



West Linton Community Council

**Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 5th Apr 2004
In the Village Centre at 7.30pm**

Present: Margaret Harrison, Graham Tulloch, Eric Small, Derek Lawson, David Small, Colin Torrance and Michael Pryor

In attendance: Cllr. Neil Calvert

1) **Apologies:** Norman Erskine and Anne McKenzie.

2) **Police Matters:** Sgt. Sedgewick informed the CC of the burglary in Bogsbank Road. A number of antiques and items of jewellery had been stolen between the 23rd and 25th March.

There appeared to be a rise in the number of out-house break-ins in the surrounding districts, including Midlothian, of a similar type to those that took place in late December, last. The Police are treating all these incidents with the highest priority.

Sgt Sedgewick was asked if he could discuss the legality of the barbed wire forming the top runners of the fence at the top of the "Cat Walk". Sgt Sedgewick informed the meeting that although the wire could injure a walker given the narrowness of the path it was not illegal.

3) **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** These were approved and MH signed a copy for the record.

4) **Matters Arising (not on the agenda):** Streets lights - The two lights on Chapel Brae (#1 and 2) were connected to those on the A702 and therefore Amey's responsibility repair. The faulty lights in Broomlee Cres. (#7 & 8) are caused by a cable fault, due to be repaired shortly. In St Andrews Close light #15 would be attended to.

5) **Planning Issues (WLCC Area):**

- i) Extension and alteration to Struan, Bogsbank Road, West Linton. **Support.**
- ii) **Appeal** against refusal of planning permission at Struan upheld by the Reporter. Applicant has been given approval **in principle** to erect a dwelling in the garden grounds, subject to conditions: reserved matters including surface and foul water drainage to be approved before development commences.
- iii) Erection of dwelling adjacent to old farmhouse, Broomlee Mains, West Linton. CC **Support** as this dwelling is considered to be an acceptable addition to the building group. Access to the south of the site forms an effective boundary to the plot and ties it into the group. The two mature trees should be retained and protected during construction work. The CC now considers this building group on this steading ground to be complete.

- iv) Installation of dormer window, Ardsheil, Lower Green, West Linton. **Support.**
- v) Replacing double glazed units 4 Roderick Place, West Linton. **Support.**
- vi) Sub division of property Greenlaw, Deanfoot Road, West Linton. This property is subject to a Section 75 to protect it from further development. This division will result in the creation of a new, 2nd dwelling on the site, thus contravening the legal agreement. **The Community Council oppose this proposal and wish the section 75 and associated burdens retained.**
- vii)Erection of a garage, Cairnton, Carlops Road, West Linton. **Support.**
- viii) Extension to dwelling, Stralloch, Linton Bank Drive, West Linton. **Support.**
- ix) Extension and alterations to dwelling, 13 Fergusson View, West Linton. **Support.**

- 6) **Area Committee Meeting:** MH gave a brief report of the meeting: A presentation by MRT Associates on local housing strategy dealt with access, affordability & sustainability, quality all important to ensure communities remained vibrant and independent living is promoted. It has been calculated that SBC require 6300 new homes in the next 10 years and at the moment there was only a land supply for 2700. The disparity between these two figures showed that new areas would have to be identified and developed.

The name suggested at the last WLCC meeting for the development at Broomlee Mains farm of Broomlee Mains Court has been accepted.

- 7) **Roads and Footpaths:** A number of points were discussed including:
- i) The large hole opposite the corner of the Graham Institute reported last month was still open.
 - ii) A resident had expressed concern that as SBC now insisted that rubbish be left at the end of Medwyn Bank Drive for collection; uncollected rubbish would be left outside his house. Unfortunately, this is an issue the CC could not influence.
 - iii) The work to install steps and handrail at the White Bridge has started.
 - iv) Drains blocked on Linton Bank Drive. **MH** to contact SBLocal.
 - v) GT reported that the work on the A702 at the roundabout were due to track failure of the Scottish Water work carried out earlier and should be completed within the week, he had also been informed that the work at Carlops would also be completed within the week.
 - vi) **MH** and **DS** to canvas residents and businesses on the preferred commencement date and hours of work for the Main Street work due to take place this summer.
 - vii)**GT** had contacted Elaine Nicol regarding missing street signs at Fergusson View and Gifford Place and again on the matter of a "no HGV" sign for Dryburn Brae off the A702 roundabout and was told these would be attended to.

- 8) **Public Transport Issues:** Mr. Dickson was not at the meeting and no other comments were made.

- 9) **Greens and Swingpark:** Nothing to report.

- 10) **Environmental Issues:** Nothing to report.

- 11) **Publicity and Website:** Nothing to report.

12) Christmas Lights: DL reminded the meeting that both SBC and Scottish Power had passed the question of the supply and control boxes for the Christmas lights to each other. This meant that we were no further forward in achieving our aim to extend the lights up Main Street for Christmas 2004. **DL** will contact Scottish Power again in an attempt to resolve the stalemate.

DL investigated the practicality of maintaining two accounts, namely the WLCC Treasurer's Account and the WLCC Tree Account. Concern regarding the merge of the two accounts had been expressed, in view of the possible disestablishment or dissolution of the CC and the requirement in the Constitution to transfer funds to SBC. DL had taken advice from SBC and the Bank of Scotland, and concluded that a merger was the more efficient way forward. A balance of the Tree Fund would be evident as a sub account to the main fund. In the event of disestablishment/dissolution of WLCC, a Tree Fund could be opened and funds transferred to it. After discussion it was agreed that Mrs. Black should be invited to transfer the current balance into the WLCC main account and close the WLCC Tree Fund.

13) Reports of meetings attended: Scottish Borders Community Council Network Seminar. MH and CT attended and found the day very instructive and informative.

14) Village Centre: Cllr Calvert informed the meeting that the village Registrar Mr. Phil Todd had telephoned him this evening. Mr. Todd told Cllr Calvert that the Registrar General would like to control the entire Scottish Borders area as one district. This disturbed the CC and Cllr Calvert as it could mean that the village lost the Registrar Office. **MH** to write to Mr. Todd to inform him of the CC's concern over the planned centralisation and therefore closure of smaller, outlying offices. **Cllr Calvert** will also write to Mr. Todd to lend his support.

15) Miscellaneous Correspondence:

- i) Letter re provision of meals for the elderly of the Scottish Borders. NC attempting to arrange a meeting between the Social Work Dept. and West Linton W.R.V.S. The Social Work Dept. will give support and training to the elderly if required, the meals provided will also be for the full week as opposed to only 3 days as at the moment. A pilot for this scheme was in Berwickshire and reported to be a success.
- ii) Scottish Executive: Freedom of Information Act: Consultation Paper on Charging Fees. Noted.
- iii) 2004 AGM, Association of Scottish Community Councils. Noted.
- iv) Trading Standards Spring Newsletter. Noted.
- v) Proposed Bylaws prohibiting the Consumption of Alcohol in Public Places. Noted.
- vi) Street naming, Lamancha. Not WLCC area.
- vii) Scottish Power tree felling. GT had discussed this with SBC and has requested a note of the species and locations of replacements.
- viii) Calor Gas Scottish Community of the Year 2004 information pack. GT distributed copies of criteria for discussion at a later date.
- ix) Town Twining, France. Noted.
- x) Linton in Bloom. **DL** to send a cheque.
- xi) Public Consultation - Rights of Appeal in Planning - **MH** to request additional copies to allow WLCC to formulate a reply.
- xii) Pension Service: Combat Poverty for Today & Tomorrows Pensioners. Meeting in West

- Linton. **GT** to display note in CC box.
- xiii) Area Committee, SBLocal. Noted.
 - xiv) Development Trust Scotland, Community Regeneration. Noted.
 - xv) Warmburgh Domestic Energy Efficiency. Noted.
 - xvi) Southern Upland News. Noted.

16) AOCB: A presentation will be made to the West Linton Citizen of the Year later this month.

MH reported on advancements to the proposed tourist information map organised by The Tourist Group. One side would contain a map of 20"x28" at 1:2 000 scale, the reverse would be 22"x31" and contain a map of 1:25 000.

MH read a newsletter received from St Andrews Church on their plans to erect a new hall in the grounds of the Manse. The proposed building will have a large hall, which could be subdivided into smaller rooms.

A request had been received for the CC to support the installation of a Bus Stop at the roundabout on the A702. Unfortunately, the CC could not endorse this as it was thought not to be a safe place.

17) Date of Next meeting: Monday 10th May