



West Linton Community Council

Draft Minute of Meeting held on Monday 11th June 2007 In the Village Centre at 7.30pm

Present: Margaret Harrison, Eric Small, Graham Tulloch, David Small, Anne McKenzie and John Mackie.

In attendance: Councillor Willie Archibald & Councillor Neil Calvert

- 1. Apologies:** Kenny Love, Tommy Davidson & Robert Bond & Councillor Bhatia.
- 2. Police Matters:** No Police officers present. Discussion on the recently completed Whipman Week noted that there was a good presence on Saturday which possibly aided to there being no serious trouble. Police report included subsequent to the meeting.
- 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The corrected minute for April was signed by MH. Item 8 in May's minute will be corrected to read "**proposed** time" and "1740" not '1715'.
- 4. BEAR (Scotland) discussions:** MH welcomed Mr Ian Stewart the Network manager for BEAR (Scotland) who manage the A702 for Transport Scotland the Scottish Executive Agency responsible to Ministers, to the meeting. GT had previously provided Mr Stewart with a short list of discussion points and these were considered.
Traffic speed reduction & calming: existing countdown markers and a flashing 30mph sign – these could be augmented with rumble strips and pinch points to create a single-carriageway. BEAR will request Transport Scotland carry out an automated traffic speed survey. The flashing speed signs are in need of maintenance as they operate all day and at inappropriate times. They should be activated between 0830 and 0910 and again at 1120 to 1320 and 1455 to 1545 when traffic is travelling above 20mph.
Road-side verge maintenance: within the 30mph signs the verges should be cut 14 times per year during the growing season. **Mr Stewart** was unsure on the roundabout maintenance but would check. GT requested the limit of the cutting be extended to the countdown markers
Advance warning of work: This was requested in order that the CC could cascade any information out to the community. Mr Stewart agreed this would happen although he was not aware of any major works on the route in the near future other than one to the far south.
Carlops to West Linton footpath: Mr Stewart did not consider this a major work and therefore it was not on his list and did not know about it. Cllr Calvert noted that Mr Stewart's predecessor had agreed to this being installed. **Mr Stewart** would investigate. Pavement depressions at Manor Garage bus stop and on the village side at the southern Main Street/A702 junction require attention.
Matters outwith WL area: Double white lines at hidden dip between Newhall and Ninemileburn and at Boghall should be considered.

MH thanked Mr Stewart for his attendance at the meeting and said the CC looked forward to working with him.



5. **Christmas Lights:** D Lawson presented a proposal from Blanchere for the new Christmas lights in the village. Prices were given as excluding VAT, fixtures & fittings and power installation. It was **agreed** that commercial properties would be approached to contribute to the lights. **DS & NC** would survey the village with local tradesmen to compile a cost for fittings & power on Sat 23rd June.
6. **Matters Arising (not on the Agenda):** MH had reminded SBC on the seat for the Upper Green in memory of Mr Boal. This had been forgotten about but would be progressed immediately.
AM had reconsidered her decision of the last meeting to step down from the Area Committee.
The Actions register was discussed and items progressed.
7. **Public Open Floor:** Mrs McLintock, Raeburn Cottage concerned with a number of issues affecting her caused by vehicles on the upper section of Main Street. Due to the narrowness of the road at this point parking creates a one-way street. Vehicles are also parking close to the houses and have caused the verges to sink which in turn causes flooding risks as the shallow gullies cannot contain rain water. Request a white line.
8. **Planning Issues (WLCC Area) including:**
 - (a)
 - i. [07/00968/FUL](#): Mr McLintock, Raeburn Cottage, Main Street, West Linton. Replacement windows. **Support** so long as the windows do not tilt out.
 - ii. [07/01030/FUL](#): Mr J Aitken, 18 Broomlee Road, West Linton. Extension to dwellinghouse. No plans available from SBC or on eplanning at time of the meeting. Outwith Conservation area.
 - (b) **Planning Related Issues (decisions)** – [05/02117/FUL](#): Manor Kingdom, Rutherford Castle Golf Club: Planning application for clubhouse and 6 houses passed subject to a Section 75 being agreed: development to be phased, starting with the clubhouse.
 - (c) **Planning Related Issues (misc)** None.
9. **Area Committee Meeting** – Cllr Garvie re-elected to the Chair. Only 1 item of WL interest, Rutherford castle reported above.
10. **Roads & Footpaths**
 - (i) **Ford modifications:** GT briefed the CC on an informal meeting he had with SEPA on possible modifications to the ford area. GT suggested to the SEPA officers that the bankings be lined with natural stone, back-filled and seeded to provide visually pleasing areas without potential for bank damage or collapse. He also suggested the river level bank be upgraded. Unfortunately SEPA would be against any for of work of this nature and would only agree to “rip-rap” which is stones at the toe of the bank under the normal water surface.
 - (ii) **Riverside path adjacent to former Tin House site** – TD had not determined the ownership of the riverbank. At the meeting discussed above GT also raised the subject of a possible path upstream from the White Bridge. SEPA would not support any activity which affected the bank, bank planting or the river flow. To be discussed at the July meeting.
 - (iii) **Footpaths II funding**– No news from the Lottery Commission on submitted grant application. Community Support Fund to be approached.



- 11. Public Transport Issues, including School Transport** – Mr Dickson informed the meeting of the “Try a Bus” Day on 19th June at Ocean Terminal when members of the public could see the many styles of bus in operation around the country today. **GT** to contact SPT to discuss the McEwans 100 Service with regard to the size of bus stated in the contract. This refers to the bus size varying at the moment which occasionally causes passengers to be left at WL as the bus is full.
- 12. Environmental Issues** – The area around the Whipman Stone requires additional soil/compost as it is very low and is also full of weeds. **GT** to request attention. Although the Whipman Committee and its helpers had cleared the Lower Green on Saturday evening past, 9th June, the following morning the Green was covered in rubbish, mostly alcohol related, and 50 bottles were removed from the river by a resident. A hole has appeared in the rubber matting under the swings in the play park and one of the swings has been removed. Ref damage to Upper Green mentioned in previous months: request a No Entry/Dead End sign for the entrance. **Councillors** to investigate the level of litter & other clearance & collection in WL and compare with the rest of Peeblesshire/Scottish Borders. **GT** to confirm TD’s note that tar area in playpark to be replaced with turf. **CC** not in favour of this proposal.
- 13. Reports of Meetings Attended: WLCC Village Hall Sub-Committee.** The sub-committee met with the SCARF Mentor (Douglas Westwater) on June 4th. Also in attendance as observers were members of St Andrew’s Kirk Session. Mr Westwater will draft a questionnaire from his notes of the meeting. **MH** will write a press release for the Peeblesshire to inform the community of progress on this topic.
- 14. Miscellaneous Correspondence, including**
- a. SBC reception
 - b. SBC Structure Plan Alteration meeting
 - c. Scottish Health Council News
 - d. Draft Supplementary Planning Guidance on Replacement windows, inc Prime Frontage & Core Area.
 - e. Linton in Bloom – Thanks for donation.
- 15. AOCB:** **MH** praised the Whipman Committee and their helpers for another successful Whipman Week.
- 16. Date of Next Meeting:** 9th July 2007 at 7:30pm in the Village Centre.

Actions

Mr Stewart will check the roundabout maintenance schedule

Mr Stewart will check the West Linton to Carlops footpath timetabling

DS & NC would survey the village with local tradesmen to compile a cost for fittings & power for Christmas lights.

GT to contact SPT to discuss the size of bus on the 100 Service

Councillors to investigate the level of litter & other clearance & collection in WL for comparative purposes with the rest of Peeblesshire/Scottish Borders.

MH will write a press release for the Peeblesshire to inform the community of progress on the village hall discussions

GT to confirm TD’s note that tar area in playpark to be replaced with turf.



POLICE REPORT

WEST LINTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

June 2007

Since the last full Community Council meeting on 14th May 2007, a total of 24 calls have been received by police regarding incidents in the West Linton area.

This is broken down as follows –

4 x Alarm activations (all false)

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

7 x miscellaneous calls for police assistance

2 x Anti Social Behaviour

3 x Road Traffic Accidents

2 x reported crimes

On 19/05/07, a 19 year old male from the Lanark area was detected for vandalising toilets within the Broomlee Centre. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal.

On 30/05/2007 a Multi Agency road check was carried out on the A702 involving police, Customs and Excise and ANPR. Over 600 vehicles were checked throughout the course of the day, with numerous warnings being issued for minor road traffic offences.

Following a lengthy police investigation a 29-year-old local man has been arrested and charged with manufacturing, possessing and distributing child pornography. A report has been submitted to the procurator fiscal, and the man is due to appear in court later this month.

On the final night of the Whipman Play, police in the area were very busy, with the following incidents taking place;
A 21-year-old man was detected in West Linton for being in possession of controlled drugs. A report is being prepared for the procurator fiscal.

A 52-year-old local man was arrested and charged with drink driving, driving whilst disqualified and driving without insurance. His vehicle was seized under the new police powers, and the man was held in custody to appear in court on 11/06/07.

An 18-year-old female has been arrested and charged following an incident where another female was assaulted.

Police are making enquiries into an incident where a counterfeit £20 note was passed in a local shop.