



# West Linton Community Council

## **Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 10th May 2004 In the Village Centre at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Margaret Harrison, Graham Tulloch, Eric Small, Derek Lawson, David Small, Norman Erskine, Anne McKenzie, Colin Torrance.

**In attendance:** Cllr. Neil Calvert

1) **Apologies:** Michael Pryor.

2) **Police Matters:** Sgt Sedgwick reported that there were 6 reported crimes since the last meeting. A disturbance involving a number of youths at the Broomlee Centre accounted for more than half of these; a number of arrests were made on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April for various offences including vandalism, breach of the peace and theft of a motor vehicle. The remaining crimes were the theft of baggage from a vehicle outside Gifford House and a the theft of a bicycle from St. Mungo's Lea. These last two were, as yet, unsolved.

3) Craig Blackie, Area Manager of SBLocal was present at the meeting to give a brief talk on the initiative. The service has been running as a trial in Tweeddale for 3 months and has a further 15 months to complete.

SBLocal has been formed to deal with local issues and has a 3 man dedicated vehicle responding to calls from Community Councils, local Councillors or members of the public. To date the team has responded to a large number of fly-tipping issues and had removed a large amount of waste including tyres, fridge's and batteries.

Mr Blackie also has a small budget to assist with for small schemes identified by the squad or through Councillors; for example the additional steps and handrail on the footbridge by Chaple Brae were funded by SBLocal.

They are keen to get feedback from community where work is carried out, this will enable the service to be fine-tuned to better serve the community. Mr Blackie also said the squad was available to make sure areas were clear of rubbish before local events, for example the Whipman.

MH thanked Mr Blackie for his time and this insight to the initiative and was appreciative of the works carried out in the village and surrounding area to-date. A number of tasks requiring attention were brought to Mr Blackie's attention before he left the meeting.

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

5) **Matters Arising (not on the agenda):** None.

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

- i) Heatherlea, Lintonbank Drive: Demolition of garage and erect extension: Request plans from SBC.
- ii) A letter had been received commenting on the new build house on the Upper Green. SBC are aware of the comments raised in the letter and have written to the developer.

- 7) **Area Committee Meeting:** There were no West Linton matters at the meeting, however a form had been received requesting a decision on the voting powers of Community Councils at these meetings. WLCC voted that the status quo should remain i.e., that only SBC Councillors have the vote; CC members cannot vote under the Human Rights Act.
- 8) **Roads and Footpaths:** MH attended a site meeting with representatives from Amey & First Bus to discuss the temporary closure of the A702.  
 Due to the narrowing of the road at several points between St Mungo's Church and the West Water bridge the road must be closed between 17th and 30th May. MH had been assured that provision had been made for residents living within the area to retain access to their homes. There will also be action to prevent HGVs from using the village as a short cut. MH requested a "No HGV's" for Dryburn Brae.  
 In light of the works GT had again asked E Nicol about the HGV sign on the roundabout.  
 A Sedgwick requested the CC to apply pressure on Cala to complete the planting of the common areas as per the plans. The non-compliance has a detrimental knock-on effect as the company retained to maintain the area could no do so until it was completed to the satisfaction of the residents. As a result the area was not being maintained to an acceptable standard. Unfortunately this is not within the CC's remit, however Cllr Calvert will investigate.
- 9) **Public Transport Issues:** Mr Dickson had returned from a bus users AGM in York and reported on same. He also reported that the West Linton Bus Group may fold as the current Chair was about to step down and a replacement could not be found. Mr Dickson also reported that the National Bus Users federation will soon be rebranded as Bus Users UK.
- 10) **Greens and Swingpark:** A letter had been received requesting more bark for the toddler's playpark. MH to contact SBLocal.
- 11) **Environmental Issues:** SBC had placed tenders for the kerbside uplift of waste including paper, plastic & garden refuse, unfortunately glass was not included in the project.
- 12) **Publicity and Website:** GT reported on the hit rates and downloads from the site which is proving to very popular.
- 13) **Reports of meetings attended:**None
- 14) **Miscellaneous Correspondence:**
- ii) Meeting of development control focus group on 26 May with Mr B Frater. MH to attend
  - iii) Letter from Mr Baxter from thanking the CC for donating £30 towards tubs planted by The West Linton Horticultural Society.
  - iv) The CC sent a letter to Mr Todd giving their support against creating a single registration district for the Borders.
  - v) Elder Voice: The AGM will take place on 12 May in Hawick.
  - vi) Community Support Fund Flyer: Noted.
  - vii) Social Inclusion Partnership circular: Noted & sent on to Socialize.
  - viii) EAGA Partnership, Energy Awareness Day Seminar to be held on 28th May 2-4pm in Selkirk: Noted.
  - ix) Local Government in Scotland Act 2003:Community Planning: Noted.
- 15) **AOCB:** MH reported that the presentation to the "Calender Boy" ladies for West Linton citizen of the year went well and was enjoyed by all.  
 There was a discussion about the new church hall planned by the kirk. CT to set up a sub-committee

to investigate the needs and requirements of the village for a new hall for the community at large. The Committee will have a broad membership, representing various groups from the village and will report to the Community Council in September.

The remit of the Committee will be

To examine current hall usage in the village (including school halls and church halls). Number, type & size of groups.

Determine the desire for a hall and if required

To determine the size of the hall.

Ascertain the type of hall required, including number of halls or rooms to be included.

Finally identify possible locations and funding.

MH & NC to attend a Community Woodland meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> May.

**16) Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 14th June 2004