



Broom Kirkhill Mearns Kirk  
Community Council

<b>MEETING OF</b>	Broom, Kirkhill, & Mearns Kirk, Community Council	
<b>HELD ON</b>	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2021 @ 7pm by Zoom call	
<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</b>	The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting	
	In attendance: William Maxwell (Chairperson), Janet Olverman (Secretary), Jane Royston (Treasurer) Margaret Hinchliffe, Anne Lithgow, Steve Rutherford, Doug Pitt, Bev Brown Also in attendance: Kirsten Oswald MP Cllr Caroline Bamforth Arnold Black and Nicola Docherty	
<b>APOLOGIES</b>	Apologies were received from: Ron Gimby and Rob Jones	
<b>ITEM DISCUSSED</b>		<b>Action Points</b>
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTE OF MEETINGS</b>	The Minute of the meeting on 15 <sup>th</sup> February 2021 was proposed by the Chairperson, seconded by Margaret Hinchliffe and approved by the Community Council. Jane Royston congratulated Janet upon the excellent Minute.	
<b>POLICE REPORT</b>	<p>This report covers progress the Police have made in dealing with priorities for the Broom, Kirkhill and Mearns Kirk Community Council area for the period 13<sup>th</sup> February 2021 to the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021</p> <p>Crime statistics are published quarterly on the Police Scotland website and can be found at: <a href="https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/">https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/our-performance/</a></p> <p><b>CRIMES OF NOTE &amp; CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE</b></p> <p>Crime levels in our community council area remain very low.</p> <p><b>Homes Broken into</b></p> <p>Entry gained to a flat in Kirklands Drive in afternoon of 5<sup>th</sup> March. Jewellery, car keys and vehicle taken.</p> <p>Entry to a house in Crofthead Place overnight 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March, but household security measures resulted in no theft.</p> <p><b>Antisocial Behaviour and Disorder</b></p> <p>45 year old female received a Recorded Police Warning after her dog bit a pedestrian in Broom area on the 18<sup>th</sup></p>	



	<p>February.</p> <p>One episode of youth disorder, in Broomburn Drive about 4.45pm on 7th March.</p> <p><b>Drug Dealing and Misuse</b></p> <p>No drug dealing offences reported, but one boy charged with possession of cannabis.</p> <p><b>Crime Prevention</b> – The Chairperson highlighted these two websites:</p> <p>Cold Callers - There is useful information available on the link below:</p> <p><a href="https://consumeradvice.scot/knowledge-centre/">https://consumeradvice.scot/knowledge-centre/</a></p> <p>Keeping Safe Online – Police Scotland provide helpful guidance about online security:</p> <p><a href="https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/keep-secure-online/">https://www.scotland.police.uk/keep-safe/keep-secure-online/</a></p>	
<p><b>POST OFFICE SERVICES IN NEWTON MEARNS</b></p>	<p>Following the BKMCC request for assistance from our MP and MSP to establish a new post office for the Newton Mearns area, the Chairperson read out the responses received from Kirsten Oswald MP and Jackson Carlaw MSP.</p> <p>The Chairperson has drafted a letter to be sent to Mark Gibson at Royal Mail, and invited comments from the BKMCC members. The Chairperson proposed the motion that we now submit this letter. This was seconded by Doug Pitt.</p> <p>Kirsten Oswald asked for copy of the letter and is very supportive of this motion. She expressed concern that access to cash is not available along with other important Post Office services. The real challenge is that the business model is not very attractive. She offered to raise this issue with the All Party Parliamentary group, with Newton Mearns as a priority.</p> <p>Janet Olverman expressed concern that disabled access is a significant problem at the Harvie Avenue Post Office due to a flight of steps at the entrance.</p> <p>Other issues are opening hours, and lack of capacity within the premises.</p> <p>The Post Office should be regarded as an essential service. A number of banks in the local area have recently closed some local branches, and the Post Office provides a point of contact for access to cash.</p> <p>The BKMCC think that greater consideration should be given to Post Office facilities at the planning stage of new developments.</p> <p>Cllr Bamforth commented that although an area at</p>	<p>Janet to send copy of final letter to Kirsten Oswald</p>



	<p>Malletsheugh was allocated for retail, the council does not have any control over commercial decisions by retailers. They cannot force them to move into an area.</p> <p>Doug Pitt commented that although political parties are talking about rebuilding high streets, there is no statutory commitment for Post Offices.</p> <p>It was considered that this comment should have been included in the BKMCC's comments to NPF4. The Chairperson suggested submitting an addendum to reflect this.</p> <p>The Chairperson agreed to redraft the letter to include the points about disabled access and bank closures and re-circulate for comment before submitting.</p>	<p>Will to redraft letter and circulate</p>
<p><b>MEARNSKIRK OWNERS' ASSOCIATION</b></p>	<p>Following our suggestion that, the MOA could possibly access funding from ERC, Vincent McCulloch advised they cannot financially support the MOA but there is a small stipend for which they can apply.</p> <p>Janet to forward information to the MOA Chair.</p>	<p>Janet to send info to Alan Ewing</p>
<p><b>PA 2021/0130/TP – OUR RESPONSE</b></p>	<p><b>Planning Application 2021/0130/TP</b></p> <p><b>Land between and bounded by Broompark Drive, Windsor Avenue and Lochbroom Drive, Newton Mearns. Erection of 5 dwelling houses.</b></p> <p>The Chairperson displayed an image of the above proposal and advised that BKMCC have submitted an objection to this planning application. The Newton Mearns Flood Group also submitted an objection, a copy of which was sent to SEPA.</p> <p>SEPA have objected to building on this site, because it is highlighted in their flood risk register and 4 out of 5 proposed plots will be subject to flooding as there are no documented flood prevention measures recorded.</p> <p>The Chairperson advised that if official flooding has been reported to SEPA and allocated a log number, then planners cannot deny that flooding occurs in this area.</p> <p>A local resident advised that several insurance companies, because of the perceived risk flooding at this location, had turned down their application for home insurance.</p> <p>In the light of new information about a flood risk assessment for the proposed site having become available, it was resolved that the Chairperson should update the content of our objection to this site being granted planning permission for the erection of five properties. The Chairperson agreed to do such.</p>	
<p><b>LACK OF PEDESTRIAN</b></p>	<p>BKMCC received a report from a concerned Mearns Kirk resident that there is no pedestrian crossing to the new</p>	



<p><b>CROSSING AT THE NEW CO-OP</b></p>	<p>Co-op at Mearns Road. Schoolchildren walk past here every day and will be crossing frequently.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised that ERC are proposing to widen the pavement but have run into some issues, there is an electricity substation in the way.</p> <p>Doug Pitt commented that the road is also quite narrow and is a busy access route to the A726 and M77.</p> <p>Kirsten Oswald offered to write to ERC and ask for an assessment on safety in general in this area, especially considering this is a route used by walking schoolchildren and the pavement is narrow.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth offered to check the report of handling to see if a pedestrian crossing was mentioned in the report.</p> <p>Doug Pitt expressed concern about the small number of car parking spaces, 25 in all, which will be heavily used, and the safety of cars exiting the car park onto the busy road where the exit is so close to the roundabout.</p> <p>Janet to forward copy of the Report of Handling for discussion.</p>	<p>Janet to forward copy of report of handling to CC members</p>
<p><b>THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY &amp; THE PLANNING SYSTEM</b></p>	<p>The Chairperson reported he attended a workshop on the 9<sup>th</sup> March, chaired by David Wood from PAS (Planning Aid Scotland) who gave a lengthy review of the planning system.</p> <p><b>Summary</b></p> <p>The LDP3 was reviewed. The LDP4 was not referred to and consultation has now closed.</p> <p>Strategic Plans will be abolished when LDP4 comes on line and replaced by New Regional Spatial Strategies in early 2022. BKMCC will be able to comment on this.</p> <p>Local Place Plans - Community bodies will have the statutory right to prepare their own plan for a place.</p> <p><b>NPF4 Position Statement – A Plan for a Well-Being Economy</b></p> <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise the reduction of waste and the re-use of materials.</li> <li>• Forthcoming plan banning biodegradable waste being sent to landfill</li> <li>• Re-use of existing buildings and sites</li> <li>• Promoting 20 minute neighbourhoods</li> <li>• Promoting remote working, homeworking &amp; community hubs to reduce travel</li> </ul>	



	<p>The Chairperson explained how the circular economy works by reducing waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Construction sector accounts of 50% of UK's resource consumption and over 50% of the UK's waste</li><li>• Drive to reduce consumption and reduce waste</li></ul> <p>Government legislation is being introduced requiring, from this Summer, manufacturers to be legally obliged to make spare parts for white-goods products available to consumers for the first time – a new legal right for repairs – so that electrical appliances can be fixed easily. The move is anticipated to extend the lifespan of products by up to 10 years – preventing appliances ending up on the scrap heap sooner than they should and reducing carbon emissions at the same time. This will help greatly in reducing waste, promoting longer-term use.</p> <p>It is hoped that the young people of today are more aware of the environment and will be more responsible in the future.</p>	
<p><b>RESPONSE TO LETTER ABOUT AYR ROAD NEW SPEED LIMIT</b></p>	<p>Following the reduction in speed limit on the Ayr Road, BKMCC wrote a letter to Roads Department, requesting larger, more visible 30mph road signs.</p> <p>The Chairperson thanked Cllr. Bamforth for her detailed response, and displayed a summary:</p> <p>Highway Code Rule 124: "The presence of street lights generally means that there is a 30mph speed limit unless otherwise specified."</p> <p>"Drivers are required to understand that the default limit in built-up areas is 30mph, unless there are signs informing otherwise"</p> <p>"The Council has opted to erect 'New 30mph speed limit in force' signs in place of each of the previous 40mph repeater signs and, typically, these are on every second lighting column.</p> <p>A total of 50 signs have been provided between Eastwood Toll and Malletsheugh and their size is in accordance with the rules governing sign design contained within 'The Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions', to which local authorities in the UK must adhere."</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised that the 30mph speed limit is temporary and cannot be changed without a road traffic order which will take time.</p> <p>ERC COVID Transport Response Team also responded:</p>	



	<p>“We can confirm that discussions are underway between Traffic and Communication colleagues on how we can better promote this change in speed limit and what further measures may be necessary. We are also in regular discussions with Police Scotland and look forward to their feedback on any changes that they feel would be appropriate to encourage slower, more uniform speeds on Ayr Road.”</p> <p>Janet Olverman asked if it would be possible to erect temporary 30mph signs (the more visible red and white circular speed limit signs) at the site of the original 40mph signs because drivers need to be aware of the change in speed limit before joining the Ayr Road.</p> <p><b>New Street Lighting</b> Cllr Bamforth was asked about the installation of new street lighting at various locations in the BKMCC area.</p> <p>Cllr Bamforth advised the new apparatus is “intelligent lighting” which offer the following benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Energy efficient LED lights reduce carbon footprint</li><li>• Dimmable lighting</li><li>• Air pollution monitoring can be integrated</li><li>• Temperature monitors can be integrated to help identify certain areas which may require gritting</li><li>• Movement detection to monitor footfall/traffic use</li><li>• Noise detection - Street disturbances can be monitored using noise detection, with real time CCTV and community safety response</li></ul> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised there are no plans by ERC to switch off lights at certain times during the night. The Chairperson enquired whether Pm2.5 monitors could be installed.</p>	
<p><b>LITTER PICKS BROOM PARK AND SHAWWOOD</b></p>	<p>The BKMCC are concerned at the amount of street litter and proposed arranging litter picks in Broom Park and Shawwood Greenspace.</p> <p>Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, ERC will not presently provide litter pickers or arrange for uplift. We will have to wait until present restrictions are lifted.</p> <p>It was noted that East Renfrewshire Community had organised a clean-up of rubbish in Rouken Glen park and they have done a great job.</p> <p>Margaret Hinchliffe enquired if we could ask the schools to remind pupils to pick up their litter because a considerable amount has been scattered at the entrance to Castle Grove and the general area surrounding Mearns Castle</p>	



	<p>High School.</p> <p>The Chairperson stated that previous attempts to encourage the school to address this issue have failed because teachers are not responsible for pupils once they leave the school premises.</p> <p>Bev Brown commented that a few pupils at the Broom Shops have been throwing food around and when challenged were verbally abusive.</p> <p><b>BKMCC ask people to be responsible and take their rubbish home.</b></p>	
<b>TREE PLANTING</b>	<p>The Chairperson emailed Marc Brand at ERC Parks Department to arrange the tree planting. They are very keen to plant the trees and we are waiting for the Parks Service to advise timing. The Parks Department have offered to spray off the grass to give the saplings the maximum chance of success.</p> <p><b>Wild Flower Sowing – Three Woods</b> Jane Royston has obtained seeds for wild flower sowing in the Three woods.</p> <p>The Chairperson has arranged to deliver the seeds once a suitable date has been chosen for sowing.</p>	
<b>AOCB</b>	<p><b>New seating in Broom Park</b> Foundations have been installed and we anticipate the new benches will be installed in a couple of weeks.</p> <p><b>Planning Democracy online event invitation</b> This event on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 7pm – 8.30pm, will provide a Reporter’s Guide to planning appeals and local development plans by Dan Jackman, Senior Reporter Department Planning and Environmental Appeals.</p> <p>The Chairperson encouraged members to attend this event</p> <p>Registration details can be found using the link below: <a href="https://www.planningdemocracy.org.uk/">https://www.planningdemocracy.org.uk/</a></p> <p><b>Petition to save Crookfur Park</b> The Chairperson advised that there is a proposal to install two AstroTurf football pitches and close off the park to public.</p> <p>Bev Brown advised that this is public land and there is a Land disposal procedure. Plans need to be advertised for 2 successive weeks and objections will then be considered. AstroTurf is expensive and always enclosed. Proposals include a Car park, changing rooms, the pitches will be</p>	





	<p>flood lit, in use 7 evenings a week, and at weekends. Light pollution and noise will be considerable. Parklands Hotel overlooks this site.</p> <p>It is understood that ERC is planning to lease the park to the football club for 25 years at £1 a year nominal rent. The club currently rents pitches at Eastwood High School, on priority booking.</p> <p>It was noted that the new leisure centre will have football pitches.</p> <p>There is an online petition available to sign using the link below:</p> <p><a href="https://www.change.org/p/east-renfrewshire-council-cabinet-save-crookfur-park?redirect=false">https://www.change.org/p/east-renfrewshire-council-cabinet-save-crookfur-park?redirect=false</a></p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth commented that, at the moment, Crookfur Park has two football pitches but they can only be used for 20 weeks a year, because of their condition.</p> <p>ERC cannot afford the amount of money needed to make these usable all year round.</p> <p>There will be a consultation about the pitches and, if approved, would still require a lease agreement to be negotiated. Once a lease agreement is agreed, then a full planning application will need to be prepared.</p> <p>Cllr. Bamforth advised that other football clubs in East Renfrewshire have been provided with financial support to upgrade their pitches, but St. Cadocs haven't received anything.</p> <p>Kirsten Oswald commented that the challenge is connecting with people and offered to share our social media link on her website. Janet to provide link.</p> <p>The Chairperson thanked Kirsten Oswald MP and Cllr. Bamforth for their contribution to this meeting.</p>	<p>Janet to provide Facebook link to Kirsten Oswald</p>
<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p>	<p><b>Monday 19<sup>TH</sup> April 2021 at 7pm via Zoom</b></p>	
<p><b>FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p>	<p>24<sup>th</sup> May AGM, 21 June 2021</p>	