



West Linton Community Council

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Monday 22nd
Nov 2004**

In the Village Centre at 7.30pm

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

Apologies: Mike Pryor, Norman Erskine, Cllr. Neil Calvert.

Absent: Colin Torrance.

The Chair announced the death of Dr John Halcrow: Dr Halcrow had been a well-liked and respected member of the community. He is survived by his wife and 3 daughters and the thoughts of the Community Council are with them at this time.

Chairmans Report: MH referred to the main happenings in the year and the ongoing concerns. Thanks were given to the Community Council members for their support

Treasurers Report: Derek Lawson issued all members with a copy of the accounts, which had been checked and signed by Cllr. Neil Calvert.

The main expense of the year was the Christmas lights. Once again no personal expenses had been claimed and Mr Lawson urged members who had incurred costs in the course of the year to submit these to him.

In accordance with instruction from the meeting of last year the Christmas tree light account had been closed and the monies deposited into the general account. Income & expenditure for this purpose would continue to be itemised separately, in effect it is an account-within-an-account.

The Betty Aikman Trust

Mrs S Black gave a record of the accounts for the Trust. No awards have been made for this year yet but 4 are pending. Mrs Black is looking to move the accounts to one of a higher interest as the present account attracted a low interest rate and as this is the main method of increasing the fund it is vital to the maintenance of the Fund that as high an interest level as possible is found.

The Office Bearers for 2004-05 were elected and are:

Chair	Mrs Mgt Harrison
Vice Chair	Mr Eric Small
Treasurer	Mr Derek Lawson
Secretary	Mr Graham Tulloch
Min. Secretary	Mrs Anne McKenzie

- 1) **Apologies:** Mike Pryor, Norman Erskine, Cllr. Neil Calvert.
- 2) **Police Matters:** Sgt Sedgwick reported on Operation Goodwill (the initiative to man the village police station for 2 hours-per-day, twice-a-week): On average 2 people/week visited the police station over the trial period, therefore the police feel there is no justification in keeping the scheme running. This will be reviewed again in the spring but the operation will lapse over the winter.

Crimes reported for the month: 6th Nov: Car vandalism, offender traced and charged.
15th Nov: Deanfoot Rd., a car was damaged in driveway: ongoing enquiries should bring to this to a successful conclusion.

GT reported anecdotal reporting of vandalism to Graham Institute windows, which had been smashed. AS responded by saying that all incidents have to be reported to the police at all times to ensure that all such crimes are included in police statistics: this will allow correct deployment of officers to counter any rise in anti-social behaviour.

Underage drinking is an increasing problem in the village and elsewhere and resources will be allocated to the worst areas (see comment above).

GT read a letter from the Deputy Chief Constable to say that minor crime can now be reported on the internet at www.lbp.police.uk

- 3) **Minutes of Previous Meeting:** These were corrected and approved; MH signed a copy for the record.
- 4) **Matters Arising (not on the agenda):** The updated plan for the new bridge was referred to: The community will be informed of any changes accepted by the planning and funding authorities as they were finalised.

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

- i) Deanfoot Rd (Owens): Outline planning permission to erect a dwelling house **Acceptable with a section 75**. There was concern over conditions that may have been placed on proposed access road in the past.
- iii) 14 Broomlee Rd (McKenzie): Erection of short wave radio mast: **Concern** about the visual impact and possible disruption of TV reception of neighbours.
- iv) Ruaig, Croft Rd (Exton): Replacement of windows. **Supported**.
- vi) North Slipperfield Farm (MAP Chartered Architects Ltd.): Development: Upgrading of the original farm buildings (houses 2 & 3 and farmhouse) was **supported**. However there was **concern** over the construction of a new build and the development of the redundant building on the opposite side of the road to form a 2-storey building. It was felt that the development could cause problems with access and conflict with farming operations.
- viii) Medwyn RD (Muir): Change of slate to red pantiles: **Supported**.
- ix) Western Green The Loan: Extension: **Supported**.

Other planning related issues: Erection of new house, Upper Green: MH had received a letter on 9th Nov. **noted**. There are still problems with the house and surrounds: amongst other things the posts delineating an area in front of the house need to be removed and access

to the house needs to be returfed with only a footpath to be laid to gravel.

- 6) Area Committee Meeting:** There were no West Linton plans for discussion. There was a report by SB Local. Money is available to construct a pavement from end of the village to Broomlee Camp. There was also a request that CC's contact SBLocal (SBL) with other, small, projects they could possibly attend to. DS suggested they could repair/replace the gates to the cemetery. Following a letter from a member of the public, **MH** contacted SBL about the state of Rambling Tam to request that shrubbery is cut back here and at the junction of A702/Chapel Brae to improve visibility at this junction. There was also a report on dog fouling: 5 wardens will be assigned to police this and issue fines as necessary. To date 14 official complaints have been received and warnings given to owners, the wardens patrol known problem areas and members of the public are requested to contact the wardens if they know of persistent offenders. More money will be provided for dog bins. There was also a presentation by a member of the Scrutiny committee and suggestions for areas to be examined invited.
- 7) Roads and Footpaths:** Gifford Place road sign has been replaced with an incorrect village although this had been removed we are still waiting for it to be replaced with the correct one. Fergusson View: only one sign had been replaced. **MH** to request a second. ES commented on the condition of the entrance to Gifford Place. As with other private roads in the village the council would not maintain it. ES reported that the fire hydrant that had been tarmaced over on the A702 had been freed. White lines need to be put opposite the Bookshop and outside the Linton Hotel. 2 new bins have been put at the memorial and Manor garage bus-stop. GT had spoken to registrar about weeds around the village centre. The area is normally maintained by SBC and he will contact them to attend to this. **MH** also spoke to SBL on this matter.
- 8) Environmental issues: none**
- 9) Public Transport Issues:** Mr M Dickson reported there had been complaints about the state of the A702 bus shelter and that buses were not stopping at designated stops in the village, **MH** to discuss this with SBC, Mr John Dellow.
- 10) Reports of meetings attended:** DS attended a community safety panel in Peebles where underage drinking was discussed. A drink driving campaign is about to start in the area.
- 11) Christmas Lights:** **MH** expressed thanks to the committee members and members of the public who helped with the installation of the lights on Sat 20th Nov. DL had ordered 200 replacement bulbs and 2x15 meter strips for the Co-op. Lights still to go on tree at St Andrews Church and on the Lower Green.
- 12) Miscellaneous Correspondence:**
- i) Tweed Matters: **Noted**
 - ii) Letter from Mr Bond: **MH** to reply.

- iii) L&B Police Board: Offering tours of FCC at Loanhead. They are also looking for responsible trustworthy to check on people in custody.
- iv) SNH: Borders Environmental Challenge: **Noted**.
- v) Letter of resignation from Mr Norrie Erskine: MH sad to accept Mr Erskine's letter however it was his intention to move out of the area and could not stay on the Community Council. **MH** will arrange for a notice for replacement to be put in the *Peeblesshire*.

13) **AOCB:** Nominations for citizen of the year were called for.

GT noted that the Community Emergency was last reviewed in 2000 and suggested it should be updated. He would type it up and check the names and telephone numbers on the existing plan.

14) **Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 10th Jan 2005