



# West Linton Community Council

## **Draft Minute of Meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> August In the Village Centre at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Margaret Harrison, Graham Tulloch, Anne McKenzie, John Mackie, Eric Small, David Small, Robert Bond and Kenny Love.

**In attendance:** Councillors Willie Archibald, Catriona Bhatia & Neil Calvert.

**1. Apologies:** Tom Davidson

**2. Police Matters:** Sergeant Bruce read out his July report which was disappointingly long reflecting a busy month for the police in the village. A copy is appended at the end of this minute.

Sergeant Bruce requested feedback on the Inspectors monthly report issued to all Community Councils, any comments would be taken into account when writing the next issue.

Sgt Bruce was asked about parking at bus stops but unfortunately had to inform the meeting that as there were no markings no formal action could be taken. It was up to drivers to park considerately to allow elderly and infirm people to use the buses.

**3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** The minute for July was approved and signed by MH.

**4. Matters Arising (not on the Agenda):** Updates on the outstanding actions listed on the Action Register were received.

Tar area at play park – TD had received a quote of £5700 from SBC for covering the tar with a rubberised material, this compares with £3000 for turf. It was **agreed** that the council would be asked to cover the area with rubber or leave it as it is.

**5. Open Floor Questions** – None

**6. Planning Issues (WLCC Area) including:**

**a) Planning Applications**

i) [07/01315/FUL](#): Mr D Small, Green Haven, Lower Green, West Linton: Replacement windows. **Support**

ii) [07/01316/FUL](#): Mr D Small, Ardshiel, Lower Green, West Linton: Replacement windows. **Support**

iii) [07/01323/OUT](#): Mr And Mrs C Gray, Land South of West Garth, Medwyn Road, West Linton: Erection of dwellinghouse. **Support**

iv) [07/01363/FUL](#): Morven Kerr, Ravelston, Main Street, West Linton: Alterations to roof. **Support**

v) [07/01379/FUL](#): Chris Grant Property, Redundant Station Yard And Associated Grounds, Dolphinton, West Linton: Erection of fourteen dwellinghouses. **Support** – divided.

vi) [07/01385/FUL](#): Mr And Mrs McKenzie, Ainsdale Lodge Linton Bank Drive, West Linton: Formation of dormer. **Support**

vii) [07/01438/FUL](#): Mr And Mrs Wilson, Waulkmill Cottage, West Linton: Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse. **Support**

**b) Planning Related Issues (decisions) [07/00640/OUT](#):** Mr E Owens, Merrilee, West Linton, EH46 7AX. Erection of dwellinghouse. This had been referred to the full



planning committee and was rejected as it breached the 100% rule (building group had doubled in size since the last base line) and was inappropriate infill.

**c) Planning Related Issues (misc.)**

- i) MH read letters of opposition received from residents of Croft Road relating to the outline planning application for a dwellinghouse on Croft Road. Unfortunately these letters were sent to SBC and were only copied to the CC after the July meeting.
- ii) RB had contacted Jeremy Purvis MSP to enquire on the maximum height of a 1-and-a-half storey house.
- iii) With reference to the consultation received in April GT asked if the Council was happy with the SBC defined Conservation Area and Prime Frontage as he wondered if the PF should be extended to take in the villas on Boggsbank Road. The CC were **content** with the SBC delineations.

**7. Area Committee Meeting:** No report.

**8. Roads & Footpaths:** GT read a letter from Mr G Walter in response to discussion in the June minute regarding parking on the upper section of Main Street.

MH read a letter from a resident on The Loan regarding the wall that had been built out on to the verge that he deemed was dangerous and allegedly not on land owned by the house owner. The CC acknowledges this letter addressed to SBC to which it was copied in to.

**9. Footpaths:** Cllr Calvert informed the meeting that the application to the Heritage Lottery Fund for Phase II of the footpaths on the Lower Green had been rejected. It was agreed that fresh applications should be made to other funds and that the **Paths Sub-committee** should progress these as a matter of urgency. The committee agreed to meet on 15<sup>th</sup> August to complete the various application forms, including a planning application.

MH read a letter received by Mr & Mrs Bisset, Silvandell, Chapel Brae, via email. The letter expressed their displeasure and unhappiness in the way they had been treated by the Community Council and one member in particular. Following the receipt of the letter MH had visited the Bissets to apologise on behalf of the CC for any upset they had experienced. Mr & Mrs Bisset accepted the apology but expressed they were still aggrieved by the behaviour of the CC member.

MH repeated the question to RB set at the July meeting if he had written to the Peeblesshire News in March criticising Scottish Borders Council. After some persuasion RB agreed he had in fact written the letter. MH then asked if he had written a second letter in July criticising Scottish Borders Council again and the West Linton Community Council as well as alleging that residents had dumped garden waste in the river. RB agreed that he had also written this letter.

MH quoted from the letter received from the SBC Enforcement Officer saying that he had examined the area and “there was no breach of planning control.” There was a “small amount of turf trimmings and stones on bank” but there was “no loss of amenity as defined in planning legislation caused by this.” The Enforcement Officer had also contacted the Access Section at SBC who confirmed there is “no recorded Right of Way” along the river bank.

MH pointed out Section 2 (General Principles) paragraph 2.1 (Leadership) of the Councillors Code of Conduct for Local Government, of which Community Councils are a layer, RB was in breach of this code. RB said he was working in the best intentions and was unhappy that his actions were not recognised: he left the meeting, intimating that he would resign.



GT moved that “No further action is to be taken to create a footpath along the River Lyne from the White Bridge to the A702.” This was seconded by JM and **passed Nem Dis.**

**10. Public Transport Issues:** SPT, as the contract holders for the Dumfries to Edinburgh bus route were requested to inspect a MacEwans coach after the door flew open on the outskirts of Edinburgh and could not be closed. The bus was apparently taken off the road as unsafe thereafter.

**11. Environmental Issues:** None.

**12. Reports of Meetings Attended:** MH reported on the SCARF meeting held with the mentor, Mr Westwater. A hard copy of the minute was received.

**13. Miscellaneous Correspondence, including**

- i) SBC - Core Paths Network: consultation (**GT** to request additional booklets)
- ii) NHS - Adult Mental Health Day Services: Consultation
- iii) SBC - Vibrant Communities Awards 2007: information booklet
- iv) SEPA – Proposed alteration to the Lothian & Borders Area Waste Plan: consultation
- v) SBC – Community Council Review Scheme, Recommendations for Consultation.

**13. AOCB:**

- i) MH & John Irvine had toured the village with the Floral Gateway Competition judges and will go to Newtown to hear the results on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> Aug.
- ii) CC had been asked to comment on the lack of a ramp at the Bank. The CC recommended the Bank should install a ramp at the planning application stage. The minute of 13 Feb 2006 states “[06/00115/FUL](#) Bank of Scotland Halifax, Main Street, West Linton: Lower ATM, contrasting noising to entrance steps and grab rails to entrance door – **Support** - with recommendation that the applicant also be requested to provide a ramp to allow better access for wheelchairs into the Bank building”. **MH** to contact Bank & SBC.
- iii) Planning & Building Standards forum: SBC Headquarters Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>, names should be passed to GT ASAP.

**14. Date of Next Meeting** 10<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 7:30pm in the Village Centre.

**Actions:**

**Paths sub-committee** meet on 15<sup>th</sup> August to complete the application forms, including a planning application, for Phase II funding.

**GT** to request additional Core Path Network booklets

**MH** to contact HBOS and SBC re ramp at bank.

**All:** names of interested parties for Planning Forum should be passed to GT ASAP.



## **POLICE REPORT**

### **WEST LINTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**August 2007**

Since the last Community Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2007, a total of 37 calls have been received by police regarding incidents in the West Linton area.

This is broken down as follows –

6 x Alarm activations (all false)

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

6 x miscellaneous calls for police assistance

3 x Road Traffic Accident

10 x reported crimes

4 x reports of Anti social behaviour

On the evening of 09/07/2007, following a disturbance in St Mungos Lea, West Linton, a 37 year old man was arrested and charged with a breach of the peace.

Between 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of July a Honda Civic motorcar was damaged by unknown persons who ran over the roof and bonnet of the vehicle whilst it was parked in Main Street, West Linton. Between the same times a Volkswagen Polo motor car was also damaged in a similar manner by unknown persons also running over the roof and bonnet whilst it was parked in Main Street, West Linton. Police enquiries are continuing.

In the early hours of 25/07/2007 a Land Rover motor vehicle was vandalised whilst parked in Deanfoot Road, West Linton. On the same night a BMW motorcar and several hanging baskets were also vandalised in Main Street, West Linton. Following police enquiries a total of 4 local youths have been detected and charged in relation to these crimes.

Overnight on the 26<sup>th</sup> into the 27<sup>th</sup> of July a Ford Fiesta motorcar was broken into and items stolen whilst it was parked in Deanfoot Road, West Linton. Police enquires are continuing into this crime.

During the day on 27/07/2007 a Silver Fox mountain bike was stolen whilst left unattended in Medwyn Road, West Linton.

On 5<sup>th</sup> August 2 sets of Golf Clubs were stolen from the changing rooms of West Linton Golf Club during a large golf tournament.

Over the last month a builder's yard in Deanfoot Road, West Linton was entered and graffiti written on the walls. A 14 year old youth has been detected for this and a report submitted to the Childrens Reporter.