



West Linton Community Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 11th Oct 2004 In the Village Centre at 7.30pm

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

In attendance: Cllr. Neil Calvert

1) **Apologies:** Norman Erskine.

2) **Police Matters:** Sgt Sedgwick reported that there were 4 reported crimes since the last meeting of which three had been solved.
Windows smashed in a house in the centre of the village on the 28th and 29th September, a 13-year-old youth has been apprehended.
Cannabis plants were removed from a property in the village after a police search.
The windows of the gent's public toilet were smashed during the evening of 24th/25th September.
The trial period for the Wednesday opening of the police station had finished and is being evaluated and a decision on whether to continue with the half-day opening or not will be taken later.
Sgt. Sedgwick stated however that there is a police presence in the village at varying times every day and if required police will attend at any time if a member of the public requires.
A trial of alternative points-of-contact to augment police activities in rural areas will soon be piloted by L&B in Chirnside. This follows a successful trial by Fife Constabulary and a similar scheme in England.

Sgt. Sedgwick has taken up a post at L&B Headquarters in Edinburgh for three years, however he has been asked by the area commander to remain as the liaison between the police and the Community Council. The CC expressed their appreciation that he had agreed to continue to do so.

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

4) **Matters Arising (not on the agenda):** SBC protective services had been contacted about the rat sightings on Main Street, however they stated that it is not in their remit but the responsibility of the owners of the premises to arrange extermination. No further sightings have been reported and it was concluded that this is not a major problem.

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

- i) Former Engine Shed, Grey Tiles, Station Rd (Downie): Change of use, alteration & extension to form dwelling house & garage: **Support in general.** Concern regarding the elevation extension, which necessitates the removal of the garage of Grey Tiles. Alternative parking/garage space provision for Grey Tiles must be shown in order to comply with policy stated in the plan.
- ii) Land to North East of Sewage works. Bogsbank Rd (Downie): Erection of dwelling house & garage: **Unanimous opposition.** Proposal contrary to policy H6 SBSP and Policy 8 of the Tweeddale Local Plan (extant) re Housing in the Countryside.
- iii) The Berries, Croft Rd (Kopsch): Installation of roof lights: **Supported.**

- 6) **Other planning related issues:** Replacement Windows Ettrick, Main Street: Refused by SBC as contrary to policies 43& 44 of Tweeddale Local Plan and the revised replacement windows policy 2000. Windows will have detrimental impact upon prime frontage within WL conservation area.

Additional meeting of CC required on 18th Oct to discuss the Borders Local Plan and submit response to the consultation.

- 7) **Area Committee Meeting:** There were no West Linton plans for discussion.

To comply with the Human Rights Act, SBC have implemented a policy whereby the CC representatives on the Committee may no longer speak on planning applications in their area. This is very much regretted by all CC representatives involved.

Update on dog fouling: in the Borders 5 complaints have been investigated and verbal warnings issued to offenders. No formal notices had been issued but monitoring of priority areas, which members have indicated, will begin. WL areas include the Lower Green and path linking Mowbray Slap and Broomlee Cres. The Technical Services Dept will continue to monitor current arrangements for issuing notices and advise members as appropriate.

SBC Transport Dept. stated that there are no funds available to finance a pavement from Broomlee Camp to connect with the existing pavement from the village. Young people residing at the camp frequently use this route when visiting the village. **NC** to write letter to G Edger for SBC to support proposal in interest of road safety.

- 8) **Environmental issues:** Broken Lights reported: No 4 Lower green and nos. 26, 27 and 28 on The Loan. **MH** to report to council.

Complaints by members of the public regarding the condition of the road around the Village Centre were again received. Unfortunately, this road is private and as such SBC have no jurisdiction over it and will not fill-in potholes or weed treat the verges.

Resident had complained about untidiness around the registry office. **GJT** to speak to Registrar as it is their responsibility.

White lines were not repainted after road works in the village in the summer; areas missed include Cameron Square and Main Street at the Linton Hotel. This matter has already been reported and they will be reinstated.

A manhole cover outside Manor Garage is proud of the footpath and represents a trip-hazard, ES has reported several times an exposed fire hydrant along A702 and the pavement outside the Co-op has dangerously slumped after work carried out there. **MH & NC to write to E Nicol.**

Replacement litter bins: **NC** to request larger litter bin at the northbound bus stop, Lower Green and outside the newsagents and requests for additional and bigger dog bins to be sited around village.

NC informed the meeting of SBC's intent to introduce a 20mph area covering the area around the school. It will begin partway along the football pitch and end at the junction with Main Street; up all of School Brae and run the entire length of Linton Bank Drive. This will compliment the speed restrictions planned for the A702 by the Scottish Executive.

9) **Public Transport Issues:** CT to place bus timetables at bus stops.

10) **Reports of meetings attended:** None

11) **Miscellaneous Correspondence:**

- i) Letter from Mr Bond: Noted, **MH** to reply.
- ii) Tweeddale Community Safety Panel: Request for member of CC to join panel: **Noted**
- iii) Scrutiny Panel: Request for ideas from CCs: **Noted**
- iv) Local Government Boundary Commission, Notification of consultation with CCs.: **Noted**
- v) Scottish Water Sustainability Report 2002/03 : **Noted**
- vi) Social Inclusion Partnership Annual report: **Noted** & copy forwarded to Socialize.
- vii) Rural Scotland Subscription form: Subscribe for a further year. DL to send a cheque for £15
- viii) North Tweeddale Paths meeting agenda. **Noted.**

12) **AOCB:** CC to donate £50 towards Socialize Firework Display.

Kevin Houston to visit on 27 October to discuss additional Christmas Lights. **CC would like to hear from anyone willing to help with Christmas light Installation.**

13) **Date of Next Meeting and AGM:** Monday 22nd Nov 2004