

DRAFT - LOANHEAD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 10th October 2017 in Loanhead Library.

Action

Present: Pat Kenny, Charles Hamilton, Annabel Hamilton, Jack Aitchison, Gina Temple, Norma Bews, Councillor Pauline Winchester, Councillor Kelly Parry, Daya Feldwick, Ash Watt, PC Graham Black, George Reid, Val Watt, John Ferrier, Liz Sinclair, Grant Stanley, Peter Frame and Charles Baxter.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Police Report: PC Black reported that there were 72 crime reports in September, 32 solved, and 269 calls to the police. On Saturday 23rd September Police and Fire Service were called to an extensive fire at the Loanhead Community Learning Centre destroying numerous childrens' toys. The full police report is appended to these minutes. The Chair asked if PC Black could give any further information on the possible closure of Loanhead Police Station. He knew only about the possibility but would get the relevant person from Police Scotland to contact the Community Council

1. **Apologies:** Colin Beattie.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting** were approved by Jackie Aitchison, seconded by Peter Frame.

3. **Matters Arising:**

- **The Kabin** – An EGM was held and was attended by MSP Councillor Beattie, Councillors Russell Imrie, Pauline Winchester and Kelly Parry. Danielle Rowley MP sent her apologies. No further information was available, other than what had been reported previously, that an independent investigation has been requested to look into the original business model and the subsequent running of the Kabin. The manager is now on a 20 hour/week contract until December. The Board are actively seeking applications from other charitable organisations to take over and run the facility. A number of those present had come to express their concerns and frustration about the Kabin: The gardening volunteers cannot access the tools, which are currently under lock and key by the manager, to maintain the garden and boundaries. The manager has not responded to their requests for access. Residents, whose property overlooked or where close by the Kabin, expressed concern of vandalism and potential fire risk. PC Black noted their concerns and assured the meeting that he and his colleagues would regularly sweep by to check out the site. Midlothian Council has appointed a part-time night watchman to look after the old Paradykes School, but he has no remit over the Kabin. The Councillors agreed to bring up the possibility of the night watchmen's remit being extended to cover the Kabin building in the short term with Midlothian Council.

KP/PW

- **Small Grants Applications 2018-19** – LCDA are already committed to preparing a Welcome Pack for the new houses, therefore we will not be making a joint application for funds for a calendar in the 2018-19 small grant application round. Our application for core funding was submitted by the deadline. A copy of the certified accounts is to follow to support our application.

4. **Planning:**

• **Planning applications:**

- The Midlothian Skip Hire application 17/00593/DPP to allow the storage of 48 x 4 = 192 empty skips on land at or near Lang Loan has been approved with conditions. The Chair to check what the conditions are.

PK

17/00720/DPP

13 September 2017

Mr And Mrs Scott Johnson, 6 Traprain Terrace, Loanhead, EH20 9DA

Two storey and single storey extension to dwellinghouse

at 6 Traprain Terrace, Loanhead, EH20 9DA,

Ward: Midlothian West

Case Officer: Ingrid Forteath 0131 271 3316

17/00756/DPP

25 September 2017

Mr K Cienciala, 116 Paradykes Avenue, Straiton, Loanhead

2 storey extension to dwellinghouse

at 116 Paradykes Avenue, Loanhead, EH20 9LF,

Ward: Midlothian West

Case Officer: Ingrid Forteath 0131 271 3316

17/00761/S50

25 September 2017

Andreas Scheib, 22 Barnton Park Drive, Edinburgh, EH4 6HF

Planning Certificate

at Unit 3, 6B Dryden Road, Loanhead, EH20 9LZ,

Ward: Midlothian West

Case Officer: Duncan Robertson 0131 271 3317

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

17/00767/SCR

27 September 2017

Colin Graham, Miller Development Limited, Miller House, 2 Lochside View, Edinburgh Park

EIA Screening opinion for residential development (350 houses) and primary school

at Land South East Of Auchendinny, The Brae, Auchendinny, Penicuik, ,

Ward: Midlothian West

Case Officer:

- **Mayburn House** – The cars that have been removed from the front of the building have been put at the back. Nothing has been done to clear the debris. The owner has done nothing to make the site safe and has not applied for planning permission. It was agreed to invite Ian Johnstone, Director of Planning to a meeting to discuss this. GT
- A lot of activity has been taking place alongside the safe walkway to Loanhead Primary School passed the old Library HQ site. Trees felled and a drilling rig taking samples, not just on this site, but on woodland also. The Chair reported that the site was earmarked for social housing, but no planning applications had yet been made. It was agreed to check this out with Midlothian Council. PK

5. Correspondence.

- The annual **Midlothian Community Planning Partnership Planning Day** will take place on 20 November at Newbattle Abbey College, Newbattle Road, Newbattle, Dalkeith, EH22 3LL. The main topic for discussion this year, agreed by the CPP Board, is how we as partners respond to the rapid expansion of Midlothian. All completed forms should be submitted no later than Friday 13th October to Business.services.support@midlothian.gov.uk
- **Council Cuts** - The Council is in the process of deciding on £35m of cuts to their budget over the next three years (£45m in four years). At the Council meeting last week they decided to postpone actual decisions on cuts to a special meeting of the Council on 10 October. That meeting will also decide which of the proposed cuts should be subject to public consultation (which will take place in Oct-Nov), leading to a further Council meeting in December which will finalise the decisions. This budget retrenchment process is probably the biggest single cutback in Midlothian Council's services in its entire history. It has massive implications for the services that our communities rely on, with no prospect in sight of getting those services back for the foreseeable future. This is at a time when private sector expansion in Midlothian - almost entirely in housing - is at the highest level ever seen in Midlothian.

Malcolm Spaven (MFCC) proposed that the Federation ask the relevant council officials - perhaps backed up by appeals to elected members - to ensure that:

1. The 10 Oct Council meeting is held in public ;
2. The papers for the meeting are made available to the public in good time before the meeting (they will be long and very detailed) and
3. The Federation is given an opportunity to address the Council meeting

Councillor Winchester reported that the document was 214 pages long. It was agreed to approach the Chief Executive and ask for an Executive Summary of the document to be made available to

- communities as soon as possible given the short timescale involved. We will also ask for copies of the main report to be placed in all local libraries. GT
- **Temporary road closures:**
 - Pentland Road**, Old Pentland between A702 and U101 Burnside Road.
Dates/times: Mon 23rd October 2017 for 5 days.
Purpose: Carriageway patching.
 - Clerk Street**, Loanhead (one-way section)
Dates/times: Mon 23rd October 2017 for 6 weeks.
Purpose: New traffic lights installation.
 - **Edinburgh Airport Route Changes (Email from Gordon Robertson, Director of Communication)**
The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has temporarily halted its review of Edinburgh Airport's airspace change proposal. The CAA has sought clarification relating to technicalities in the proposed design and the co-ordination of air traffic control on a local and national level. This co-ordination, which sees NATS dealing with airspace changes from Glasgow, Prestwick Airports and Edinburgh has meant that the initial timescales asked for from them are now no longer achievable. Edinburgh Airport is working hard with the regulator and NATS to answer the further questions asked, provide further clarity and ensure that the analysis and assessment of their proposals restarts as soon as possible. They are confident that they can keep to their overall project plan and have changes in place by Spring 2019.
 - Midlothian Council is looking for a potential site for a new Secondary School along the A701. Although no timescale has been proposed this is a development the Community Council wish to get involved in.
- 6. Any other Competent Business**
- Old Loanhead Library Building. It was noted that the demolition had been halted because more asbestos has been found. Concerns were raised that this had not been secured properly. The CC to contact Environmental Health. GT
 - Jack Aitchison reported that when he was a councillor there were funds from various sources that the Council was not able to spend because they had very specific conditions attached to them. He knew that the Council had gone to the High Court to have the conditions made more generic so that the funds could be put to use. However, he has tried to find out if any/all of these funds still exist but has not been able to get any information. He asked the councillors to make enquiries. PW/KP
 - Parking Restrictions and Notices had been erected around the old Paradykes School, therefore residents cannot park their cars during the day, and the area is being patrolled by parking wardens. This is clearly a mistake as the school is closed and the notices should be moved to the new school site. Councillor Parry agreed to look into this. KP
 - George Avenue has had new asphalt on the road up to the School. Councillor Parry said that the remainder of the street will probably be done in the school holidays.
 - A resident from Park View requested help from the Community Council to get Midlothian Council to take action re 3 pine trees on the boundary of his garden. He has reported this several times over the years but nothing ever gets done. The council ground adjacent is rented out to the football club. The trees are impacting on the telephone lines. GT
- 7. Date of Next Meeting and the Annual General Meeting will be – 14th November 2017 in Loanhead Library.**



Criminal Activity September 2017

Beat Areas MW01 and MW03 – Loanhead & District



During the month of September in the beat areas of Loanhead & District there were 72 recorded crimes reported, of which 32 were solved. During this time period there were 269 calls to police.

Incidents of Note

- About 5pm on Friday September 1st a group of youths were seen on the roof at Paradykes primary School. Police attended with the youths having made off on foot.
- About 5.15pm on Sunday 3rd September police were called to Straiton Retail Park, Loanhead following reports of youths fighting. A 13 year old boy has subsequently been charged with assault and reported for the offence.
- About 10pm on Friday 8th September a wooden board was pulled off a window at the now closed Paradykes primary School. Police attended and found the on site security guard fixing this back on. No one seen removing this but it was suspected to have been youths in an attempt to gain entry.
- About 6am on Sunday 10th September it was discovered that Subway Store, Straiton had been broken into. Two males were seen to make off on a black motorcycle from the store. Police enquiries are ongoing.
- About 5pm on Monday 11th September a Volkswagen golf was stolen by true key whilst parked on Engine Road, Loanhead. The suspect and the vehicle were recovered moments later on Clerk Street, Loanhead. A 45 year old male was subsequently arrested and charged with road traffic offences and held in police custody to appear at Edinburgh Sheriff Court.
- About 8.30pm on Wednesday 13th September a call was made to police of a report that 2 youths were trying to set a Fire at the now closed Paradykes Primary school. Police attended with no trace of a fire or youths in the area.
- About 8.50pm on Friday 15th September police were called to Burnbank, Loanhead following a report of youths causing anti-social behaviour. Police attended with no trace of the youths.
- About 1.30am on Saturday 16th September police were called to a disturbance on Clerk Street, Loanhead. Police attended and a number of persons were moved on.
- About 8pm on Saturday 16th September police were called to Scotmid, Clerk Street after a male was caught shoplifting and made threats towards staff before making off on foot. Police enquiries are ongoing.
- About 8.20pm on Saturday 23rd September Police and Fire Service were called to an extensive fire at the now closed Loanhead Community Learning Centre. The fire destroyed a hut with numerous childrens toys within. Police enquiries are ongoing at this time.
- About 8.30pm on Wednesday 27th September a male made threats to damage a vehicle parked on McNeil Avenue, Loanhead. A 15 year old male has been reported to the children's reported for this offence.

If any person has any information about the incident(s) listed above, or indeed any other crime, please contact your Community Policing Officer **PC Graham Black via 101 or email: LothianScotBordersPenicuikCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk**

Additional Information

Hate crime and domestic abuse can now be reported online via the official Police Scotland website at www.scotland.police.uk or by visiting a Third Party Reporting Centre – details of which are also on our website.

Information regarding crime can be passed to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or through an Online Form - both of these routes are completely anonymous and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Police Scotland use social media to circulate the latest news, events and information to the public via Twitter (@LothBordPolice and @MidLothPolice) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/LothiansScottishBordersPoliceDivision and www.facebook.com/MidlothianPolice).

TELEPHONING POLICE SCOTLAND

If you need to contact Police Scotland then the number you use will depend on whether what you are reporting is an emergency or not.

You should always use 999 when:

- * there is a risk of injury or loss of life
- * a crime is in progress
- * someone suspected of a crime is nearby.

For non-emergency calls please use 101 to contact Police Scotland

Your View Counts

Policing your community.
Tell us what's important to you.

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#YOURVIEWCOUNTS

Firstly a thank you to all who participated in the “Your view Counts Survey” last year.

The Survey is now in its 2nd year.

This aids in developing our Policing Priorities across Scotland.

It takes a few minutes and can be completed by clicking the link below:

www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts