

# Winchburgh Community Council

10<sup>th</sup> October 2016

[www.winchburghcc.org.uk](http://www.winchburghcc.org.uk)

Minutes of the Winchburgh Community Council Meeting held in the Community Education Centre, Craigton Place, Winchburgh at 7pm on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

**Apologies:** Councillor Tony Boyle, Irene Wallace, Janet Campbell

**September Minutes,** proposed by Sheila Sutherland, Jim Somerville.

## **Attendance**

**Community Councillors:** Jim Somerville, Sheila Sutherland, William Honeyford, Anton Watson (Chair), Pete Nisbet, Peter Anderson, Mandy Baird, Graham Campbell (Minutes, Sec)

**Councillors:** Diane Calder

**Police Scotland:** PC Peter Robertson

**Public:** Dianne Faulkner, Edith Small, John Finnigan, Paul Milne, Jenny Johnston, Terry Doherty, Paul Harrington, Stuart Patterson, John Pritchard, Wendy Grant, Donna Mabon, Angus MacInnes, Alan Stirling, Margaret Russell, Gillian Archibald, Sean Monaghan and Shane White.

**Steering Group Advisor:** Alan Russell

## **Filling of vacancies**

An update was given on the election of members on to the Community Council ("CC") at the September meeting.

West Lothian Council ("WLC") advised that the CC currently has too many co-opted members, and as such, a proper election process will need to take place. Nominations are to be submitted by 12pm on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. PN advised that there are currently 7 candidates for the remaining 6 positions, although there is a possibility that the CC can increase its numbers to a maximum of 18 members.

**UPDATE 25/10** WLC have confirmed today that the maximum number of Council members has been increased to a maximum of 18.

### **Minutes**

An action has been taken by the CC to ensure that the minutes from each meeting are circulated to all CC members as soon as is possible after the meeting, in order to have these reviewed and approved prior to the next meeting. Minutes will, once approved, be posted in the Niddry Road noticeboard and uploaded to the CC website.

### **Police Report**

PC Robertson called out 2 crimes which he felt needed to be highlighted to the community.

1. A break in, where electrical equipment was stolen, in Hill End Road; and
2. A boat and trailer stolen from a driveway at a house in Millgate

There have also been a couple of reports of a possible prowler in the Tippetknowes and Millgate area – the community were asked to remain vigilant.

PC Robertson also highlighted that given that it is getting close to Winter time, to ensure that all doors are locked, and to try where possible to leave lights on if you are going to be out of your house when it will be dark.

The Police will hold another drop-in meeting at the Community Centre on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October between 19:00 and 20:00.

### **Old Post Office Site Regeneration**

PN advised that we are waiting on Network Rail to review and approve the plans for the old Post Office site on the main street, and has been advised that it may take 2 months before this is reviewed.

A number of independent contractors have been invited to provide quotes for the work planned, although nothing can be taken forward until Network Rail's approval has been received.

SS raised that she believed that this had all been previously agreed with Network Rail, and will look into previous correspondence on the matter.

Network Rail have provided a new contact for who is handling the case – Nicholas Prague.

AM suggested emailing the CEO of Network Rail directly in an effort to expedite the process. PN to pick up alongside AM.

PN has contacted Lorraine McGrorty at WLC regarding whether adding onto current Public Liability Insurance will be an issue once site has been completed. **UPDATE 18/10** Lorraine has advised that there should be no issues adding this onto existing policy.

### **Funding**

Cllr Calder advised that there the WLC Village Improvement Fund for Winchburgh is £15,000 per year. £10,000 of funds have been allocated to the Bowling Club to provide improved toilet facilities for the disabled, and there has been an approach from the Golf Club to help fund a practice area for junior golfers. The Community Council agreed in principal to the request from the Golf Club for funding.

Cllr Calder also advised that each councillor has a £2,500 disbursement fund at their disposal each year, for use in local areas.

### **Steering Group scoping exercise**

AR advised that the scoping exercise is taking longer than planned, and that the aim will be to kick this off in November.

AR highlighted that there was a lack of awareness in the community about the setting up of the Community Trust, and that there is a potential funding shortfall for the scoping project of approximately £3,000.

It is anticipated that every man, woman and child in the village will have their say, and the exercise will aim to collect the data in a six week period, before compiling the data into results.

### **Community Defibrillator**

AW advised that BHF funding for the installation of community defibrillators appeared to close at midnight on the night of the last CC meeting.

GC advised that a letter has been sent to the Ambulance service to ascertain whether they are able to assist in the funding, but to date no response has been received.

AW advised that he was looking into the possibility of setting up a 'First Responder' service within the village, where a number of trained persons are on call for any emergencies within the village. The community agreed that this was worth further investigation.

PN advised that the approx. cost of a defibrillator was £1,400, and PA advised that 2 sources have offered £400 to that total, raising the possibility that the village itself could self-fund the installation. PN advised that he has written to Scotmid, who have a number of their stores fitted with defibrillators, and other sources in an effort to assist with donations.

AW raised the idea also of the village organising a fund-raising event, such as a fun run, which could raise funds.

**UPDATE 25/10** Scotmid have advised that the defibrillators that they have installed were done so in conjunction with the St John's ambulance service, who advised Scotmid on the best places for them to be installed.

Scotmid have however invited the CC to apply to their community grant scheme for funding. AW has submitted application for maximum grant of £500.

## **Temporary Bus Stops and moving of shelter opposite Jet Garage**

It was raised via MB that a post had been made on the Village Facebook page requesting that the bus shelter opposite the Jet petrol station be moved closer to the road, as drivers do not always see when there are travellers waiting in the shelter before it is too late. This often leads to travellers having to stand outside the shelter in anticipation of the bus, which is not ideal, especially in poor weather. WH also requested investigating the cutting back of the hedge which would give bus drivers better visibility of the road. **UPDATE 25/10** WH advises that hedge has now been cut back, and visibility for drivers has improved.

Also, work on the new Town Centre has decommissioned 3 of the bus stops on the route. Temporary bus stops have been provided, but no shelters as of yet, which is a concern for the winter months. Cllr Calder agreed to take this forward for resolution. **UPDATE 12/10** John Hamilton from developers has instructed the engineers and contractors to look into how temporary bus shelters can be safely secured in the temporary locations. The Council Transportation Officers are not keen on this, however it is being investigated.

## **Other matters from the public**

WH raised that the BT hole in the ground on the Main Street has still not been filled. Mention of this to be made in aforementioned email to BT CEO from AM/PN.

WH also advised that the roadworks at the junction of Beattie Road and the Main Street were likely to be in place for another two weeks. Further works are planned for further down Beattie Road, which may result in further disruption.

It was raised that the signs erected at Tippetknowes for pedestrians during the town centre works are too large, and forcing parents with Prams/Buggies onto the road, and that they are also very misleading. Cllr Calder to investigate.

E&M Horsburgh buses have recently not been running to time, and there are no timetables visible in any of the bus shelters within the village. Cllr Calder will email to request timetables.

It was also raised that a number of postings that were made to the noticeboard at the entrance to Scotmid are disappearing. MB will investigate as to whether Scotmid themselves are removing these, or whether these are being taken down on purpose by members of the public.

PN to raise with WLC that the footpath from the Chemist to Abercorn is in an extremely poor state of repair. **UPDATE 14/10** WLC advise that pathway is on a Monthly safety inspection route and was inspected on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, with no safety defects found. The Inspector has however commented on the general state of the pathway, commenting that there has been a number of previous temporary repairs. PN has forwarded on community's concerns to WLC councillors for further comment.

It was raised that the Maisonette buildings were without the use of bins for a number of days during the recent switchover to 'skinny' brown bins, and that when they did receive bins, they were bins that had been used previously by other users. Cllr Calder advised residents to phone WLC to arrange a pick-up of the contaminated bin, and request a new one. It was also raised that these residents did not have access to blue bins – Cllr Calder to provide update on scope for these at next meeting.

WH raised the issue of the overgrown foliage between West End House and the Tally-Ho, making it sometimes impossible to remain on the path. It was suggested that WLC have cut this back before, and the CC agreed to look into this further.

Cllr Calder advised that her recent mailshot regarding the progress on the Train Station development was printed prior to the announced delays to the EGIP project, which will delay the opening of the station until sometime in 2019.

The EGIP project delay has also resulted in a delay to the bridge over the right of way over the railway. PN to ask contractors whether it is possible to move fence surrounding compound to allow alternative way through.

Residents in Castle Terrace were refused a new salt bin for the road and path – CC to investigate, as path can be extremely slippery in cold conditions.

Finally, an issue regarding cars and vans parking on the pavement opposite the Chinese takeaway on the main street was raised. It was advised that there was nothing that the police can do regarding this until the law banning parking on a pavement comes into place.

### **Community Council Facebook page and website**

AW advised that the CC had agreed that a new Facebook page will be set up for CC, which will be administered by GC and AW. GA will advise on the setting up of page.

The page will be used to send out official CC comms, such as Agendas, Minutes, etc., as well as any appropriate news. The intention is that members of the public will not be able to post to the page directly without pre-moderation. **UPDATE 24/10** Facebook page has now gone live.

PN advised that he was looking for volunteers to maintain the CC web page on an ongoing basis. **UPDATE 15/10** PN advised that he had received an offer from a member of the public to maintain the site going forward. Volunteer wishes to remain anonymous.

### **Next Meeting – 7pm, Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

Minutes prepared by G Campbell