

**Minute of the Meeting of Broom Kirhill & Mearnskirk Community Council
Thursday 11th January 2018**

MEETING OF	Broom, Kirkhill, & Mearnskirk, Community Council	
HELD ON	Thursday 11 th January 2018 @ 7pm in Mearns Castle High School	
WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
RECORDING OF MEMBERS PRESENT	<p>An attendance sheet was circulated.</p> <p>In attendance: William Maxwell (Chairperson), Doug Pitt (Vice Chairperson), Janet Olverman (Secretary), Jane Royston (Treasurer), John Boyle, Gordon Muirhead, Ron Gimby</p> <p>Cllr Jim Swift</p> <p>Cllr Barbara Grant</p>	
APOLOGIES	Zhada Robertson, Bev Brown, Cllr Jim McLean, Cllr Caroline Bamforth, Rob Jones	
ITEM DISCUSSED		Action Points
MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING	<p>With one change to the apologies to include Rob Jones, the Minute of the meeting held on 8th November 2017 was proposed by Will Maxwell and seconded by John Boyle and approved by the Community Council.</p> <p>With one change to the attendees to include Ron Gimby the Minute of the meeting held on 7th December 2017 was proposed by Will Maxwell and seconded by Doug Pitt and approved by the Community Council.</p>	
MATTERS ARISING	There were no matters arising	
POLICE REPORT	<p>Two police officers attended the meeting to present their crime report for the period 1st – 31st December 2017.</p> <p>House Larceny The number of house break-ins are usually increased at this time of year and generally target high end properties. The officers assured the CC there is a Divisional house break-in team working on this issue.</p> <p>Antisocial behaviour. A report has been sent to the Procurator Fiscal in relation to the conduct of a 33 year old male towards an East Renfrewshire Council warden, in Broomburn Drive, on the 19th November.</p>	



A wheelie bin was set on fire within the grounds of Mearns Castle High School and a total of 9 calls have been made to the police with regard to "youth disorder" primarily at Broomburn Drive and Court.

The Police informed the CC that these gangs make their arrangements using social media and the leaders are not from East Renfrewshire.

There have been no reports of drug dealing or violent crime.

Jane Royston commented since our last meeting on two occasions cars have shot across red lights at the BP garage on Mearns Road near Laigh Road.

The Police officers commented that if they witness this kind of thing they will take action, however it is difficult to man crossings consistently. The officers volunteered to look into this.

Doug Pitt enquired how high a priority here are burglaries.

The Police confirmed it remains a topic of high priority in this area.

All house break-ins are investigated although it may take months to trace the perpetrators.

The Police asked everyone to be alert and report anything suspicious.

Newton Mearns does attract house breakers as it's an affluent area.

Questions:

What percentage of house break-ins are committed by professional or long established criminals?

The Police confirmed most are usually chancers, although there are organised gangs – i.e. car thieves where cars are stolen to order.

There tends to be a high rate of sneak in thefts within new build estates because residents feel safe and are less security conscious. This attracts opportunist thieves.

The Chairperson enquired if youth disturbance has any correlation with alcohol. The Brooms shops is a hot spot.

The Police advised that it is very unusual to see underage persons purchasing alcohol. Older people buy for younger kids.

Doug Pitt enquired if this kind of behaviour just occurs at the Broom Shops?

The Police confirmed it happens all over East Renfrewshire, and that arrests of suspects takes much longer to achieve than historically, due to the required higher level of paperwork. Ironically, this means that the more people that are apprehended requires greater number of police to be taken off street duties.



	<p>Cllr Swift confirmed that the Council are going to install a CC TV camera behind the Broom Shops. The money is included in the current budget. The camera will be monitored at the offices in Spiersbridge.</p> <p>Cllr Swift also stated that Claire Reid is the community safety officer at ERC.</p>	
<p>CHANGE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF BK&MCC</p>	<p>Janet Olverman</p> <p>The position is that (as per the constitution – clause 9.3) the current Chairperson, Will Maxwell must stand down from that role at the 2nd AGM (Thursday 10th May 2018) and cannot be re-elected again for the role of Chairperson during the remaining term of the community council (a community council term is four years).</p> <p>East Renfrewshire Council have agreed, in principle, that it would allow Community Councils to change this clause if they so wished provided they follow the proper procedure for making changes to the constitution.</p> <p>Clause 16 Alterations to the Constitution states:</p> <p>16.1 Any proposal by the COMMUNITY COUNCIL to alter this Constitution must first be considered by a meeting of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL. The terms of the proposal to alter the Constitution shall be stated on the notice calling the meeting, which shall be issued to all members not less than ten days prior to the meeting. Any proposed alterations may not contradict, prejudice or undermine the terms and objectives contained within the Scheme and must not negatively impact on the transparency and accountability of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL.</p> <p>16.2 If the proposal is supported by two-thirds of the total voting membership of the COMMUNITY COUNCIL, and is approved in writing by East Renfrewshire Council, the alteration shall be deemed to have been duly authorised and shall come into effect as of the date of East Renfrewshire Council’s approval.</p> <p>Gordon Muirhead suggested that the Chairperson should put themselves up for re-election at each AGM and that, with the agreement of the Community Council, this may extend without limit of time throughout a session.</p> <p>It was suggested this should apply to all Office Bearers.</p> <p>This suggestion was proposed by Gordon Muirhead, seconded by Doug Pitt and agreed by all Community Councillors.</p> <p>Janet Olverman is to draft a new clause for the Constitution which will be presented at our next meeting</p>	<p>Janet Olverman to Draft New Clause for</p>



	for formal approval.	next meeting
DRAFT PETITION TO ERC BY GORDON MUIRHEAD	<p>Roads and Maintenance</p> <p>Gordon Muirhead advised the CC he had attended ERC's Budget Panel meeting in Barrhead on 28th November 2017. ERC had invited Community Councils, Tenants and Residents Associations to attend the above meeting in order to present their views on the Budget proposals for the 2018-2021 Budget.</p> <p>The report is in Draft form and contains two main topics: Roads, and Housing Associations.</p> <p>Each attendee was invited to put forward their main concerns and Roads outnumbered all other topics.</p> <p>At this meeting Gordon proposed that the Council be asked to ring-fence £3m of reserves for use in the 2018/19 budget to be invested in additional, priority roads maintenance.</p> <p>The Minute of this meeting reflects: "This proposal was supported by 12 of 19 people at the meeting with others not expressing a view one way or the other."</p> <p>However Gordon advised the CC that the number voting in favour of this proposal was actually 14 out of 18.</p> <p>Cllr Swift and Cllr Grant advised they attended a meeting in the week before this current meeting regarding feedback from the online consultation. They were surprised to see that Roads was not mentioned as a priority. The main priorities were Pupil Support Assistants in Schools and Nursery Assistants.</p> <p>Roads didn't feature very highly at all.</p> <p>Cllr Grant suggested if the CC is going to respond to this consultation it would need to do this ASAP</p> <p>Ron Gimby suggested submitting an email response prior to our next meeting.</p> <p>ERC are going to share the responses with local newspapers at end of February.</p>	
REPORT ERC COUNCIL MEETING	The Chairperson presented a summary/report of the ERC Council meeting dated 13 th December 2017	
UPDATE SPSO REFERRAL	<p>Update from Doug Pitt, Vice Chairperson.</p> <p>The CC were advised that the following a Judicial Review of the decision to grant permission for the Maidenhill Development, the Court of Session verdict (P834/17 CSOH 158 chaired by Lord Glennie) had been in favour of ERC.</p>	



	<p>However, it was noted that the ruling was critical of some of the actions taken or not taken by the Planning Officer which could have influenced the Planning Committee's decision.</p> <p>This ruling has left some doubt about where we stand with regard to the SPSO referral.</p> <p>Doug Pitt offered to contact the SPSO in this regard and also suggested holding a joint meeting with the Mearns Village CC and NMRFPG imminently.</p> <p>The Chairperson proposed this course of action</p>	<p>Doug to contact SPSO and arrange meeting</p>
<p>ROADS AND PAVEMENTS PETITION UPDATE</p>	<p>Update from Gordon Muirhead.</p> <p>A draft Petition to ERC was circulated prior to the meeting for Review and comments.</p> <p>Ron Gimby suggested not to compare education and roads – we don't want the CC to be seen to support reducing the education budget and proposed removing this from the letter.</p> <p>John Boyle stated that ERC had increased the budget by 10% for local roads, but starting from a very low base – it's not enough. He also mentioned the decisions are tough as ERC are experiencing a real 6% budget cut this year £400,000 of which will be for roads. The 6% cut in the budget is formed by a combination of a 3% cut due to inflation and a 3% cut in the monetary value of the grant from the Scottish Government.</p> <p>Cllr Grant explained that when ERC became a unitary authority ERC Council took on the responsibility for roads. Prior to this Strathclyde Regional Authority did not spend any money on Eastwood's roads as they were considered as an affluent area, so the local roads fell into disrepair.</p> <p>Ron suggested emphasising that money spent on roads is an investment in ERC's single largest asset.</p> <p>Audit Scotland have recommended that ERC use their reserves to increase expenditure on roads.</p> <p>John Boyle suggested asking for an extra £3m which may be affordable.</p> <p>Gordon agreed to rephrase the wording and it was decided that the letter would be re-circulated for mutual consent by Community Councillors prior to submitting.</p>	<p>Gordon to circulate final version of the letter and submit to ERC</p>



	<p>The CC thanked Gordon for all his hard work in this regard.</p>	
<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p>	<p>Parking Consultation The Chairperson displayed four maps of ERC’s proposed Parking Consultation affecting our Community Council area (adjacent to Broom shops including Broomvale and Broomburn Drives with Mearns Road and part of Blackhouse Avenue (NM PLAN 6), adjacent to Mearns Castle High School and St Clare’s primary school, along a considerable length of Waterfoot Road (NM PLAN 7), along Ayr Road, Fruin Avenue adjacent to Parklands Hotel and Country Club together with Crookfur Pavilion (NM Plan 10), and many roads adjacent to the Avenue Shopping Centre, for example Ayr Road, part of Eaglesham Road, a major part Capelrig Road, part of Maple Avenue, parts of Gilmourton and Paidmyre Cresecents and adjacent junctions NM Plan 3).</p> <p>A member of public commented with regard to the Broom area that ‘trades’ park anywhere and this area is not generally monitored by wardens.</p> <p>It was suggested that the CC write in support of the proposed changes to Parking Restrictions.</p> <p>Concern was mentioned with specific regard to Capelrig Road where buses have difficulty avoiding parked vehicles out-with prescribed parking for the Avenue shopping centre.</p> <p>It was noted that the issue of parking in Capelrig Road is directly related to the introduction of parking charges for the staff car park at the Avenue.</p> <p>Community magazine Could we produce a small article highlighting our existence, the local issues we take on and including our future meeting dates, also making a plea for additional members?</p> <p>Treasurer’s Report Jane Royston advised we have £457 in our account Including a £50 float. This money could be used to pay for expenses incurred for meetings with other groups. Community Councillors were asked to submit any expenses for reimbursement.</p> <p>Possible Grant The CC can apply for a suitable grant under ERC grant scheme.</p>	<p>Janet to draft</p>



	<p>The Chairperson asked for proposals of improvements to the local area</p> <p>Suggestions included Benches for seating at the Shawwood green space. Doug Pitt offered to speak to John Sheldon in this regard.</p> <p>New planting at the Broom Shops to enhance the area.</p> <p>John Boyle suggested arranging a Community Day with the other CC's We could design a leaflet/handouts containing useful information and have a stall at the Avenue to promote the Community Councils.</p> <p>Holocaust Day Commemorative event, John Boyle offered to attend with Doug Pitt.</p> <p>John Boyle advised that unfortunately he will be moving out of the Community Council area shortly and would have to resign as a member. However he would be prepared to attend meetings as a co-opted member.</p>	
DATE OF NEXT MEETING	The next meeting of BK&MCC will be on Thursday 8 th February at 7pm in the Mearns Castle High School.	

With there being no further business the Chairperson thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

All at 7pm in Mearns Castle High School Conference Centre unless indicated otherwise

- Thursday 8th February 2018
- Thursday 8th March 2018
- Thursday 19th April 2018
- Thursday 10th May 2018 (AGM), Theatre
- Wednesday 6th June 2018