

## LOANHEAD & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in Loanhead Library.

Action

**Present:** Pat Kenny, Charles Hamilton, Annabel Hamilton, Jack Aitchison, Ben Shore, Gina Temple, Norma Bews, Councillor Pauline Winchester, John Thomson, Kevin Quinn, Daya Feldwick, PC Graham Black and Peter Frame.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Police Report:** PC Black reported that there were 52 crime reports in August, 13 solved, and 291 calls to the police. There had been a number of incidents of nuisance: running about walled gardens, climbing the fence at the 5-a-side pitches at the leisure centre, a 13year old found with alcohol and taken home to his parents, climbing on the roofs of local schools, etc. The police will be targeting problem areas. A full copy of the police report is appended to these minutes.

**1. Apologies:** Kelly Parry.

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

**3. Matters Arising:**

- Old Library Building – MLC replied to our request saying that to change the position in relation to the library at this late stage would place the Council in direct breach of both planning consent and building contract obligations.
- We have asked the Council to request Environmental and drainage impact reports for 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, before a decision is made. Concerns were raised that this development may encourage fly tipping in the surrounding area.

**4. Planning:**

• **Planning applications:**

**17/00630/DPP**

8 August 2017

The Owners Group Of No 153 The Loan, Loanhead, 153 The Loan, Loanhead, EH20 9AN  
Change of use of office to form two dwellinghouses and associated external alterations  
at 153 The Loan, Loanhead, EH20 9AN,

*Ward: Midlothian West*

*Case Officer: Graeme King 0131 271 3332*

- **For information only** – An application for residential development on Main Street, Roslin is pertinent to our discussion on school roles.
- **Mayburn House** – Pauline Winchester reported that a Planning Contravention notice is about to be served re the vehicles and the owner has 21 days to respond. Another Contravention notice is to be served to remove the debris at the back of the building. If the owner ignores the notices he will be reported to the Procurator Fiscal and could be fined £2000 - £20000. If he still ignores the notices, the Planning Committee will take steps to remove the cars and the rubble and the owner will receive the bill. Pat Kenny commented that we had been at this stage before and the owner just ignored the Council.

**5. Correspondence.**

- The Dalkeith Travel Shop closed on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September, top-ups for Ridacards are now available from 4 venues in Dalkeith: RS McColl, 11 Jarnac Court; Dalkeith Metro, 1 Jarnac Court; Costcutter, 182 High Street; and Dalkeith Newsagents, 48 Gibraltar Gardens. Full details of other Paypoint outlets are available from

<https://www.paypoint.com/en-gb> or by calling 0800 555 6383. Timetable leaflets are available from all Midlothian Libraries.

- From 3 September the closure of Leith Street for 44 weeks has an impact on only one Loanhead bus the N37 – the first journey from Scott Monument to Penicuik will start from Queensferry Street. The last journeys back to the city will run to Waverley Steps instead of Elm Row.
- European Youth Card Association - Anyone resident in Scotland and between their 11th and 26<sup>th</sup> birthdays can apply for a Young Scot card. In Midlothian schools the opportunity to obtain a Young Scot card is given to all new high school entrants. Others not attending a Midlothian school can apply via any Midlothian Library. These cards allow discounts at retail and service outlets, examples Scotland wide concessionary bus fare scheme with 1/3<sup>rd</sup> off adult fare. The cards now bear the EYCA logo so cardholders can use their card anywhere showing this logo in 36 countries across Europe offering a range of discounts to a number of sightseeing tours and entrance fees to zoos, monuments, castles and museums throughout Europe, full details at the EYCA website.
- The new Hitachi “Class 800” trains which will run on the East Coast Service Edinburgh to London from 2018 having passed the digital technology tests required by the Department of Transport. Designed in Japan, but built in the UK the fleet will be serviced by Hitachi. The digital system, known as European Train Control System (ETCS) will feed more continuous information from track side equipment into the driver’s cab, enabling trains to run closer together and creating the opportunity for more frequent services.
- Greggs PLC has applied to vary its existing operator licence to remove the base at Unit 36 Dryden Road, Loanhead.
- Litter at **Sainsbury’s Car Park Recycling Point** – we wrote to the Manager at Sainsburys and Pat Kenny went to a meeting with her. Sainsburys cannot keep up with the amount of recycling. It was agreed to ask the Council to erect notices about alternative recycling centres.
- **Lifelong Learning and Employability and Communities Team** (Lasswade Team Update): HNC Working with Communities Newbattle Community Centre starts 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017; Employability Award – SQA Certificates at level 3 or 4 Course will run for 12 weeks starting in September; Adult Literacies, Numeracy and English for Speakers of Other Languages courses are free, more information can be obtained from [neil.saddington@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:neil.saddington@midlothian.gov.uk); The Focus ~Team provide 1@1 support service for adults (16 to 64 years) who are experiencing barriers getting into training, education or employment. Contact [llefocus@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:llefocus@midlothian.gov.uk). All youth clubs resume week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – Contact [Nicola.grant@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Nicola.grant@midlothian.gov.uk); Young Person’s Career Drop in sessions on Tuesdays from 3-5pm at Lasswade Library Contact [stuart.inglis@midlothian.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.inglis@midlothian.gov.uk). Friday Night Music Project 4.30-7 pm every Friday at the Lasswade Centre (p7 upwards).
- **Home Link Family Support needs Midlothian Volunteers.** They are looking for new recruits in Midlothian to step in and help families with no extended family or friends to help out occasionally. Volunteers, don’t have to be parents, but must be aged 18 or over. Contact [www.homelinkfamilysupport.org](http://www.homelinkfamilysupport.org) for more information or to apply.
- **Midlothian Community Council Training Day** will be held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 10 – 3 pm @ the Lasswade Centre. To book a place go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/community-council-training-day-tickets-34110818376>.
- **Countryside Alliance Awards:** known as the ‘Rural Oscars’, these awards acknowledge the efforts of unsung heroes who routinely go the extra mile for their community. The

closing date is 13 November 2017, and the five categories are: Local Food/Drink; Village Shop/Post Office; Butcher; Rural Enterprise and Pub.

**6. School Capacities in Midlothian:** Two tables were circulated with School Estate Information projected to 2036/7. It was clear that primary school provision may be sufficient as there is a contingency plan for expansion at Bilston Primary, but secondary school provision will not. Although Beeslack has capacity at the present time, there are doubts about the Penicuik HS building. With all the additional housing development within Loanhead, Roslin, Bilston and Auchendinny there is a clear need for a new secondary school to support this area. It was agreed to approach our elected representatives, MP, MSP and councillors, to drive this forward. Initially to identify a suitable site to ensure it is not sold off for more housing development. Secondly for MLC to start channelling funds from Section 75 payments to a new high school fund.

**7. Any other Competent Business**

- **Small Grants:** the MLC small grants scheme for 2018/19 is now open. £300 administrative grant is available for each community council for administration costs. The remaining £4900 can be applied for as part of a competitive process, the closing date is 7 October 2017. At a recent meeting with the LCDA and the communities officer, Catherine Duns, it was suggested that we could make a joint application for a grant to produce a Loanhead Calendar for 2019 to be circulated to all houses in Loanhead & District. It was agreed to contact LCDA and take this forward.
  - **The City Deal** was discussed and the fact that most of the funds will be used for the Sheriffhall Roundabout and the Shawfair Development projects. The section 75 payments from builders and new businesses entering the area have already been earmarked for the A701 relief road which is likely to cause even more traffic at Straiton/Lothianburn junctions of the A702. There will be no benefit to our area.
  - LCDA require assistance to erect and dismantle barriers for the Fireworks Display on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017. Any volunteers should contact Peter Frame or the LCDA secretary, Mandy Doig.
  - **Community Planning Partnership Board:** a new governance structure has been approved by the Council. All CPP partners, including MFCC, also have to approve the new structure. A stakeholder group will be convened sometime in November to discuss and approve.
  - **The Kabin:** An independent review has been called to find out what has gone wrong with the running of this project. There is still £500,000 Big Lottery funding available for specific projects at the Kabin, but they will not support the running costs. It was agreed that we need the facts, not the hype produced by rumour and social media, therefore we will ask our elected representatives, MSP Colin Beattie, Councillors Winchester, Parry and Imrie to come to an extraordinary meeting on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7 pm in the Loanhead Library to see if there is anything the CC can do to support the Kabin and ensure it continues with its current activities.
  - Ben Shore reported that cracks have started appearing in the stair wells of the new flats in Edgefield Road.
  - Kevin Quinn asked for as many people as possible to come to the Kabin on Monday at 10 o'clock for a photo shoot for the Advertiser.
- 8. Date of Next Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017 in Loanhead Library.**

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## Criminal Activity August 2017

### Beat Areas MW01 and MW03 – Loanhead & District



During the month of August in the beat areas of Loanhead & District there were 52 recorded crimes reported, of which 13 were solved. During this time period there were 291 calls to police.

#### Incidents of Note

- About 9am on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August it was discovered that a shed on George Crescent, Loanhead had been broken into by having the hinges removed with nothing stolen from within.
- About 2.15am on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August a blue and silver Suzuki scooter was stolen from a garden at a house on Paradykes Avenue, Loanhead.
- About 12.45pm on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August an unknown male was attempting to sell TVs from a white van at Straiton Retail Park. Police attended with no trace of a van.
- About 8.50pm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August a discarded mattress was set on fire by youths near to Sainsburys, straiton.
- About 1am on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August police were called to a business premises on The Loan, Loanhead where a break in was discovered. Nothing appeared to have been stolen.
- About 6pm on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August a group of teenage boys were stopped by police on Polton Brae, Loanhead where a quantity of alcohol and cigarettes were seized from them.
- About 11.30pm on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August a 13 year old boy was found at Fountain Place, Loanhead with a bottle of alcohol. He was conveyed home by police and left in the care of his mother.
- About 10.10am on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August it was discovered that a caravan parked outside a property on Burghlee Terrace, Loanhead had been broken into with a quantity of items stolen from within.
- About 5.50pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, whilst at Mavisbank, Loanhead, a white van failed to stop after colliding with a parked car causing damage. Police are following a positive line of enquiry.
- Between 9pm and 11pm on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August a minibus parked at Loanhead After School Club had its window smashed. Further, a number of windows at the club were found to have been broken too.
- About 7.10am on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August it was discovered that a snack van parked at Edgefield Industrial Estate, Loanhead was broken into and ransacked.
- About 11.20pm on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August police stopped a car on the Loan, Loanhead. A 42 year old female was subsequently arrested for drink driving. She was then held in police custody to appear at Court.

**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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.facebook.com/LothiansScottishBordersPoliceDivision) and [www.facebook.com/MidlothianPolice](http://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**



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

The Survey is now in its 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://www.scotland.police.uk/yourviewcounts)**