

## BONNYRIGG AND LASSWADE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021, held by Zoom

Present:	Jan Irvine, Chair
	Diane Easton, Communications Secretary
	Bill MacDonald, Treasurer
	Marnie Crawford
	Jackie Thompson
	Sheila Metcalfe
	Owen Proudfoot
	Douglas West
	Cllr Dianne Alexander
	Cllr Janet Lay-Douglas
	Cllr Derek Milligan
Apologies:	Catherine Duns
	Ruth Scott
	Rhona Matthews
	Darius Namdaran

	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>1/2</b>	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	(i)	Apologies noted as above.	
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes of last meeting 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b>	
	<b>Agreed</b>	(i)	The minutes were proposed (MC) and seconded (SM) as an accurate reflection of the meeting.	
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Matters Arising and Actions</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	(i)	Letter to Kirstie Malley has been sent.	
	<b>Noted</b>	(i)	Resident grit bins have been refilled and that tonne bags of grit have been dropped off at various locations in the town.	
	<b>Noted</b>	(iii)	Flowers have been delivered to Marie Knowles.	
	<b>Noted</b>	(iv)	Duck Race format has been changed due to Covid restrictions and will now be a prize draw. £800 has been raised thus far.	

	<b>Noted</b>	(v)	Safety issues with the bus shelter have been rectified by the developer and the bus shelter is currently being manufactured, but no timeline is available.	
	<b>Action</b>	(i)	<b>JL-D to update on bus shelter progress when she has the information.</b>	<b>JL-D</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>POLICE REPORT</b>	
	<b>Received</b>	(i)	Report previously circulated.	
	<b>Noted</b>	(i)	That there was a need to do something about youth disorder in the town. Police and Social Work are working with youths, but no improvement is evident. PC Cassidy had previously commented that when the “Friday Sessions” were running at the Church Hall there was a reduction in youth disorder, these sessions are currently suspended due to Covid. Rubbish is accumulating in the park and there has been vandalism at the skate park. Need to be careful not to label all youths as being disruptive. Agreed to monitor the situation.	
	<b>Action</b>	(i)	<b>DA to continue to progress youth disorder issues with the relevant authorities.</b>	<b>DA</b>
	<b>Noted</b>	(ii)	Parking at Lasswade Primary School is once again an issue despite school crossing patrols working while key worker children are attending school.	
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>REPORT FROM MIDLOTHIAN COUNCILLORS</b>	
	<b>Received</b>	(i)	Update from DA received, noted that one third of Midlothian pupils have been given a chrome book. Every child should have access to a computer device and able to take part in schooling. If any child does not have a device or access to a device, or adequate internet access then contact the school. 13000 Midlothian pupils can work safely at home, and live lessons online and projects. Exams, extensive work has been going on both in Midlothian, and in collaboration with East Lothian, West Lothian Fife and the Borders, as well beyond that and with SQA. This is to ensure that	

		<p>pupils work is assessed fairly, accurately, and equitably. This work is well ahead in Midlothian, further ahead than most if not all authorities. Glencorse School closure report is on the Midlothian Council website. Community groups and charities can apply for Midlothian Grants to help deal with poverty. These are between £5000 and £20000. Applications need to be in by 22nd January.</p> <p>Millerhill has two power plants, one takes food waste and uses digesters to turn the food into methane which is burned to make electricity. The other power plant takes the grey bin waste and burns it to make electricity and will be used eventually as community heating. We are waiting for a report from Vanderfal the council partner to get this started.</p> <p>Croydon, the explanation regarding investing money in Croydon council is on the Midlothian council website. Consultations are ongoing with communities regarding Mavisbank House.</p> <p>The closure of Roslin Glen Road has been scrapped. There is a camera looking to see how many people use the Glen possibly to upgrade the Glen, but this has not been confirmed.</p>	
	<p><b>Received</b> (ii)</p>	<p>Update from JL-D received, noting the Education Portfolio Update - Cross Party Working Group for Education had an assessment update for the senior phase. External consultant and DHT for Newbattle summarised work being undertaken to review processes in order to deliver the national certification model for qualifications in 2020-21 in a consistent and equitable way across our Secondary Schools. Great deal of collaboration and Information sharing to include Lasswade High School Chair of Parent Council. Schools are still waiting on guidance from the SQA but there is a push for the date of submissions of grades to be moved to the end of this academic session to create more learning time in school. Funding available – considering</p>	

		<p>using for study sessions to improve grades for young people post lockdown. Foundation Apprenticeships have also been impacted, i.e. started late, online tuition and changed again. All Schools open (No Hubs) % of the school roll in attendance week of 15<sup>th</sup> Lasswade Primary -16% Bonnyrigg Primary - 11% St Marys Primary - 13.8% Burnbrae Primary- 13% Hawthornden Primary- 18% Lasswade High - 5.1%</p> <p>Domestic Abuse – ANI New Code word scheme just been launched and is being delivered across Scotland from Boots the Chemist , there are already awareness raising campaigns in our area such as the Safe spaces Scheme which is delivered from some of our smaller local pharmacies, the ANI scheme is designed to work alongside those already existing. Nearest Boots to our Community Council area are Dalkeith and Straiton.</p> <p>Distributor Road Bus Shelter - have been in communication with Council/ Roads since October on this matter and have an email trail. Safety Issue with the proposed original location this was rectified by the developer and the Bus Shelter is being made. I have requested a timeline.</p> <p>Large 1 Tonne Grit Bin - Derek Oliver will be contacting Community Council to discuss the location of the Grit Bin to coordinate with resilience group. Update of plan of small grit bins to enable community to find near to them, an audit in progress and if bin not used will be relocated to areas that require.</p>	
	<b>Received</b> (iii)	<p>Verbal update from DM, noted that the decision had been taken that some Midlothian Council meetings will be cancelled due to Midlothian Council working to critical service only, this does not apply to quasi-judicial meetings such as Planning and Licensing. Any meetings requiring decisions will go to full Cabinet Meeting. Staff provision for the distribution of grit is limited and staff have been deployed from other departments to cover the many miles of road and pavements.</p>	

			<p>Concern that Midlothian Council management and staff are working to full capacity due to Covid over the past 10 months and that this may be detrimental to their wellbeing, particular concern among cleaning and social care staff.</p> <p>Vaccination programme run by NHS Lothian is progressing well. Possibility that mass vaccination centres will be set up, with venues yet to be identified and confirmed, these will be run by NHS Lothian.</p> <p>Sheriffhall upgrade is part of the City Deal which has to go to public consultation, there is no update on when works will begin. This feeds into a wider discussion around working practices and traffic volume pre/post Covid restrictions to look at opportunities for flexible working which may reduce traffic volume in and around Midlothian and Edinburgh.</p> <p>Proposed film studio at land in Salters is still work in progress with no planning consent having been given.</p>	
	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>Councillors to provide written copy of their reports to DE to allow for detailed accuracy in the Minutes.</b>	<b>DA/JL-D/DM</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>MIDLOTHIAN FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL UPDATE</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	<b>(i)</b>	That the next meeting will be held next week. That Midlothian Council are looking at ways to potentially use biomass to generate heat and power, as noted in report from DA. Community Councils looking at continuing to cut carbon emissions by hosting meetings virtually going forward.	
	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>DE to look at using Microsoft Teams to facilitate Community Council meetings to allow for Police Scotland to participate.</b>	<b>DE</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>MIDLOTHIAN TRAFFIC, ROADS AND PATHS [MTRAP] UPDATE</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	<b>(i)</b>	Next meeting will be on 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2021.	

	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>If there are any questions to be raised at MTRAP send them directly to DE.</b>	<b>DE</b>
	<b>Action</b>	<b>(ii)</b>	<b>DE to email DA regarding possible crossing in the vicinity of the new school (St Marys/Early Burnbrae) to be progressed.</b>	<b>DE/DA</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>UPDATE ON PROPOSAL TO MERGE WITH POLTONHALL AND HOPEFIELD COMMUNITY COUNCIL</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	<b>(i)</b>	That PHCC unanimously approved the proposed merger to create Bonnyrigg and District Community Council. Letter of proposed merger will be presented to Midlothian Council to start the statutory 90-day consultation period, therefore the merger may potentially be completed in May/June 2021. Meetings will be held virtually but it is hoped that the inaugural meeting can take place at the Lasswade Centre with invited attendees and press. Once the legalities of the proposed merger have been finalised advertising can happen. Work behind the scenes on finalising the constitution, standing orders and website rebrand are taking place. Additional persons can be added to the website as editors to allow for content to be updated; if this is of interest to anyone they can be added. Chair thanked DW for his efforts to date.	
	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>Persons interested in contributing to the new website design to contact DE and DW.</b>	<b>DE/DW</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	<b>(i)</b>	That monies are to be shared with all Midlothian Councillors to use for common good projects in their local areas subject to existing criteria and guidance.	
	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>JL-D to progress and provide feedback on this initiative.</b>	<b>JL-D</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>ROADWORKS CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	<b>(i)</b>	That the monies are for major resurfacing projects in the area. Agreed to propose Lothian Street, Polton	

			Avenue Road and part of Rosewell Road to be allocated funds as part of the programme.	
	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>DE to it forward the nominated roads to Midlothian Council.</b>	<b>DE</b>
	<b>Noted</b>	<b>(ii)</b>	That the traffic lights at Hillhead are funded by Places for People not Midlothian Council and that in general these traffic lights are welcomed and have been asked for previously.	
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	<b>(i)</b>	That there is £3798.29 in the bank account. All monies have been refunded to the account and that the fraud investigation is still ongoing but the Community Council are no longer the complainer, the Bank now are.	
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>SECRETARY'S REPORT</b>	
	<b>Received</b>	<b>(i)</b>	Update from DE received, noting Neighbourhood Services, this is a new group set up by Midlothian Council in collaboration with a range of community organisations looking at ways to improve communication between the Council and the community and improve service provision. The remit of the Council's Neighbourhood Services is: Waste and Recycling, Transport, Fleet/Vehicle/Plant Maintenance, Land and Countryside, Roads Operations, Policy and Roads Safety, Networks and Structures, and Street Lighting. The group comprises staff from each service, along with an external intermediary [NESTA], and various community and voluntary groups. Diane will work with Jeremy Adderley, Chair of Newtongrange Community Council, to represent Midlothian's Community Councils. They are looking for ideas from us as community representatives and service users. Please think about how you see these services and how they could be improved and feed this back to DE. Group will meet monthly until March 2021. DE will keep the Community Council updated on progress.	

	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>Feedback neighbourhood services thoughts to DE.</b>	<b>All</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>AOCB</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	(i)	That no follow-on update had been published to the neighbourhood plan.	
	<b>Noted</b>	(ii)	That volunteers could be deployed in the event of severe weather.	
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>PLANNING</b>	
	<b>Received</b>	(i)	Report previously circulated.	
	<b>Noted</b>	(i)	That Lasswade Pavilion is not a community asset transfer and that there is an issue with parking and traffic management when classes are being held and that the Community Council had expressed concern.	
	<b>Noted</b>	(ii)	That the proposed Sheriffhall South development at Melville Gate for a 4-storey office block and associated parking was a concern given the historic and environment of the area but acknowledgment that this had to be weighed against jobs and economic growth. Agreed to object to the development and MC to consult with neighbouring Community Councils to formalise a collaborative response.	
	<b>Action</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b>MC to consult with neighbouring Community Councils to formalise a collaborative response.</b>	<b>MC</b>
	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
	<b>Noted</b>	(i)	Next meeting will be 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7pm, via Zoom.	