



West Linton Community Council

Draft Minute of Meeting held on Monday 14th Aug 2006 In the Village Centre at 7.30pm

Present: David Suckling, Margaret Harrison, Eric Small, David Small, Graham Tulloch, John Mackie, Robert Bond

In attendance: Councillor Neil Calvert.

1. Introduction: Mr Suckling introduced himself and congratulated the successful candidates elected to the WLCC. He welcomed Cllr Calvert and the members of the public in attendance. He suggested the CC may wish to co-opt a 9th member to take the CC to full strength.

He further suggested the new members, and indeed, those reelected may wish to acquire the booklet published by SBC on the role of Community Councils. Mr Suckling reminded members they were elected to represent the community, not themselves.

2. Apologies: - Tommy Davidson & Anne McKenzie

3. Police Matters:

Sgt Bruce was accompanied by Sgt R. Latto. The police report for August 2006 (attached at the end of this minute) was read out by Sergeant Bruce. The report highlighted the drugs seizure within the West Linton confines and the arrest of 6 males at Leadburn on attempted theft charges.

Sgt, Latto reassured the CC that this was not a West Linton issue as the drugs seized were intended for the Edinburgh market.

Sgt. Latto informed the CC of the Police traffic initiative on the A702 recently. This operation brought together officers from a number of units. 600 vehicles were stopped and a number of drugs, motoring offences and thefts were discovered. He informed the CC that the A701 and A702 would be subject to this type of operation in the future.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting: MH signed a copy of the July minute and a corrected copy of the June minute for the record.

5. Election of Office Bearers:

Chairman –	Mgt Harrison:	Proposed by G Tulloch	Seconded by E Small
Vice Chairman –	Eric Small:	Proposed by D Small	Seconded by M Harrison
Secretary –	Graham Tulloch:	Proposed by M Harrison	Seconded by D Small
Minute Secretary –	Tommy Davidson:	Proposed by G Tulloch	Seconded by E Small
Treasurer –	Derek Lawson:	Proposed by E Small	Seconded by D Small

Mr Suckling handed the chair to the newly elected Chairman of the new Community Council, Margaret Harrison. Mrs Harrison thanked Mr Suckling for standing in for the injured Returning Officer, Mrs King.

- 6. Matters Arising (not on the Agenda):** MH contacted Land Registers re ownership of the land at the corner of Main Street/A702. It is owned by Enterprise Inns and she has contacted SBC to progress the repair.
Cllr Calvert will follow up a barrier at Deanfoot Road/Dryburn Brae.
The requested 30mph and 20mph extensions on Medwyn Road and Croft Road will not happen as there is too much legislation.
GT has contacted SBC re white lines at chemist & public toilets. He will check on progress & request a sign to the toilet on Main Street.

7. Planning Issues (WLCC Area):

Note: Plans may now be viewed on the Scottish Borders Council web site at:

http://eplanning.scotborders.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx

a) Planning Applications

- i. [06/01470/FUL](#): Mr and Mrs Howell, White Moss West Linton. Extension to dwellinghouse. **Support.**
- ii. [06/01396/FUL](#): Mr Andrew Downie, Greytiles, Station Road, West Linton: Erection of garage. **Support.**
- iii. [06/01537/FUL](#): Eildon Housing Association: Land north of St Mungo's Lea, West Linton. Erection of 6 dwellinghouses. **Support.** Discussion followed on selection process of Eildon Housing Assoc. It was known that West Linton residents had been on the housing list for many years but had not been able to secure a house in the village although others from outwith the area had. **GT** to request Eldon's housing policy and an assurance that local families will be given priority.

b) Planning Related Issues (miscellaneous)

- i. Land next to Struan: The new application had been approved by the Area Committee although there was no difference in that and the one refused the pervious month. MH to write to SBC to complain and voice the CC's anger & frustration at this decision. The property is out of keeping with its surroundings, is on the edge of a conservation area and is visible from the entrance to the village on two routes.
- ii. New Church Hall: SBC Technical Services recommended refusal as there was insufficient parking (current rules suggest 23 spaces be provided) and the site lines were not correct. There was a site visit on 11th August and we await the decision. Jeremy Purves MP is to hold a meeting between the various parties to facilitate discussion.

c) Planning Related Issues (meetings)

- i Future visit by Reporter to land north of Cosaig, Dolphinton, 15 August 2006.

8. Area Committee Meeting: Church Hall & Struan already discussed.

9. Roads & Footpaths:

- i. Fire hydrant covers on A702 adjacent to Cottage Farm have not been attended to and are deteriorating – **GT** to contact AMEY.
- ii. Condition of verges on A702 and at the roundabout in particular – **GT** to contact AMEY.
- iii. New bridge – Cllr Calvert informed the CC that the sub committee from the previous CC had met and completed application forms for various funding opportunities. He suggested the same committee meet again to finalise the applications and plans. A letter from Mr Torrance will be read then.
- iv. Upper Green: A correction to the minutes was requested by a member of the

public. The turf had not, as previously reported, been laid directly on to hard core. This had in fact been removed and top soil put down. The chain across the track had been requested to allow the turf to knit. SBC had granted this for a period of three months.

- v. River bank on Station Road: The problem previously reported was not in fact a faulty gabion but river bank erosion. Boulders were protruding in a dangerous condition and could fall resulting in damage to the ground above and possibly injury to a passer by. **Cllr Calvert** to report to SBC.
- vi. Holes in road on Croft Road & Mowbrays Slap due to renovation of Mulberry Cottage. **MH** to request builder to correct.

10. Public Transport Issues: Mr Dickson reported the driver of the express service 100 (Biggar to Edinburgh) saying it is to stop going through Penicuik in the morning.

Mr Dickson will also be covering a different area in future and therefore will not be able to attend these meetings as often as he has.

11. Environmental Issues: MH, accompanied by John Bracken of the Horticultural Soc. and John Irvine of Linton in Bloom had taken the judge of the Floral Gateway and Jim Hogg of SBC around the village. The judge was very complimentary of the village, in particular the school with its window boxes. MH thought the village was looking very tidy and colourful and congratulations should go to the Horticultural Soc., Linton in Bloom and residents who work hard to maintain their gardens.

Results and prizes will be awarded in Newtown on 29th August.

12. Meetings Attended: None

13. Miscellaneous Correspondence:

- i. SB Community Councils' Network Newsletter & Seminar information
- ii. Email from Regional Manager Digital UK
- iii. Renewal Website maintenance
- iv. FBU Newsletter/Consultation
- v. Friends of the Pentlands
- vi. SBC National Standards for Community Engagement.
- vii. SBC Community Plan 2006-2016

14. AOCB

- i. Betty Aikman Educational Fund – Following the CC election, new members were required to manage the Fund. GT will distribute posters around the village & send some to the high school.
- ii. Alice Hamilton Trust also requires additional Trustees following the election.
- iii. Mr Bond suggested a community fund be set up to build Community Centre. This was discussed but it was thought the initial and running costs of a centre of the size required for the village and design would be prohibitive.

15. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 11th September 2006 at 7:30pm in the Village Centre

POLICE REPORT

WEST LINTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

August 2006

Since the last Community Council meeting, a total of 20 calls have been received regarding incidents in the West Linton area.

This is broken down as follows –

8 x Alarm activations (all false)

4 x reports of other road traffic related problems (animals on the road etc)

3 x miscellaneous calls for police assistance

3 x Reported crimes

1 x road traffic accident

1 x reports of anti social behaviour

In the early hours of 28/07/2006, a litter bin was destroyed by fire in Lower Green, West Linton. Police enquiries are continuing.

Between 24/07/2006 & 09/08/2006 a Mercedes motorcar was damaged by being scratched whilst parked in Main Street, West Linton.

Police Enquiries area continuing.

On 02/08/2006, following a routine stop check of a vehicle in West Linton by traffic officers, a male was arrested after being found in possession of approx £38,000 worth of crack cocaine.

In the early hours of 17/07/2006 6 males from the Edinburgh area attended at a farm near Leadburn with the intention of committing theft.

These males made off prior to police arrival, but following a search of the area involving the police dog handler, they were traced and arrested.

All six have been reported for various offences.