



# West Linton Community Council

## **Draft Minute of Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December In the Village Centre at 7.30pm**

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

**In attendance:** Cllrs. W Archibald & N Calvert

- 1. Apologies:** Kenny Love, Cllr C Bhatia
- 2. Police Matters:** GT read the police report in Sgt Bruce's absence.
- 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:** These were approved and signed by MH with 3 minor alterations to the draft minute.
- 4. Matters Arising (not on the Agenda):** Updates on the outstanding actions listed on the Action Register were received from various members of the Community Council.
- 5. Open Floor Session** Mr Dickson raised two points on public transport from the floor including the use of school transport passes outwith school bus times. This was not allowed and drivers are correct to insist on payment.
- 6. Drug & Alcohol Awareness Team presentation:** Susan Black from the DAAT gave a presentation on the work of the Team and the problems they are attempting to address with education in the community. The figures Susan quoted were worrying and highlighted the problem we have in our society where the misuse of alcohol and drugs is apparently acceptable. It is recorded that 20% of 15 year-olds have admitted to using drugs. There has been 42 drink related injuries in the Borders region in the past week with 157 since June 2007; of these 73% of the males were less than 45 years old whilst 64% of the females were less than 45 years old. There has been almost 600 people discharged from Borders General Hospital having been admitted for alcohol related incidents (52 for drugs in the same period). 33 alcohol related medical deaths (28 male: 5 female). This figure does not include road traffic accidents or deaths in the home due to alcohol. The alcohol related deaths in Scotland has risen from 1 in 100 to 1 in 30 in 15 years.

It is obvious that these figures are not acceptable and a change in culture has been to blame and that to reverse the problem and statistics there has to be a similar change in culture for the better.

The focus of the DAAT is to influence the attitudes of individuals and organisations by promoting thought and debate through information.

The DAAT meets with organisations working in the same field and with Councillors and MSP's every two months to determine where to focus the strategy for the coming months ahead. There is also a network to groups who work at a local level with young people and adult treatment services, working in the Community in an attempt to raise awareness in the dangers of misusing drink and alcohol.

This has been the forum to suggest tighter licensing laws including reducing alcohol promotions and the full training of bar staff.

An education programme for Primary School children was formed and as research has shown that 16 – 25 year-olds drink the most, "Operation Grenadine" which introduced the tagging of bottles



and cans at off-sales outlets in an attempt to identify where alcohol confiscated from underage drinkers was being purchased and by whom was initiated and found to be a success and will be extended in the coming months.

MH thanked Susan for coming to the meeting to talk to us on her work and a number of questions were answered on the points raised in her talk.

## 7. Planning Issues (WLCC Area) including:

### (a)

- i. [07/02252/FUL](#): Mrs L Forsyth, 4 Broomlee Road, West Linton: Replacement windows. **Support**
- ii. [07/02277/FUL](#): Mr and Mrs Stoker, 1 Deanfoot Drive, West Linton: Extension to dwellinghouse. Formation of dormer extensions. **Support**
- iii. [07/02326/FUL](#): Mr and Mrs Ness, Cairn Muir, Medwyn Road, West Linton: Formation of dormer. **Support**
- iv. [07/02115/FUL](#): Mrs McLintock, Raeburn Cottage, Main Street, West Linton: Erection of conservatory. **Support**

### (b) Planning Related Issues (decisions) – Poultry units at Blythbank Farm [06/02193/FUL](#) have been approved, voting was 9:3 in favour, with 24 conditions. **GT** will attempt to obtain a baseline medical survey of the community.

The alterations to the Calm building, Croft Road, [07/01855/FUL](#) were approved.

The installation of new windows at Braemar [07/01089/FUL](#) was refused.

The application for the erection of a dwellinghouse at Merrilee, Deanfoot Road, [07/00640/OUT](#) has gone to appeal.

The Enforcement Officer will be reminded of the possible infringement of the planning process at The Old Bakehouse (painting of quoins), the former Linton Hotel (installation of enlarged window) and the Old Manor House (installation or non-sympathetic windows – size & design).

### (c) Planning Related Issues (misc)

- i. MH & JM met on Nov 28<sup>th</sup> to discuss CC response to the proposed modification to the Structure Plan.

## 8. Christmas Lights: The event to switch the lights on was very well attended and positive comments were received from the villagers. We should repeat it with some modifications. On the whole however it was very good for a first attempt and thanks should go to everyone who helped organise it.

Thanks also to the Trustees of the Alice Hamilton Trust who financially supported the purchase of the new lights, the electrician who gave his time in installing the new electricity points and running cable and finally to the householders and retailers for allowing their properties to be decorated and for the permanent brackets to be installed on the buildings.

It was recognised there had not been sufficient time to check the lights and rectify problems before the switch on and so it was decided that the lights should be installed by the end of November in future

## 9. Meetings Attended: There had been a SCARF meeting when Katie McHenry from that organisation attended. She had congratulated us on having submitted a good request and confirmed that money would be available to proceed with the resident survey on the village hall requirements. A further meeting was arranged for 7<sup>th</sup> January to agree on the work required to progress this task. All should attempt to attend.

## 10. AOCB: The Traffic Order for the formation of the parking restrictions has been approved by SBC although no date has been given for the installation of the lines.

## 11. Date of Next Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at 7:30pm in the Village Centre.



**POLICE REPORT**

**WEST LINTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**December 2007**

Since the last Community Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2007, a total of 13 calls have been received by police regarding incidents in the West Linton area.

This is broken down as follows –

1 x Alarm activations (false)

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

5 x miscellaneous calls for police assistance

3 x Vehicular collisions (all minor)

1 x reported crime

Following an incident at a house in St Mungo's Lea, West Linton in the early hours of 18<sup>th</sup> November 2007 a 27 year old male was arrested and charged with assault.