**LIVINGSTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**MINUTE of MEEETING No 20 OF 4th FEBRUARY 2016**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**. Brian Johnstone - Chair, Carole Robertson- Treasurer, Margaret McQueen, Dean Swift.

**GUESTS** Councillor Angela Moohan, Councillor Lawrence Fitzpatrick (part time),PC Francis Sinnet, PC Ross Bennie, Jill Wisekal, Violet McGregor, Edward McGregor, Shona MacKenzie, Richard Lever, George Hume, Anna McMahon, Jim McMahon, Alan Strachan, Gordon Pennykid.

1. **APOLOGIES** Apologies received from Anne MacMillan, Alan Nicholson, Janette Logan.
2. **MINUTE APPROVAL.** The Minute of meeting 19 on 7th January 2016 was approved by Alan Strachan, seconded by Margaret McQueen
3. **MATTERS ARISING** These would be covered in the report from Chair and agenda items
4. **REPORTS FROM THE CHAIR**

***Buchanan House Update*** The WLC case officer indicated determination of the planning approval about 17th February 2016. There has been one objection from a neighbour in Kirkfield View and it is not known if this will delay planning approval. Owners Manor Forest stated to Brian that if planning goes through around 17th February then the site will be fully handed over to Barratt on 4th March and Barratt will immediately place a demolition contract with their preferred sub-contractor. So the end is in sight Buchanan House.

***Kirkton Business Centre*** The demolition contractor is steadily reducing the buildings to rubble so the end is very close for Kirkton Business Centre. A detailed planning application has been lodged for the nursing home. The drawings of the site and the proposed building were tabled. The appearance and size differs considerably from the outline design which got LVCC approval. After considerable discussion it was agreed that LVCC lodge an objection to the proposal. (post meeting note – this was lodged with WLC on 7th Feb 2016)

***Housing at the Stadium***  Same statement as last month – WLC housing section of are still reviewing layouts and we shall be advised of any changes. Decision will be at a Development Management Meeting but is not on the February agenda. So we will check again just before our next meeting.

***Health Matters*** The next NHS/WLC Health & Care Partnership meeting with Community Councils will be on Mon 8th Feb 2016 – Brian will attend. The main issue of great importance is the Paediatric Review across Lothian. Brian and Angela Moohan urged everybody to take a few minutes to complete the on line survey so that as many as possible views are reported. Again a number of residents raised concerns at the new and unacceptable appointment booking system at the Howden practice – Brian would raise this at the Monday meeting (post meeting note Brian did raise the issue as did 2 other community council representatives. Jim Forest director took the comments on board and would report back)

5 **PLANNING LISTS & PLANNING ITEMS NOT COVERED BY REPORTS FROM CHAIR** Only one planning application was of interest namely the full detailed planning application for a previous PAC consultation for Kirkton North at Old Cousland Road. This was for 99 flats and houses with no detailed split nor a site plan in the deposited documents. The Meeting agreed we should support development as housing but seek conditions base on the LVCC earlier submission last November (post meeting note a letter was lodged on 8th Feb 2016)

6 **POLICE REPORT** PC Sinnet outlined crime statistics for LiviNorth a bit of an increase all round. There were 19 calls to the police in January from Livingston Village. He announced the new Chief Inspector is Stephen Dolan. He intimated a new police model for communities would start on 2nd March 2016. There would be a 10 person Community Action Team based in Broxburn - Francis is on this team There would be 2 community beat officers per ward. For Livi North they would be Alan McMahon and John McLean. Brian asked if he was to continue to use Sgt Coleen Hope as the link for communication – Francis said he should continue until told otherwise

7 **NEWS & UPDATES FROM ELECTED COUNCILLORS**

*Angela Moohan* Angela again stressed the importance of all completing the survey for Paediatric review. She then declared that to everyone’s disgust more cuts were inevitable to reduce the budget of WLC. The previous £12m plus another £9m = £21m to be cut now.

*Lawrence Fitzpatrick* Lawrence repeated the growing problem of getting GP appointments and explained that each Surgery was a separate entity with its own systems

The national shortage of new Doctors taking up GP role is of grave concern. Lawrence went on to state that the numbers of planning applications was increasing in number and size and this load was taxing the planning section of WLC. He also reiterated the concerns at parking problems at our commuter stations – albeit a Scotrail problem but is to be challenged.

8 **SECRETARIAL MATTERS** Brian apologised that due to a family bereavement he had not had the time to keep up to date with requests during the last 3 to 4 weeks. He promised to be more attentive next month.

9 **IT MATTERS** Margaret presented our proposed new website and illustrated the content. She also said we were now up to date on social media and that both would be used to display important items such as the Children’s survey. Generally the meeting applauded our new venture into modern technology and supported Margaret in her endeavours . So approval was given to launch the site as soon as Margaret felt she was ready. Margaret to liaise with Carole for recompense for the outlay in setting things up.

10 **AOCB**

Brian said he had been invited to attend the Eliburn CC on 9th March

The Promised meeting with Chris Norman about the trees at Kaims had not materialised Brian would spe ak direct with Chris.

Due to other factors dominating his time Brian had not had the site meeting on trees at Cousland Road – he would activate this next week.

11 **NEXT MEETING** The next meeting is on Thursday 3rd March 2016 at 7:00 pm in the function room of Livingston Inn.

*Brian D Johnstone*

*11/02/16*