**LIVINGSTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTE of MEETING No 3-16 on 06 June 2019**

**PRESENT**:

MEMBERS: Brian Johnstone - Chair, Carole Robertson – Treasurer, Catherine Brown,

GUESTS: Alan Strachan, Violet McGregor, Sarah and Iain Linklater.

APOLOGIES:Apologies received from: Shona Mackenzie, Jodi Conner, Dean Swift, Nelu Balaj, Councillor Alison Adamson, Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick

**ITEMS: Action**

1.0 **MINUTE APPROVAL**

1.1 Brian pointed out that the Guest list as shown carried too many names. Christopher Bradley, Violet MacGregor and Richard Lever should be deleted since they did not attend the May meeting. With this amendment Carole Robertson proposed approval of the May minutes, and was seconded by Catherine Brown.

2.0 **REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR:**

2.1 Shona MacKenzie – Shona is missing tonight since she is in London to collect her Macmillan award for her dedicated voluntary work across many years in the cancer arena. She has also been nominated for the Charity Champion category of the 2019 Scottish Charity Awards. .As a team member of this Community Council she thoroughly deserves our congratulations and a record here of her selfless work in a difficult field.

2.2 The Livingston Village Gala Day takes place this Saturday 8th June so please support this local event to ensure it continues into the future.

2.3 Defibrillator – now installed at the Livingston Inn and with an official launch last Tuesday should see its advertising in The Courier sometime soon. It has been registered with the ambulance service

2.4 The Planters in the Village Square. The daffodils are now dying and will soon be cleared and be replaced with our usual simmer bedding plants as soon as these are bought and the volunteer planters are available.

2.5 Kaims Woodland Sub-Group: A summary of current progress is as follows:

Plot 1, 5, 6 &7 – no change from last meeting

Plot 2 the owners were given the chance to fell the large dead tree but did not react within the given time scale so the matter has been referred to WLC for enforcement

Plot 3 (between Kaims grove, Walk and Brae) –Draft replanting scheme and felling permit with owners for comment, although not much progress in the past month

Plot 4 – The group have sent a letter to the owner asking for his permission for the neighbours to carry out the felling and clearing works assuming funding can be found University of Edinburgh have provided some information on community takeover – but this seems an onerous and lengthy process, but it is still on the table.

2.6 Local Area Committees - Brian attended the Livingston South May LAC with its usual report revealing nothing of huge importance or interest. Report copies available from Brian on request.

2.7 Randolf Hill Nursing Home.. Brian spoke with the agents earlier this week and was informed that tenders will go out in a week or so for return mid July with preferred contractor appointment in August for a site start in September. So there will be building works on both parts of the site in the later part of this year

3.0 **PLANNING REPORT**

3.1 Weekly Planning Lists: Since the last meeting there have been no new local applications

out of the 88 filed, but existing active ones are listed below:

3.2 Gregory Road Housing: This has been granted planning approval for 220 housing units with a fair list of conditions. Brian spoke with Gladmans this week and they will now market the site for sale with planning approval.

3.3 Hunter Road: Brian spoke with the architects this week and following further meetings with the WLC planners only 2 items are to be resolved before the detailed planning submission in August. This is about 7 months later than planned. The outstanding items are flooding and noise abatement measures relating to Alderston Road.

3.4 Charlesfield and Livingston West (Gavieside): Both applications still show a “awaiting decision” status.

4.0 **POLICE REPORT** No report available.

5.0 **NEWS AND UPDATES FROM ELECTED COUNCILLORS** No report available.

6.0 **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6.1 Carole reported current balance as £362.19.

7.0 **WEB & IT MATTERS** No report available.

8.0 **SECRETARIAL MATTERS**

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

* Reminder about Armed Forces Day at Civic Centre on 30th June
* Early alert about VE day events in May 2020
* Invitation to contribute to Consultation on short term lets – we will not submit
* Invitation to contribute to Consultation on Fire & Rescue strategy – Brian to digest and submit comments.
* Invitation to contribute to Consultation on developer contributions to Public Art. Meeting felt that there were better sources for contributions. Brian to submit comments to reflect this view.
* NHS news that a New Surgery unit is to be added to St Johns.

9.0 **AOCB**

9.1 Jodi had asked in a note to raise the lack of grass cutting. Sarah added her feelings that this cut in services was deplorable. The whole meeting then unanimously agreed that to let our Village’s central park areas revert to wilderness was an unacceptable decision by WLC. Brian on behalf of LVCC to write in strong terms to WLC and circulate copies of his letter. Also agreed that objectors should voice their opinions to their respective local elected councillors. Brian to circulate contact details for elected councillors **BJ** and **All**

9.2 Vi Macgregor raised potholes. Brian to give her the contact details of the Roads Department engineer **BJ**

9.3 Catherine reported the early construction noise from the Buchanan Gardens (07:30 am on

a Sunday). Brian said the planning consent did contain permitted working hours and felt this was out with those approved, He would check and react accordingly. **BJ**

10.0 **NEXT MEETING**

10.1 We now have our summer recess so iur next meeting will be held on **Thursday 5th September 2019 at 7:00pm** in the function room of the Livingston Inn.

10.2 The next Kaims woodlands sub group meeting will be held on Thursday 20th Jone2019 at 7:00pm in the function room of the Livingston Inn.

Brian Johnstone

09 June 2019