**LIVINGSTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTE of MEEETING No 24 OF 2nd JUNE 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**. Brian Johnstone - Chair, Carole Robertson- Treasurer

**GUESTS** Ian Stewart WLC, Jim McGladrigan WLC, Councillor Angela Moohan, Annette Logan, Teresa Wilson, Alan Strachan, Richard Lever, Georgie Hume.

**INTRODUCTORY POINT OF ORDER** Due to the high number of apologies right up to the last minute LVCC with only 2 elected members present does not have the required quorum of 3 to hold the meeting. However on the advice of Councillor Moohan provided this is noted and the draft minutes ratified at the next time a quorum is present then the meeting can continue. So Brian carried on with the pre issued agenda.

1. **APOLOGIES** Apologies from Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick, Councillor Anne McMillan, Catherine Brown, Margaret McQueen, Alan Nicholson, Dean Swift, Jill Wysekal.
2. **MINUTE APPROVAL.** The draft minute of meeting 23 on 5th May 2016 was approved by Carole Robertson and seconded by Richard Lever.
3. **MATTERS ARISING** These would be covered in the report from Chair and agenda items.
4. **PRESENTATION BY WLC ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT** Brian welcomed our invited WLC guests Ian Stewart and Jim McGladrigan to give a presentation covering the role of the Environmental Enforcement Cleaner Communities Team. Ian outlined the wide ranging list of activities the 2 teams in West Lothian covered. Each team has a leader plus 5 staff and the area is split into east and west areas. A restructuring is currently in progress. The role includes all the activities of the former Environmental Wardens namely dog fouling , litter and fly tipping, abandoned vehicles and graffiti. New additions to the role include partnerships with Police, SEPA, Environmental Health; assistance to the Education Department with regard to young persons who have dropped off the radar; assisting with transport audits. (if I have missed any items then I apologise) Fines are the first penalty to offenders eg £80 for litter, dog fouling and £200 for fly tipping. If fines are not paid then offenders are reported to the procurator fiscal for court action. The meeting felt that all this activity and information ought to have more publicity. WLC once the restructuring is complete intend to produce some public information. Brian suggested that a feature in WLC’s Bulletin newspaper could be beneficial.
5. **HOUSING PROPOSALS AT STADIUM AREA** There are 2 distinct applications one to the North of Lidl for 16 flats and 4 houses, and to the south (college Side) for 8 flats and 9 houses. LVCC lodged objections in August Last year in each case citing 10 areas of concern. Revised plans were issue to us in mid-May with a deadline for comment of 2nd June. I got an extension to 3rd to allow debate here tonight. In each case WLC have taken some of our concerns on board and the case officer asks if we will withdraw our objections which would mean an approval under delegated powers fairly soon. If we maintain an objecting stance then both applications will go to commit on Wed 16th June at which we can speak our case and meantime we have to submit written updating representations.

The current plans replace all previous versions and are for a total of 37 housing units not the original 164 proposed as 4 and 5 story flats

After tabling the revised plans and discussing these and the various concerns for a good period of time the decision of the meeting was to continue to object to both proposed developments.

The main thrust of the objections shall be the impact on existing infrastructure items particularly lack of capacity at medical centres and transport congestion for Alderston Road

Brian will attend the meeting a speak for the LVCC concerns. There were no other volunteers to attend the meeting due to work commitments.

1. **REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR**

***Buchanan House Update*** Central Demolition continue to progress the demolition works which will continue to July.

***Nursing Home*** After our withdrawal of objections WLC expect to issue planning consent on Friday 3rd or 10th June.

***Village Square*** Brian reported that upwards of 150 plants had been delivered to Dean for him and Shona to get busy planting. Brian had obtained the necessary paints etc for the phone box and would get into this as soon as his recent operation wound had healed. The Crown paint shop had volunteered us 20% discount once they knew the paint was for a community project.

***Health*** The long awaited report on St John’s Paediatric service will be tabled to the NHS board meeting on 22nd June 2016.

Angela Moohan reported she had recently met with NHS director Jim Forrest over various problems with Doctor’s clinics. As expected he explained that medical practises are independently run as businesses and running details vary and scope of services vary depending on capability all additional services attract additional payments from the NHS . The GP contract is due for renewal in April 2017and Angela urged that we submit to try and influence the contract details – I am not sure how to go about this.

Annette and Vera had separately suggested that rather than just display the number of non-attending patients they should be fined and further if there are 3 defaults then they be struck of the practice list. Brian would table thus proposal ate the next NHS/CC meeting. ***West Lothian Association of Community Council*** This was disbanded some time ago due really to apathy in that at most 12 of the eligible 35 West Lothian CCs ever attended or participated. Recently Ian Ferrel of Dechmont CC issued a questionnaire to try and regenerate the Association. However near to the closing date he had only received 9 replies ( including ours) so it looks as if the Association will stay dormant.

***Livingston Village Gala Day***  A reminder to all that this takes place on Friday evening 10th and Saturday 11th June. Helpers needed. Fliers will be delivered next week to all LVCC households. Please support this to ensure its continuance in the future.

***Local Shop*** Sainsbury have not responded to our enquiry. Brian will chase a month after initial contact.

**7** **PLANNING LISTS & PLANNING ITEMS NOT COVERED BY REPORTS FROM**

Nothing of interest or concern to our area in the lists since last meeting. In Neighbouring Eliburn 90 flats are proposed for the Gladman area north of the Jehova Witness Hall on Appleton Parkway.

No one could offer an answer to what the building work are for to the south of Macaroni’s

**8 POLICE REPORT**

Unfortunately leave and shift pattern prevented a Police attendance.

**9 TREASURERS REPORT** Carole reported current balance is £441.30. She passed over a cheque to Brian to cover the cost of plants and paint so the balance will reduce to £364.73

**10** **WEB & IT MATTERS** Annette relayed an update from Margaret to the effect the Gordon had not fed her the PR bits to advertise the Gala day so she had posted a simple intimation. The Facebook and Twitter figures had not really grown any since the previous report.

**11** **SECRETARIAL MATTERS** Brian said the LVCC e mail had only received 3 main items plus a number of social items since last meeting. The main items covered the members list for the NHS Integration Board, licensing for scrap merchants and condition for processions and as such did not merit fuller debate.

Brian’s own e mail handled 40 incoming messages relating to LVCC and he sent out 27.

**12**  **AOCB**

Eliburn CC Chair had been invited to join our meeting tonight but family health difficulties had intervened and prevented Steve coming so the invite will be extended to next meeting.

After months of chasing the WLC tree specialist had responded and his statement will be passed on to the relevant residents.

The quarterly Spokes bulletin had arrived – if any ardent cyclists in our patch want to see this contact Brian.

**13** **NEXT MEETING Si**nce we soon hit the holiday season our next meeting is not until **Thursday 1st September at 7:00 pm** in the function room of Livingston Inn. However if any resident has any pressing matter please contact Brian

*Brian D Johnstone*

*05/06/16*