

Minute of Meeting
Broom Kirkhill & Mearns Kirk Community Council
14th September 7pm at Mearns Castle High School

MEETING OF	Broom, Kirkhill, Mearns Kirk, Community Council	
HELD ON	Thursday 14 th September 2017 @ 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: Will Maxwell (Chairman), Doug Pitt (Vice Chairman), Robert Jones, Janet Olverman (Secretary), Gordon Muirhead, Jane Royston, Bev Brown, John Boyle, Zhada Robertson</p> <p>Also present:</p> <p>Cllr Jim Swift</p> <p>Cllr Barbara Grant</p> <p>Cllr Caroline Bamforth</p> <p>The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting and commented about the lack of public present (only two) and is concerned about how we advertise our meetings to encourage more public involvement.</p> <p>The meeting was advertised on the ERC CC Website and a notice was placed on the Community notice board at the Avenue. However no notice had been placed in the local papers.</p> <p>Bev Brown volunteered to address this issue for our next meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that unfortunately our meeting clashed with another CC meeting and several curricular evenings at High Schools.</p>	
APOLOGIES	Sheila Hadfield, Cllr Jim McLean.	
ITEM DISCUSSED		Action Points
MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING	Minute of the BK&MCC meeting dated 14 th June was approved with one amendment to the dates of future meetings.	
POLICE REPORT	<p>No police were present to make a report.</p> <p>The Chairman advised he was aware that there had recently been trouble at the off-licence at the Broom shops where youths from another area of Glasgow had stolen wine and generally behaved antisocially. The age of the youths ranged between 12-15. The Police had been contacted. It was noted that the number of police patrols including this off-licence have been increased.</p> <p>Residents are concerned that trouble is on the increase.</p>	

	<p>Barbara Grant is going to raise this issue at a forthcoming meeting with Police.</p> <p>Bev Brown advised that the CC TV camera at the Broom shops points to the other shops along the Mearns Road but there is no coverage of the off-licence. More comprehensive CC TV coverage would be beneficial.</p> <p>The BKMCC is deeply concerned that Ms Brown's husband had been shot at by a youth with an air rifle. Police have been informed and are investigating the incident.</p> <p>Cllr Jim Swift advised that the police and Council are trying to introduce diversionary activities to occupy the youths – football etc.</p>	
<p>ROADS AND PAVEMENTS</p>	<p>Gordon Muirhead circulated a paper with the meeting papers, detailing current spending in relation to Roads and Pavements within our area.</p> <p>Gordon advised that the cost of resurfacing roads is £40 per m² and £20 per m² for pavements. He has been told that the cost to bring all our roads up to standard is estimated at £40m.</p> <p>The amount of compensation paid out to the public for damage to vehicles caused by potholes and other roadway deficiencies was surprisingly low at £20,000. However, it was noted that it is very difficult to successfully make a claim, hence the low payments. The cost to motorists must be significantly higher following damage to suspension, wheels, tyres amongst others.</p> <p>ERC had a total budget of £230m for 2016-2017 of which £126m (55%) was spent for education but only £3m (1%) for roads and pavements. This figure of £3m represents only 5% of the amount required to tackle the problem.</p> <p>It was noted that the budget this year cannot be changed although it would be possible to re-allocate some items.</p> <p>Gordon suggested re-allocating a small portion of the Education Budget to the Roads Budget.</p> <p>Comments from the floor</p> <p>Jane Royston advised that during the Planning Sub Group's meeting with ERC planning department on 5th May, Brian Ord advised that 350 roads need repairing. She enquired whether it would be possible to acquire a list of what the proposed work is for this year and help them prioritise the roads which require immediate improvement.</p> <p>Doug Pitt advised that the Council does have a prioritised list.</p>	

John Boyle suggested you could go onto the council website and suggest which roads require urgent attention. Will Maxwell noted that there had been a recent Consultation concerning which roads residents suggest should be repaired at the first opportunity. But the short-list for named roads is presently unknown to the BKMCC.

Gordon Muirfield proposed that the Roads budget itself need to be increased and referred to Paragraph 7 of his report which outlined his suggestion of how this could be achieved.

Cllr Swift explained the extra money for education is earmarked for helping children from less affluent backgrounds and cannot be used for anything else.

Cllr Grant confirmed that this money has to be spent on specific areas.

There was much discussion about the redistribution of budget but it was generally agreed that the education budget should not be touched.

The CC discussed exploring other ways of raising money to be targeted at repairing roads.

John Boyle questioned if there is any way of making road repairs more efficient.

Barbara Grant said the roads are being repaired much quicker than previously but the volume of cars in our area is phenomenal.

Bev Brown commented that another Council had announced a scheme to allow companies to sponsor street names – it allowed them to generate a new income stream.

She offered to investigate this possibility.

Bev Brown

Another suggestion was to allow council vehicles to carry advertisements. Cllr Swift advised that this proposal was rejected last year.

Doug Pitt suggested it would be an idea to invite a member of the roads Department to address our meeting.

Doug Pitt

The Chairperson advised that other Community Council's have a scheme where a group of two or three people actually walk round their area in the company of a couple of Councillors to highlight the zones which require urgent attention. This is something to discuss at a later meeting.

Gordon Muirhead offered to undertake writing to ERC to enquire about the use of advertising on their vehicles and any income raised be targeted for Road fixing.

Gordon Muirhead/

<p>UPDATE FOR MAIDENHILL DEVELOPMENT</p>	<p>Address by Vice Chairperson Doug Pitt and Will Maxwell</p> <p>The Vice Chairperson advised the CC of the meeting on Thursday 7th June with the Newton Mearns Residents Flood Prevention Group where the CC's objection to the Maidenhill development 2016/0712/P decision was discussed. Our objections (see letter dated 21st June 2017) had all been rejected by ERC (see letter dated 17th July 2017).</p> <p>There was much discussion about possible avenues open to us and it was agreed that we felt strongly enough to take our complaints to the public service ombudsman.</p> <p>However there are rules relating to public service organisations making submissions to the ombudsman. We may have to complain on behalf of a member of the public.</p> <p>There are serious issues relating to transparency and administrative fairness.</p> <p>At this stage BKMCC has exhausted the complaints service of the Council and are unable to further challenge the final decision of the council. But we maintain that we can demonstrate that the decision was reached by unfair means.</p> <p>Doug Pitt enquired of Cllr Swift "once the Queensgate development was approved did the Council inform the residents of Paidmyre Crescent and Cheviot Drive of their riparian responsibilities".</p> <p>Cllr Swift couldn't comment on this specifically but advised that if the flood prevention facility in the development fails it will not be adopted by the Scottish Water and it will be the house owners in the development who are responsible.</p> <p>Comments from the public.</p> <p>Comment was made that in the Minute of the Council meeting from July, it was advised that "the Director of Environment explained that ERC have no Executive responsibility for the commercial operations of Scottish water."</p> <p>However in event of flooding the responsibility lies with the body whose failure had been the cause of the flooding.</p> <p>The 2009 Flood Risk Scotland Management act places overall responsibility on the planning authority to reduce flood risk.</p> <p>With regard to the Maidenhill Development (2016/0712/TP) it is felt that they have not been very diligent in this regard.</p> <p>There was much discussion about this statement.</p>	
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	<p>Enquiry was made as to who is overall responsible and it was suggested that Scottish Water have the power to say whether a development can be connected to their drainage network or not, so surely they are responsible if things go wrong.</p> <p>Cllr Grant explained that it is Scottish Water who are responsible as the ERC planning department have no expertise in water – they rely on Scottish Water’s advice as they are the experts.</p> <p>Cllr Swift stated that although Scottish Water are the experts, the Council are the primary authority for minimising flood risk so ultimately it is the Council’s responsibility.</p> <p>The main problem is that there is no overall body to whom one can complain when things go wrong.</p> <p>They all blame each other – it is always someone else’s responsibility.</p> <p>It was noted that the Council is under pressure from the Scottish Government to build more than one thousand and sixty new-build houses, affordable housing, a junior school and a religious facility at the Maidenhill/Malletsheugh site. The BKMCC is not against the building of new housing and facilities within Newton Mearns. But the BKMCC is concerned that consideration of the disposal of foul water from this development has not been sensibly addressed by ERC planning, the developers, SEPA and Scottish Water such that the outcome of provision of the said development will be detrimental to Newton Mearns rather than of benefit.</p> <p>There was some discussion about concern regarding increases in insurance premiums.</p> <p>In conclusion it was agreed that the CC would submit a complaint to the Ombudsman.</p>	
<p>PLANNING ISSUES</p>	<p>Planning issues</p> <p>Broom Park Development</p> <p>There have been many objections to this proposal and Cllr Swift advised that the result of this consultation has not been published yet.</p> <p>Proposed 4G mast at Broom Road East Street Works (CTIL Ref 147183 VF 75816 Broom Road East Street Works)</p> <p>Mobile telephone communication masts are few and far between within Newton Mearns and those are dedicated to earlier telephone networks. In order to provide improved</p>	

	<p>coverage and allow establishment of up to date coverage Vodafone and Telefonica have applied for planning permission to erect a 17.5m high shrouded column and base stations at Broom Road East Street Works, Newton Mearns, East Renfrewshire G77 5LL(National Grid Reference 255523E 655858N).</p> <p>13 alternative sites are considered in their application but it's difficult to site them in this area. The site above has been selected or deemed the most propitious.</p> <p>Residents are able to object if they wish.</p> <p>Rob Jones commented that Smart meters require 4G technology in order to operate so there will be many more applications for these kind of masts.</p> <p>Proposed Development of an additional 4 detached houses opposite the Indian Platform.</p> <p>This proposal is in addition to the Local Development plan.</p> <p>Shawwood Green Space</p> <p>John Shelton proposed a walk around Shawwood Green Space for interested parties on 26th September if anyone is interested.</p> <p>Doug Pitt to acquire further information.</p>	<p>Doug Pitt</p>
<p>IMPROVING PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/ USE OF FACEBOOK</p>	<p>Update from Will Maxwell and Zhada Robertson</p> <p>It was advised that as only two members of the public turned up to this meeting, publicity is obviously an issue. It is unfortunate that we had to move our meeting due to our venue being unavailable. As a result our meeting clashed with curricular events at schools and another CC meeting.</p> <p>Doug Pitt stated that our notices, if the local papers place them in the paper, are very small and barely readable.</p> <p>Bev Brown offered to compile an article advertising our meeting which hopefully would be included in the local papers.</p> <p>Comment was made that many residents do not receive copies of the Extra. They don't appear to be distributed any more.</p> <p>Zhada Robertson confirmed that all future meetings will be advertised on our Facebook page but commented that in order for this to be effective the page has to be liked and shared.</p> <p>It would enhance our page if we could place some local interest area photographs e.g. Broom Park.</p>	<p>Bev Brown</p>

	<p>CC members were asked to submit any good local photos for placing on the page.</p> <p>The Chairperson advised that Save Broom Park Facebook page organisers have offered to advertise our meeting dates on their page.</p>	
BKMCC WEBSITE?	It was noted that at present the CC have no interest in creating a Website.	
POSSIBLE SOCIAL FUNCTION	<p>Jim Sneddon head of democratic and partnership services had been in communication to advise that there might be some money available for organising a possible social function. He may be able to assist with short term licences.</p> <p>The Chairperson asked for suggestions prior to next meeting.</p>	ALL CC MEMBERS
COMMENTS ABOUT MEETINGS OF OTHER COMMUNITY COUNCILS	<p>The Chairperson advised that he had attended some other CC meetings and they hold raffles which can raise some funds for charity.</p> <p>Bev Brown suggested any money raised could be donated to the Newton Mearns First Responders who are trying to raise funds for uniforms, a kit bag and defibrillator.</p> <p>She described they are a voluntary unit who are trained by Scottish Ambulance Service. Currently only 5 members with more being trained in September.</p> <p>A member of public suggested contacting the Mearns Probus club to see if they could assist with funding.</p>	
ANY OTHER BUSINESS	<p>New Parking Charges Zhada Robertson commented about the new parking charges at the Avenue. Many people have been hit by fines as they are not aware of these new charges.</p> <p>The signage is poor there is no sign at the entry to the car park.</p> <p>Charges are only in the Long stay 'Staff car park' there is a £1.50 all day charge.</p> <p>There is a 4 hour time limit on the other car park.</p> <p>Broom Park Clean Up Jim Swift advised that on Sunday 17TH September there is a clean-up taking place in the Broom park 12-2pm</p>	

	<p>Drovers Road Sign Posts Cllr Grant advised that there had been new signposts erected showing the way of the old Drovers Road from Flenders.</p>	
<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p>	<p>The next meeting of BK&MCC will be on Wednesday 4th October at 7pm in the Mearns Castle High School Conference Centre.</p>	

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