



West Linton Community Council

Draft Minute of Meeting held on Monday 8th January 2007 In the Village Centre at 7.30pm

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

In attendance: Councillor Neil Calvert.

1. Apologies: - None

2. Police Matters: No Police were present but a report had been submitted which GT read out. A copy is appended to these minutes.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting: These were approved and signed by MH

4. Matters Arising (not on the Agenda): Blythbank Action Group (BBAG) had approached the CC, through GT, to enquire if we would be interested in chairing a public meeting to discuss the planning application submitted by Glengrath Farms Ltd. GT had agreed on behalf of the WLCC and contacted Lamanch, Newlands & Kirkcud Community Council to seek their interest. It was agreed to co-host a meeting with LNKCC on 22nd January 2007 in the Graham Institute and invite both Blythbank Action Group (BBAG) and Glengrath Farms Ltd to present their respective positions. GT to contact all parties & book the Graham Institute.

5. 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. [06/02454/FUL](#): Mrs E. King, 6 Fergusson View, West Linton, EH46 7DJ.
Extension to dwellinghouse – **Support**

b) **Planning Related Issues: 06/00983/FUL New Church Centre: Refused:**

Tweeddale Local Plan – Contrary to Policy 87 & 18

Scottish Borders Structure Plan 2001-11

Contrary to Policy I11 & N20 Finalised Scottish Borders Local Plan 2005 -

Contrary to Policy Inf3, Inf4, G1 & G7.

In Summary the New Church Centre planning application was refused as it would represent overdevelopment of the site, is not of an appropriate scale, massing form and design and would have had an adverse impact on its surroundings. Adequate access and parking requirements could not be met.

TD reminded the CC that a request from the Kirk Session to meet again had been raised at the meeting in December. MH would offer the Kirk Session the opportunity to meet the CC if they wished



At this point in the meeting Colin Torrance (a former CC member) requested to address the CC. Colin presented a preliminary report of the West Linton Community Centre Steering Group.

It was agreed that the first stage needed in relation to a possible Community Centre was a needs analysis. Colin outlined that funding for such an exercise maybe available from Scottish Communities Action Research Fund (SCARF). SCARF comes under the auspices of the Scottish Communities Development Centre (SCDC).

It was agreed that the Community Council and the current 5 members of the Steering Group (Colin & Margaret Torrance, Christopher Atkinson, Alan Cameron & John Barrie) would meet on 5th February at 7:30pm in the Village Centre.

The purpose of this meeting would be to agree the formation/membership (including co-opted members) of a WLCC/Community Centre Sub-Committee and complete the relevant forms to apply to SCARF for funding towards a Needs Analysis.

6. Area Committee Meeting:

- i. As reported above the decision on the Church Centre planning application was given.
- ii. Cllr Calvert had asked for monies to be transferred from an under spending footpath repair budget line to help fund a new piece of equipment for the play park (i.e. replace the old unhygienic sandpit). However, the other Councillors differed a decision until they received details on the under spend on the budget.
A petition signed by 10 parents was tabled at the WLCC meeting requesting that:
 - * the old sandpit be taken away as it is a health hazard and replaced with a two-way see-saw.
 - * the large tar area to be removed and replaced with a soft material to stop toddlers repeatedly hurting their knees on the tar surface. *(Note: This last had been requested by the CC several times in the past and rejected by SBC as it is not deemed dangerous - GT)*

7. Roads & Footpaths:

- i Wall at junction Main Street and A702 nr Gordon Arms – Licensee of the Hotel had advised TD that the owners had received quotations for undertaking the repair work and it was expected that it would commence within 2 weeks.
- ii Footpaths: Lower & Upper Greens – It was noted that these had been surfaced for the first time with tar macadam. This had taken place without the CC's knowledge or request that such should be undertaken.
- iii Trench across Main Street at old Manor Garage – SBC had undertaken temporary repairs but utility company to be requested to complete the permanent reinstatement.
- iv Proposed path on tennis court side of new bridge - Cllr Calvert stated that a further revision of the funding application (omitting the bridal path) had been prepared and submitted and that a pre-planning application meeting with the area planning officer to discuss the path was scheduled for 10am on 12th January 2007.
- v Traffic congestion – Yellow Lines: TD stated that at the meeting with the SBC Roads official (David Sharp) had taken place on 20th November, 2006. It was



agreed that SBC would prepare an outline plan showing possible locations for double yellow lines and other road markings (eg loading box outside the Co-op). However despite several calls to SBC the outline plan has still not been received. TD asked **Cllr Calvert** to progress the preparation and delivery of the said plan.

- vi Traffic congestion: DS indicated that an ambulance had had trouble getting through the village one evening due to inconsiderate parking. **GT** would contact the Ambulance Service for details.
- vii New Bridge – It was acknowledged that the surface was slippery. **MH** to contact SBLocal to arrange for a suitable anti-slip material to be applied to the bridge.

8. Public Transport Issues: GT passed on comments from pupils at Peebles High School on the reliability of the school buses. One in particular had broken down en route to school one day and two days later a replacement had to be called to bring the students back to West Linton. There is concern that the buses used to transport the children to and from Peebles are not being maintained to a high enough standard. Cllr Calvert said that passengers should report any such problems by completing the form available at the school office. These are forwarded to SBC and action will be taken if required.

9. Environmental Issues:

- i Health hazard at play park sandpit
- ii War Memorial – TD stated that he had been approached by David Close (Royal British Legion Standard Bearer) who complained about the poor condition of the War Memorial. The Memorial requires the stonework to be cleaned of vegetation (moss etc), the joints to be re-pointed and the dwarf wall surrounding the garden to be repaired. DS reminded the Council he had raised this very same issue around one year ago, but still nothing had been done. **Cllr Calvert** would chase SBC Parks Section.
- iii Lay-by at Dolphinton - GT read a letter he had received from Black Mount Community Council asking for WLCC assistance in trying to improve the environment in the area of the lay-by at Dolphinton on the A702. Cllr Calvert said that the licence to operate the mobile café normally includes disposal of litter and that he would ask Phil Daley of SBC to check that this part of the licence agreement was being adhered to and was not different to other such facilities in other parts of the Borders.
TD stated that as he knew the lady who operated the mobile café he would raise the matter about collection of café generated litter the next time he passed the lay-by.

10. Christmas Lights / Tree: It was agreed that David's little Christmas tree appeared to look bigger after the lights were positioned on the tree. **MH** to send a letter of thank you on behalf of the Community Council to the two locals that erected the tree. Through this Minute thanks also extended from the Community Council to Derek Lawson, Michael Prior and the Rotary Club for their assistance in putting up and taking down the light in the village. **DS** agreed to set-up and lead a sub-committee to manage obtaining new light strings and checking existing strings for next year's display.

11. Meetings Attended: None



12. Miscellaneous Correspondence:

- i. Community Council Scheme Review – SBC is seeking a view on how Community Council's should interact with the new multi-member wards. It was agreed this should be discussed after the 3rd May 2007 Council elections.
- ii. SBC Affordable Housing Policy Consultation – It was agreed that SBC's proposal that Developers be required to provide 30% of affordable housing within their proposed developments was reasonable. The policy indicates that there are 6 different categories that can be considered as affordable housing. **GT** to scan and email out the said consultation document.
- iii. Community Council Action Planning Training – Scheduled for 7-9pm on 21st February 2007 at Newtown St Boswells. Attendees to be agreed at our next meeting. Cllr Calvert indicated that the purpose of Community Council Action Planning was that SBC financial budgets in future should be built-up from the bottom-up rather than the current top-down approach (ie Community Council Action Plans should feed into Sectional/Departmental Business Plans which in turn should be used to prepare SBC Corporate Plan).

13. AOCB:

- i. Additional Member – **MH** had placed an advert in the Peeblesshire News and had received one written response from Kenny Love of Dryburn Park, West Linton. Mr Love indicated that he and his family had lived in the village for approximately 2 years and he was keen to become more involved in Community affairs. It was agreed that Mr Love should be co-opted onto the Community Council and that **MH** would write inviting Mr Love to formally join the CC at the February meeting.
- ii. Purchase of Laptop and Projector to facilitate paperless downloading of planning application plans from SBC's web site and paperless presentation of said plans at Community Council meetings. **TD** has obtained application forms to seek funding from 'Awards for All' and early indication is that funding will be provided to allow the Community Council to purchase the equipment.
- iii. Community First Responders: **GT** informed the CC that the West Linton Community First Responders would be officially launched on Saturday 3rd February with a coffee morning at which Jeremy Purvis would present Responders with their certificates of competence. The Group would start functioning on Monday 5th February.

14. Date of Next Meeting: Monday 12th February 2007 in the Village Centre.



POLICE REPORT

WEST LINTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

January 2007

Since the last full Community Council meeting on 13th November 2006, a total of 47 calls have been received regarding incidents in the West Linton area.

This is broken down as follows –

8 x Alarm activations (all false)

13 x reports of other road traffic related problems (obstructions of the roadway etc)

15 x miscellaneous calls for police assistance

9 x road traffic accident

2 x reports of Antisocial Behaviour

There has been no reported crime in the West Linton area in the last two months.

Between 2345 hours on 21/12/2006 and 0115 hours on 22/12/2006 a road check was carried out on the A702 in West Linton. During these times numerous vehicle were stopped with a total of 11 vehicles being found to have defects.

On 31/12/2006, a 28-year-old male was detected and cautioned and charged following an incident in Boggsbank Road, West Linton, whereby he carried a young child in the front of his vehicle, whilst the child was not secured by means of an appropriate child restraint.

On 01/01/2007 a male was traced in Main Street, West Linton following a report that he had attempted to self-harm. The male was treated by ambulance staff, and thereafter conveyed to hospital.

On 04/01/2007, whilst dealing with a road traffic accident on the A702 in West Linton, officers were faced with the driver of a vehicle who failed to heed the police slow signs in the approach to the accident scene. The 20-year-old driver caused a police officer to take evasive action to avoid being struck. The driver of the vehicle has been cautioned and charged with careless driving, and a report will be submitted to the procurator fiscal.