**LIVINGSTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTE of MEETING No 3-13 on 07 MARCH 2019**

**PRESENT**:

MEMBERS; Brian Johnstone - Chair, Carole Robertson – Treasurer, Dean Swift, Planning Secretary/Minute Secretary, Catherine Brown, Jodi Conner

GUESTS: Councillor Alison Adamson, Alan Strachan, J Burns, Nelu Balaj, G Morier

APOLOGIES:Apologies received from: Margaret McQueen, Shona Mackenzie

**ITEMS: Action**

1.0 **MINUTE APPROVAL**

1.1 Alan Strachan proposed approval of February minutes, it was seconded by Jodi Conner

2.0 **MATTERS ARISING**

2.1 (item 2.3 previous minutes): Due to late change of date the Public Transport Forum

 was not attended. However BJ has submitted 5 questions based on points previously made by LVCC members. There has been no reply as yet. JB to remind them on

 March 25th. **BJ**

2.2 (item 2.1 previous minutes): Margaret McQueen has enrolled LVCC in the Knowledge Hub Network, which allows us to share information (such as problems with bus service, etc.) with other Community Councils and it is now up and running. The website is K.hub.net. An email address and password is required to gain entry which is restricted to our community councillors.

2.3 (item 10.1 previous minutes): Position of the LVCC notice board on Kirkton South Road – due to planning issues and land ownership it is not sure what the alternative locations are. Fixing it to the bus shelterlooks impossible due to insufficient strength of structure.

2.4 (item 9.1.2 previous minutes): Local Plans – It was agreed that the Council will not get involved in this due to its size and complexity.

2.5 (item 9.1.1 previous minutes); Sunshine Gym – DS has looked at brochure for outdoor gym equipment and has filed it for possible future use.

3.0 **REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR:**

3.1 BJ attended the Livingston South LAC on 15 February. There was nothing relevant

 to the LVCC area. BJ will attend the next Livingston North LAC on 15th March  **BJ**

3.2 NHS/Community Council Meeting: next meeting on Monday May 20th

3.3 Gala Day – The new Gala Day Committee has leafleted the community with a newsletter. We will invite the chairman to speak in April.

3.4 Defibrillator – now installed at the Livingston Inn.

3.5 Speaker for May meeting – The Livingston Village Community Education Centre Association has been attempting to start a pensioners group in the primary school and have asked OPAL, a part of Cyrenians, if they would like to be involved. This seems a possibility, a representative of OPAL wishes to speak to the Council in developing this arrangement. This will be arranged for May. It has been agreed that in the summer holidays the group would meet in the village church.

3.5 Kaims Woodland Sub-Group: The group is due to have its 6th meeting on

 21st March. Some of the original volunteers have resigned leaving a group of about 6 members. A summary of current progress is as follows:

 Plot 1 (right of Hunter Road) – maintenance will be included in the conditions applied to the imminent planning submission.

 Plot 2 (left of Hunter Road) – unable to contact owners, meantime two neighbours of the plot have trimmed and felled trees (which is contrary to the tree preservation order).

 Plot 3 (between Kaims grove, Walk and Brae) – new owners are co-operating with neighbours, some felling has taken place, replanting scheme and felling permit in progress.

 Plot 5a, 7a (Kaims Gardens) – controlled by factors as common ground to all 62 owners. Any tree work will have to be funded by the owners.

 Plot 5,7 (Kaims Garden, Court and Place) – Owner has placed them on the market is not prepared to carry out any maintenance.

4.0 **PLANNING REPORT**

4.1 Weekly Planning Lists: since last meeting there have been several applications, the main ones are are listed below

4.2 Gregory Road Housing: No change.

4.3 Charlesfield Road: A new application has been submitted. BJ to submit comments based on the Council’s initial observations.

4.4 Hunter Road: Planning application delayed following discussion with WLC Planning regarding education constraints. LVCC has lodged comments with agent and will issue similar comments to WLC when application is submitted.

4.6 Livingston West (Gavieside): Following submission of the overall masterplan (on which LVCC have made comments) an application is now with WLC Planning for phase one. There is a public consultation/viewing in week commencing 25th March, 2:00pm - 8:00pm at Harwood Church Hall, Polbeth

5.0 **POLICE REPORT**

5.1 No report

6.0 **NEWS AND UPDATES FROM ELECTED COUNCILLORS**

6.1 Councillor Alison Adamson:

* West Lothian Variety Show is at Howden Park Centre on 17th March
* West Lothian Armed Forces Day is 30th June.
* Fly and Flag for Commonwealth Day is 11th March at the Civic Centre
* Lothian Buses have purchased the old Deans Civic Amenity site for their depot.
* First Bus have reduced their prices and included several special tickets such as frequent user awards, student tickets, etc. Members of the meeting questioned this as there was an article in the Courier stating that the fares were going up. (post meeting note; Councillor Adamson forwarded a copy of an email from First Bus outlining the fare reductions and a website for further information - <http://bit.ly/WestLothianFares> )
* Neighbourhood Watch format is changing and the police are keen to get people involved. AA will bring further information as it becomes available. LVCC may think about it in the meantime.
* Following consultation Ogilvie School is offering secondary education. Initially it will be year 1 starting in August this year, years 2 – 6 will be added in due course.
* AA asked for volunteers to accompany her on a guided trip to Edinburgh Airport where a “secret” short stay car park will be pointed out.
* There are currently discussions going on within WLC regarding possibly moving the Carmondean Library from its current position to the Ability Centre. The viability of the centre may be at risk if the Library is not moved there, however campaigners say it will not house the Library contents as efficiently.

7.0 **TREASURER’S REPORT**

7.1 The accounts have been accepted and this year’s grant has been received, The balance at the end of March is £285.00.

8.0 **WEB & IT MATTERS**

8.1 It was agreed that for the time being the CC would wait until MMQ has time to deal

 with this matter. **MMQ**

9.0 **SECRETARIAL MATTERS**

9.1 The LVCC email inbox received 24 messages since we last met. The most relevant were:

* Road Closures – A71 Crofthead Monday May 7th, Kirk Lane 11th March to 24 March, Parade at Centre on 30th June
* LVCC has received Spokes magazine for anyone who wishes a copy.
* It was agreed that LVCC will not contribute to a consultation regarding fireworks.
* LVCC will look into Tesco grants for community benefit **BJ**
* It was agreed LVCC will not submit comments on South East Scotland Planning Document.
* Consultation on Joint Health to receive comments by 14th April, BJ to submit. **BJ**
* Volunteers at Riverside are looking for volunteers on 12th and 13th April.
* LVCC have received the Carnegie Newsletter (Changing minds and changing living) for the first time.
* Howden Health Centre has issued a newsletter.
* Next consultation for Local Development Plan for 2022 has commenced.

10.0 **AOCB**

10.1 one of the residents  remarked that at the crematorium the weather protection for mourners queuing to meet the family is unsatisfactory and that some additional structure is needed in this area.

11.0 **NEXT MEETING**

11.1 Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 4 April 2019 at 7:00pm** in the function room of the Livingston Inn.

11.2 The next Kaims woodlands meeting will be held on Thursday 21 March 2019 at 7:00pm in the function room of the Livingston Inn.

Dean Swift

09 March 2019