



# West Linton Community Council

## **Draft Minute of Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2006 In the Village Centre at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Margaret Harrison, Eric Small, Graham Tulloch, Tommy Davidson, Anne McKenzie, David Small, John Mackie, Robert Bond

**In attendance:** Councillor Neil Calvert.

**1. Apologies:** None

**2. Police Matters:**

The police report for June 2006 (attached at the end of this minute) was read out by GT: Sergeant Bruce sent his apologies as he was on duty elsewhere.

It was pointed out by RB that the areas Police Inspector visited West Linton police station on 6<sup>th</sup> September but no prior notification of the visit had been issued. RB further stated that the next planned visit by the Inspector is Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October between 12noon & 4pm

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Item 6 is to be amended to read that 30mph on Medwyn Rd is to be extended to the junction with the golf course turn-off but not as far as the junction with the Lyndale turn-off. Subject to this amendment the minutes are to be signed-off at the next meeting.

**4. Matters Arising (not on the Agenda):** Referring to item 7(a)(iii) of the previous minutes GT stated that Eildon Housing Association operated to a Scottish Borders-wide, points-based housing allocation policy. This explained how houses are allocated to people from outwith the West Linton area.

**5. Community Response Defibrillator** – Discussion with Mr Bryan Finlay (Heartstart UK). Mr Finlay explained that the Scottish Ambulance Service are keen to have groups in areas that are a distance from a hospital. The chance of survival decreases by 10% every minute a casualty is not treated. 8 minutes would be the target response time to enable effective treatment of a casualty although the Penicuik group have a 4-minute limit. He estimated it would take approximately 40 minutes for an ambulance to reach West Linton; therefore the potential to save lives is obvious.

Bryan explained a Community First Responder would be contacted by the Emergency Services control centre after an Ambulance has been sent to a heart attack/chest pain/unconscious emergency call.

The First Responder would likely be the first person to arrive and would be trained on vital life saving skills.

It was thought at least 8 people would be required to successfully man the group, however if more came forward this would reduce the commitment required by individuals.

All volunteers will be trained and certified in vital life saving techniques and would be cleared by Disclosure Scotland.



An open meeting has been organised for Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 7:30pm in the Graham Institute to provide information and seek volunteer to train as First Responders.

Bryan envisaged £4,000 would be required to set-up a group as there are additional expenses to cover the cost of personal equipment as well as the defibrillator (costing approximately £2200).

Fund raising for a Defibrillator is going well, a total of £1,470 has been raised to-date and the fund raisers (Heather Robertson & Lynda Pettitt) stated that the British Heart Foundation have indicated that they will match funding.

## 6. Planning Issues (WLCC Area): (taken out of order)

**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](http://eplanning.scotborders.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx)

### a) Planning Applications

- i. [06/01693/FUL](#): Horse Shoe Cottage, Main Street, West Linton. Installation of rooflight - **Support**
- ii. [06/01691/FUL](#): Cottage and Shed north of farmhouse, Ingraston Farm, West Linton. Change of use of dwellinghouse to bed and breakfast accommodation and change of use of agricultural shed to garage/games room/stables and kennels – **Support**
- iii. [06/01557/OUT](#): Land north east of farmhouse North Slipperfield. Erection of dwellinghouse – The application is over-development. There are safety concerns with the site being so close to the golf course and the access road is unsuitable for the increased traffic. Extra traffic would impede golfing and walking activities. **The CC agreed not to support this application**
- iv. [06/01556/OUT](#): Land north east of farmhouse North Slipperfield. Erection of farmhouse – The application is over-development, there is an adjacent derelict farmhouse. The access road through the golf course is not suitable for increased traffic. Extra traffic would impede golfing and walking activities. These individual applications on the same site should be referred to Committee. **The CC agreed not to support this application**

### b) Planning Related Issues (miscellaneous)

- i. New Church Centre - Call for Open Meeting to discuss planning application  
John Barrie, representing villagers concerned with aspects of the proposed New Church Centre, tabled a petition signed by over 100 people asking for the Community Council to organise and chair an open meeting.  
The purpose of the open meeting being to provide information on the proposed New Church Centre and to allow the Community Council to gauge village feeling on the planning application. It was agreed that an open meeting be arranged for Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 8pm in the Graham Institute.  
The Community Council will invite the Church to send representatives and John Barrie and Glenda Barton will provide opening comments from concerned villagers.
- ii. Call for meeting with representatives from St Andrews Church Kirk Session to discuss The Village Nursery.  
TD stated that many users of the Village Nursery and others are concerned that the proposed sale of the old church hall may lead to closure of the Nursery. It was



agreed that the Community Council (**MH**) would invite St Andrews Church, Kirk Session to send representatives to a closed meeting with the Community Council at 7pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October in the Village Centre. The purpose of this meeting is to allow the representatives from St Andrews Church to be made aware of villagers concerns on the potential loss of the Nursery and to seek a way that allows both the sale of the building and the continuation of the Village Nursery.

- iii. Dolphinton (4 new properties) – The Reporter has given approval on condition that the developer can agree with the local Council on the details in Planning Section 75 (possibly contribution required to be provided by the developer for schooling and low cost housing).

**c) Planning Related Issues (meetings)**

None

**7. Area Committee Meeting:** No area committee meeting held in August.

**8. Roads & Footpaths:**

- i Cllr Calvert has prepared an application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding of the proposed footpath on the bowling green side of the new bridge. Cllr Calvert explained the application had been agreed at the sub-committee meeting and had been checked by professionals to ensure the wording and explanations of how the footpaths would enhance heritage were sufficiently clear in order that delays would be kept to a minimum and that we had a better chance of success with the application. It was agreed that **Cllr Calvert** would submit the funding application on behalf of the Community Council.
- ii Riverbank deterioration problem had been reported to SBC and a site visit had taken place. Unfortunately due to vegetation and imprecise location it had not been possible to survey the problem. **A return visit would be timetabled.**
- iii Cllr Calvert stated the proposed barrier at Deanfoot Rd may not be erected in financial year 2006/07.
- iv Concerns about the state of the centre of the A702 roundabout are to be raised with AMEY when they attend the next Area Planning Committee meeting.
- v Manhole covers on A702 at Cottage Farm deteriorating despite several warnings to AMEY of the problem.
- vi West Linton's Coat of Arms transfer logo is to be put on the village street name signposts by SBC
- vii It has been confirmed that the partially demolished wall on the A702 near the Gordon Arms is owned by Enterprise Inns.
- viii Cllr Calvert stated work on the proposed footpath on the Lower Green side of the new bridge is to commence 15<sup>th</sup> September 2006.
- ix Path at top of Lower Green – **GT** to request that Whipman Committee arrange for sand laid on top of the path to be removed.
- x SBC are to erect 3 new metal bollards to keep vehicles away from some existing buildings near Raemartin Sq.
- xi Phase 1 of the Lower green footpaths will commence on 12<sup>th</sup> Sept.
- xii Hedge around the telephone exchange encroaching over pavement. SBC to inform BT.

**9. Public Transport Issues:** SBC not producing bus timetables.



**10. Environmental Issues:** At a previous meeting TD stated that several parents had raised concerns over children falling and hurting themselves on the large tar area within the play park. The CC had asked Cllr Calvert to arrange for SBC to breakout the tar and replace with turf. Cllr Calvert stated the as the surface is not uneven SBC are not willing to replace with turf. TD stated this was a Health and Safety issue and should be pursued. After discussion **GT** agreed to contact SBC to ask that they cover the large tar surface with a rubber granular material similar to that used at a playpark in Biggar.

The public toilets are in a very dirty condition – **MH** to raise this with SBC Technical Services

**11. Meetings Attended:** AMcK attended a meeting on the New Church Centre facilitated by MSP Jeremy Purvis. This meeting was attended by representatives from the Church, the Nursery, residents, the Fire Service and the Community Council. The meeting was very constructive, actions included:

- **Cllr Calvert** to pursue obtaining an independent valuation of the Village Nursery from SBC's District Valuer
- Church's Architect to meet with village representatives to discuss possible amendments to the planning application plans
- MSP Jeremy Purvis to facilitate a follow-up meeting between above parties

John Bracken & John Irvine attended Scottish Borders gateway Competition award ceremony on behalf of WLCC. West Linton came second to Melrose in our category.

**12. Miscellaneous Correspondence:**

- i. SBC - Training for CC's
- ii. Energy Saving Trust course
- iii. McMillan Trust
- iv. Elder Voice
- v. Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland
- vi. Traditional boundaries in the Borders – protect the management of hedgerows.

**13. AOCB. None**

**14. Date of Next Meeting:** Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2006 at 7:30pm in the Village Centre



**POLICE REPORT**

**WEST LINTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**September 2006**

Since the last Community Council meeting, a total of 23 calls have been received regarding incidents in the West Linton area.

This is broken down as follows –

7 x Alarm activations (all false)

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

5 x miscellaneous calls for police assistance

1 x road traffic accident

There have been no reported crimes during the last month since the last Community Council meeting.

In the early hours of 5<sup>th</sup> September 2006, a male was arrested on the A702 near West Linton after providing a positive roadside breath test.

In recent weeks officers from the Peebles area have been carrying out various road checks in relation to speed detection at locations within the 30 mph limit on the A702. During these checks a number of vehicles have been stopped, with the highest recorded speed being 43 mph.