



# West Linton Community Council

## **Minute of Annual General Meeting held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2011 in the Village Centre at 7.30pm**

These minutes are available on the WLCC web site at <http://www.west-linton.org.uk/content/west-linton-community-council> where the Consolidated Local Plan is available for download to assist with responding to planning applications.

**Present:** Margaret Harrison, Graham Tulloch, Eric Small, Anne McKenzie, Tommy Davidson & Kenny Love.

**In attendance:** Councillor Archibald, Mr Brian Frater & Ms Trish Connoly (both SBC)

### **1. Apologies:** John Mackie, Anita Thomas, Councillors Bhatia & Calvert

MH invited BF to speak on the changes to SBC structure in general and Planning in particular. As part of the drive to reduce overheads SBC has merged a number of departments, including Technical Services and Planning into one to form the Infrastructure Department.

The Director of this new department is Rob Dickson and he, BF, is Head of Planning & Regulatory Services. Although the number of people on the ground is unchanged the savings are expected to be in the order of £3.5M.

The Structure Plan was written in 2001 and approved in 2002. The Local Plan came from this document and was approved in 2008, amended in 2008 and approved by Scottish Ministers in 2009.

The purpose of this document is to give residents a better understanding of what to expect in their community regarding housing etc. The current Structure Plan will be the last as it will be superseded by the SESPlan (South East Scotland Plan, written together with East & West Lothian and the City of Edinburgh Councils).

The Consolidated Local Plan was adopted in Feb 2011. The Local Plan must conform with the SESPlan and the Development Plan.

The Main Issues Report has big issues for consultation and refers to those parts taken forward from the previous Local Plan, dependant on the progress of the SESPlan.

A new Local Plan is produced every 5 years.

Members of the Community Council asked Mr Frater a number of questions on the decisions surrounding the amendments to the Plan and in particular the increase in the housing allocation on the Robinsland Farm site. Mr Frater responded to these by stating that councillors decide on the allocation following recommendations by officials (of SBC). The reporters examine objections and make a final decision, the outcome of which is binding.

WLCC members expressed the feeling that these decisions were undemocratic as they had been taken by unelected individuals, apparently ignoring the wishes of the local community.

Developer contribution is not illegal and is a tried and tested method of achieving something for a community from a developer.

In response to the CC's expression of fear that the sense of community will be lost with such a

large number of houses being built at one time, Mr Frater responded by saying that in his opinion the current economic market the pace of building would more than likely be slow.

On the matter of the congestion in Main Street Mr Frater thought consideration should be given to a line for a road to by-pass Main Street, possibly via Robinsland Drive.

### **Annual General Meeting**

- 2. Chairman's Report:** This will be presented at the July meeting.
- 3. Treasurers Report:** MH presented the report about which there were no questions.
- 4. Nominations of Office Bearers:** The incumbents wished to remain in post and therefore there was no need for a ballot. The Office Bearers for 2011/12 are:

Chairman	Margaret Harrison
Vice-Chairman	Eric Small
Treasurer	Derek Lawson
Secretary	Graham Tulloch
- 5. Police Matters** – PC Hamilton could not attend and there was no report.
- 6. Minutes of the previous meeting.** Approved, to be signed at the next meeting.
- 7. Matters Arising** (not on the agenda.). None
- 8. Open Floor Questions** None.
- 9. Planning Issues (WLCC Area):**

may be viewed online 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. [11/00677/FUL](#) Springfield Properties Plc, Land East And North East of 37 St Andrew's Close, West Linton. Erection of 82 dwellinghouses incorporating affordable housing.
    - ii. [11/00810/FUL](#): Mr Andrew Struthers, Land North West of Deanfoot Farm, West Linton. Erection of wind turbine 19.25m high to tip.

It was decided to convene a special planning meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the above applications.
  - b) Planning Decisions** – St Andrews Church is to appeal the decision to allow the replacement of the windows in the manse with timber only, [10/01104/FUL](#).  
GT to ask SBC how many planning applications are currently outstanding.

[10/00499/FUL](#), Land South of Lindean, Croft Road, erection of dwellinghouse. The applicant is to appeal against condition number 2.
  - c) Planning Related Issues:**



- 10. Roads & Footpaths:** LocalView at <http://maps.scotborders.gov.uk/localview/>.  
The B7059 is to be closed to traffic from June 20<sup>th</sup> for 3 days to allow patching work to take place.  
Neidpath Corner near Peebles, will be closed at a date in the future to allow road reconstruction work to take place.
- 11. Public Transport Issues, including school transport.** Mr Dickson distributed the new 100/101 service timetable.
- 12. Environmental Issues:** we have not yet received an invoice for the landscaping of bowling green side of the Green.
- 13. Reports of Meetings Attended:** None.
- 14. Miscellaneous Correspondence.** GT had received a cheque from Mr Rosie for the use of the CC's display boards. GT to pass cheque to DL.  
Two letters had been received from a resident. GT to pass these to SBC.
- 15. AOCB** The Community Council thanked the committee of the Whipman Play Society and congratulated them on another spectacularly successful week.

**Date of next meeting:** 10th July 2011.

**The following items have been identified as requiring action: community councillors noted are requested to progress these:**

- GT to ask SBC how many planning applications are currently outstanding.  
GT to pass cheque to DL.  
GT to pass letters received from a resident to SBC.