- The residents of Dryden Terrace had handed in a petition requesting that the road be closed to through traffic. Pat suggested that before any decision on this could be made the petition would have to be Loanhead wide (including the businesses on Pentland Industrial Estate) and the police/emergency services would also have to be consulted. Pat agreed to contact the Midlothian Advertiser to see if they could help with a petition. This matter would be returned to at the July meeting.
- Harmonising CC Annual General Meetings. A suggestion had been put forward at the MFCC to each of the 16 CCs in Midlothian to discuss changing AGM dates all to be in the one month. Currently Edinburgh do this and the CCs benefit from one advertising campaign raising awareness throughout the County. No objections were made to Loanhead harmonizing its date with the other CCs.
- Notifying the general public about local planning applications. Currently planning applications are advertised in the Midlothian Advertiser each week, are on the MLC planning portal and the

Council writes to any residence/business within the immediate neighbouring area. However, if a neighbour doesn't read the paper, not able to get on line and the Council misses them off their list – how do they know about the applications? No easy answer to this as the CC does not have a facebook page, perhaps if we can attract new members with this expertise this could be remedied and planning applications listed each week.

- Inconsiderate parking on Hawthorn Gardens – as this is a public road with no parking restrictions currently, and no residents on Hawthorn Gardens have come forward with complaints – there is nothing the CC can do.
- Suggestions from the Countryside Department to increase the cycle network within Loanhead were discussed. It was not clear what is being suggested and Russell suggested inviting James Kinch to come along to a meeting to give more information. If the suggestion was to put cycle lanes on the existing roads within Loanhead some of which can only be accessed in single file because of on-street parking this would not be a good idea – Edinburgh streets were cited as an example.
- In Ruth's discussion with James Kinch, it was suggested that a bench be situated on the Ramsey Bing. Norrie was opposed to this because of likely anti-social behaviour. He cited the bench erected at Straiton Pond by the Ranger and volunteers, which has become a magnet for disposable barbeques and empty beer cans, etc.
- Twinning request from mining town in France – Pat suggested that as a twinning partner we do not have the level of resources available to our French counterparts which makes it a very unequal partnership. Gina said that Robert Hogg had already expressed an interest in this twinning request for his town.

## **6. Planning**

**21/00339/DPP** external seating for EH20 Bar & Restaurant. We discussed this last month and decided not to take any action other than ensuring the neighbours had been informed of the planning application. This was done, however it would appear that the residents at no. 40 did not receive the letter advising them of the planning application. The CC would write to Planning asking for the deadline to be extended to allow this neighbour to raise their objection.

**21/00378/LBC** partial dismantling of external and internal walls, repairs to stone and brickwork and re-erection of external and internal walls at the Gardens Mavisbank, Lasswade.

**21/00333/PPP** Planning permission in principle for the erection of a dwelling house at 104 Straiton Road, Loanhead.

**21/00445/DPP** erection of a porch at 75 Mayburn Avenue, Loanhead.

**21/00449/DPP** extension to dwelling house at 9 Wheatfield Grove, Loanhead.

Pat Kenny agreed to check out the area involved for 21/00333/PPP, all other applications no further action needed.